Welcome to Arts Advocacy Week! Achieving the arts community’s goals depends upon the willingness of people like you who talk to legislators about the importance of the arts. This year we will again be making history!

YOU are a very important person because you are part of the team. Thank you for being an Arts Advocate.

#ArtsAdvocacyDay21  #MNArtsGiveBack @MNCITIZEN
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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND LINKS FOR ARTS ADVOCACY WEEK

*NOTE: You will get links to your own legislator meetings via email the day before your meeting!

**Feb 16, 8:30-10:30 AM OPENING RALLY FEATURING:**
- Governor Tim Walz
- Rep. Betty McCollum, Chair of the Committee that funds the NEA
- And More!
- 9:30 AM – Creative MN: Facts and Figures to make your case
- 10:00 AM – First Time Advocate Training

**JOIN ON ZOOM:** Webinar is limited to the first 100 people.
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84021829831?pwd=UFhucnp3QnVNV1BrT0NwVU8weE41UT09
Passcode: 402020

**WATCH ON YOUTUBE:** If the zoom room is full you can also watch the rally live here: https://youtu.be/jIKccbofE. A recording of the rally will be posted online at:
https://www.youtube.com/user/Mncitizensforthearts/videos

**Feb. 16th to Feb.19th 9AM-5PM YOUR LEGISLATOR MEETINGS**

**IMPORTANT:** Each advocate will have two meetings, one with their Senator and one with their Representative. We will do our best to schedule zooms with all legislators. When (and maybe if) your legislator meeting is scheduled, the Zoom information will be emailed to you the day before the meeting as legislator schedules are constantly changing.

**3. Feb. 18th 4 PM**

**WEBINAR: WHEN WILL AUDIENCES RETURN?**
Results Webinar of WolfBrown Audience Surveys in Minnesota

**JOIN ZOOM:** Webinar is limited to the first 100 people. Webinar will also be recorded and posted on MCA’s Youtube page.
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85906292113?pwd=cKxwL01uUVFOzNzBBsmdwEppQT09
Passcode: 624723

**4. February 19th at 4 PM**

**ARTS ACTION WEEK HAPPY HOUR**

**JOIN ZOOM:** Webinar is limited to the first 100 people.
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86530401344?pwd=VzdBK1F3Tjg3SWg2MjduYINXRFUJUT09
Passcode: 674162

**WATCH ON YOUTUBE:** If zoom room is full you can watch the rally live here:
https://youtu.be/GNYR7FUKoS
Advocacy Week Messaging:

Our goal is to deliver the SAME MESSAGE to all legislators using our own stories.

Think about what you can (briefly) say about:

- How has COVID impacted the arts organization your work with or your life as an artist?
- How have you rallied to serve the public despite the challenges?
- Because of this crisis it’s even more important to protect arts funding so:

"Please support the law that dedicates 47% of the Legacy Arts & Culture Fund to the MSAB/RACs and the Governor’s General Fund recommendation for the arts."
Are you an artist, audience member, administrator, board member or donor? Then you have a stake in the continued health and sustainability of the non-profit arts sector, and your voice is important!

Every year, the Minnesota Legislature takes up issues that have wide-ranging implications for the arts, and as those issues are debated, you have the opportunity to raise your voice and be heard. Your legislators want to hear about what is important to their constituents, and if they don’t hear from Arts Advocates, they will think the issue is not important.

Your role as an Arts Advocate

Each additional Advocate who shows up for the arts on Arts Advocacy Day amplifies the collective voice of the entire field. You don’t have to have any particular knowledge of the legislative process, of funding mechanisms, or party politics, just your own passion for the arts and belief in the need for public support for them. Your job is to show your legislator that their constituents support the arts.

Your Goals for Arts Advocacy Day

1. Thank
   Thank legislators for appropriating money to the arts.

2. Educate
   Educate legislators about arts activities in their district.

3. Connect
   Give a face to the arts in each legislator’s district.

What to expect on Arts Advocacy Day

The day starts with a big rally on Zoom, where you will learn about the "Message of the Day," hear about challenges arts funding is facing at the Capitol, and recognize Arts Heroes who have had a significant impact on state arts funding.

Over the four days of Feb. 16-19 we will schedule meetings with legislators on zoom. When (and sometimes if) we get an appointment scheduled with your legislator, we will email you a link to the meeting along with other info. re: date and time that you and other advocates from your district will be meeting with your legislator. You will be invited to two meetings, one with your State Representative and one with your State Senator. You will be joined by an MCA host and your team to meet with your legislators. We do our best to schedule meetings with every single House and Senate member to meet with a team of their own constituents who thank them for the state funding that has occurred in their district over the past year. This is the most important part of the week.

You, the Arts Advocate, meet with your own legislators to let them know how important state funding is to people in their district. Your team leader will introduce the Message of the Day, and bring materials for the legislators. Your role as a Team Member is to amplify the Message of the Day through personal stories if asked.

Many legislators are on very tight schedules, and have time for only brief meetings. Your presence is still important even if you don’t get to do any more than introduce yourself. There is strength in numbers. And your notes on what happens in the meetings provide us with great information to use throughout the year.
YOUR TO-DOs for:

1. Make sure you have signed up on the Google Form for Arts Action Week. [https://forms.gle/F68aDjddF9B8WvhF8](https://forms.gle/F68aDjddF9B8WvhF8)
2. **Attend/Watch the rally on February 16**th to train for meetings and learn the message of the day. Information for attending the webinar live/on-demand will be emailed to members that signed up in advance.
3. **Attend your legislator meetings.** Meeting times, dates and zoom information will be emailed to you during “Arts Action Week”.
4. **Attend Post-Advocacy Day Wrap-Up Webinar** on February 19th at 4PM. Zoom information will be emailed to you at a later date.

**Instructions for Legislator Meetings**

1. Make sure you have the zoom information for your scheduled Legislator meeting, which will be emailed to you the day before your meeting. If you can’t find that information please contact: [staff@artsmn.org](mailto:staff@artsmn.org)
2. Please be respectful of your legislator’s time and be 5 minutes early for your meeting.
3. It is important to also note that because of ever changing schedules at the legislature, legislators may also be late for meetings.
4. Have the team leader welcome the legislator and if possible have everyone introduce themselves. If teams are larger than 15 people ask everyone to type their introduction into the chat and the host will remember to download the chat and send it to the legislator. **Remember to try and be brief as we may have only 15 minutes.**
5. Have the Team Leader go over the “Message of the Day” and have a couple other members mention the importance of the arts to their area. Again, if the group is large, have attendees drop their messages into the chat and the host will remember to download the chat and send it to the legislator.
6. Allow Legislator to speak.
7. Team Leader will end the meeting by thanking the legislator and repeating the message of the day.
8. Once meeting is complete fill out your evaluation form here: [https://forms.gle/u1sG7iVAiA3LRM4d9](https://forms.gle/u1sG7iVAiA3LRM4d9)
Gathering people together in community for experiences and education is the lifeblood of the arts, and on or around March 15, 2020 the gatherings suddenly stopped. No plays in theaters, no art fairs or galleries where artists could sell their wares, no community arts classes, no singing choirs, all abruptly silenced.

It’s not just that Minnesota’s emergency orders prevented large gatherings, although that is a part of it. It is also the growing realization that we don’t know when people will be comfortable coming back to Minnesota’s 1900 theaters, galleries and museums again. Park Square Theater polled their audience and nearly 42% said they won’t return until there is a vaccine. Even though vaccines are starting to become available, it will be many months before enough people are vaccinated that the world can start going back to normal.

As time passes the devastation worsens. Both large and small arts and culture organizations who had been able to hold onto some of their staff with PPP loans are now starting to lay off workers permanently.

The American Alliance of Museums found that one third of U.S. arts institutions may close this year. U.S. museums have been losing at least $33 million per day.

The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits found that arts organizations have suffered the “highest levels of disruption of the nonprofit sector” and that “67% expect recovery to be difficult.”

Before COVID-19, the arts and culture were contributing over $2 billion annually to Minnesota’s economy. www.creativeMN.org Minnesota’s 108,000 artists and creative workers were contributing to Minnesota’s vibrant economy in thousands of other ways as entrepreneurs and creative gig workers. That work too suddenly came to a halt in March, as many workers were notified that their contracts had been cancelled. Nearly two-thirds of the nation’s artists are now unemployed and 94% report they have lost income because of Covid. A third of all nonprofit workers in Minnesota have filed for unemployment.

In the meantime, artists and arts organizations are trying to figure out how to survive until audiences return.

- Museums, including the Walker Art Center and Minneapolis Institute of Arts have joyfully reopened at 25% capacity with many new health protocols.
- Although Historic Holmes Theatre in Detroit Lakes is offering outdoor and virtual events, indoor activities are postponed indefinitely, which is the same for almost all other Greater Minnesota venues.

While innovative and wonderful, it’s important to note that none of these new programs are providing the kind of revenue that sustained arts organizations and artists before the crisis began.
-2008-
On Arts Advocacy Day, February 14, 2008, over 500 arts advocates were at the Capitol to witness legislators pass the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment on to the people for a vote in the 2008 election. This set into high gear the statewide Vote Yes! Ballot Campaign. It was a wide-ranging coalition of arts advocates and outdoors enthusiasts from across the state. Over 350 nonprofit and civic organizations statewide endorsed the amendment. On Election Day 2008, 56% percent of Minnesotans voted “YES” to a constitutional amendment that would dedicate funds to the arts and the environment for the next 25 years. The passage of the amendment by such large margins affirmed that Minnesotans value a high quality of life that includes access to the arts.

MCA was a leader in the Vote Yes! Campaign, which tripled arts funding. This victory proved again that when we work together we make great things happen for the arts and our state. Although the money is dedicated to “arts, arts education, arts access, and the preservation of Minnesota’s history and cultural heritage,” the dollars must be appropriated out to the field every two years by the legislature.

-2015 thru 2019-
In 2015 the Legislature appropriated an additional $4.8M to the MSAB/RAC system from the Arts Legacy Fund following the new law pursued by MCA that dedicates 47% of the Legacy Arts & Culture Fund to the MSAB/RACs. MCA launched, with many partners, the Creative Minnesota project to give us hard data on the huge economic impact of the arts in Minnesota.

In 2018 and 2019 MCA successfully protected Legacy dollars from proposed content restrictions, which took most of our energy. We also started celebrating the impact of the Legacy Amendment on the 10th Anniversary of its passage, (11/2008 to 11/2018).

The Creative Minnesota Road Show did 76 presentations live to 5206 attendees with the results of Creative Minnesota studies in 2018 alone. Creative Minnesota 2019 included the new Arts Education Data Project, exploring the availability of arts education in Minnesota’s schools. With additional local studies conducted, there are now 68 state, regional and local Creative Minnesota reports available at Creativemn.org.

Governor Walz, the Democratic House and Republican Senate all came through dedicating 47% of the Arts & Culture Heritage Fund of the Legacy Amendment to the MSAB and RACs as we requested and state arts funding for the biennium totaled $81.4M, a new record. Heroes included House and Senate Legacy Chairs Representative Leon Lillie and Senator Carrie Ruud. Some legislators, responding to grants they didn’t like, proposed taking the MSAB/RAC Legacy Funding away with a floor amendment that was resoundingly defeated on a bi-partisan basis by 102 to 25.

-2020-2021-
The Covid pandemic has been devastating to the arts community, closing venues, cancelling events and artist gigs for over a year so far. We need to tell legislators the devastation caused to the arts community and how we have rallied despite the challenges to serve Minnesotans. We will ask for arts funding to be protected so we can get through to the other side of the crisis.
The economic impact of Minnesota’s artists, audiences are arts and culture organizations is **over $2 billion a year.**

Minnesotans attend and participate in the arts to **a higher rate** than other Americans and are more likely to be artists, musicians, actors and dancers themselves.

**90% agree** that creative activities and the arts are contributing to Minnesota’s quality of life.

Attendees at nonprofit arts events spend an average of **$22.87 per person**, not including the cost of the ticket on restaurants, parking and hotels.

**There are 108,000 artists and creative workers** in Minnesota who support their families with their art.

Students consistently involved in music and theater show **higher levels of success** in math and reading.
CreativeMN.org

For hard data about Minnesota’s creative economy, artists and creative workers.

Creative Minnesota is a collaborative effort to fill the gaps in available information about Minnesota’s cultural field and to improve our understanding of its importance to our quality of life and economy. It is part of a long term endeavor to collect and report data on the creative sector every two years for analysis, education and advocacy.

Creative Minnesota reports have explored the health and impacts of nonprofit arts and culture organizations and their audiences, economic lives of artists and creative workers, public opinion polling about the arts and the availability of the arts in Minnesota's schools, as well as 60 local studies.

Creative Minnesota was developed by a collaborative of arts and culture funders in partnership with Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA). The Creative Minnesota team includes Minnesota Citizens for the Arts, The McKnight Foundation, the Minnesota State Arts Board, the Forum of Regional Arts Councils of Minnesota, Target, the Bush Foundation, Mardag Foundation, Jerome Foundation, Perpich Center for the Arts Education with in-kind support from Ideas that Kick, the Center for Urban and Rural Affairs (CURA) at the U of M and others.

We hope that arts advocates, legislators, local government officials and arts and cultural organizations will use this report to find new ways to improve their lives and economies with arts and culture.
DO A LOCAL CREATIVE MINNESOTA STUDY!
APPLICATIONS OPEN NOW

PRESS RELEASE

Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA) is ready to enroll organizations, cities, counties, and regions for its next round of Creative Minnesota economic studies. Let MCA provide you the tools you need to recover and grow your area’s arts and cultural activity and economy.

The impact of the global health pandemic has been devastating to the creative sector, shuttering venues and in-person activities. But a recovery is on the horizon. How can you recognize the value of this multifaceted and important sector, and advocate to ensure a full recovery for arts and culture? A Creative Minnesota economic study can set the foundation you need to help others understand and support this sector, guaranteeing a solid arts and cultural recovery and future.

Nationally, arts and culture contributed 4.5% of gross domestic product in 2017 (that’s $877.8 billion!). The sector employs over 5.1 million people nationwide, produces a trade surplus, outperformed the transportation, construction, and agriculture industries, and was a leader during the recovery following the 2008 downturn. We know nearby restaurants are busier when there is a performance at the local theater, and that creative events enliven city centers, engage residents, and attract visitors. In fact, over 23 Million Minnesotan’s attended a cultural event produced by a nonprofit organization in 2016, prompting a statewide $671 million economic impact. So, let us quantify the state of your arts and cultural sector based on 2018 data, and give you the foundational economic data and language you need to advocate and plan for future growth in your creative sector.

Creative MN has conducted 40 studies for organizations, cities, counties, and regions throughout the state, jumpstarting important conversations with local civic and business leaders and arts organizations about the importance of arts and culture to local restaurants and retailers, the workforce, and local government revenues. The Creative Minnesota economic study quantifies and celebrates your important arts and cultural sector, empowering you to continue to celebrate the unique vibrancy and benefits artists and cultural bearers bring to your community.

For the low cost of $1,750 your chosen ‘geography’ can participate in the creation of a customized report. We’ll accept up to 15 study requests in the upcoming study period. Contact us now to get your ‘interest’ package so we can enroll you by July 1 and deliver to you a custom report by late fall. Questions? Contact Sheila (Sheila@artsmn.org) or Brenda (Brenda@artsmn.org).

The arts give back, and we’ll show you just how much!
How the Legislature funds the arts

The Minnesota State Arts Board (MSAB) & Regional Arts Councils (RAC) system make grants in all 87 counties, helping to make the arts accessible to all Minnesotans. These grants come from two sources:

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<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>General Fund FY20/21</td>
<td>$15,782,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts Legacy Fund FY20/21</td>
<td>$65,650,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total for two Years FY20/21</strong></td>
<td><strong>$81,432,000</strong></td>
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State arts funding through the Regional Arts Councils (RACs) and Minnesota State Arts Board (MSAB) reaches communities in every single Minnesota county in grants and services. All legislative districts benefit from these grants:

**The Minnesota State Arts Board**
- Gives grants of statewide and regional importance to medium and large arts organizations for arts access, individual artists and schools, and festivals across the state.
- Provides newsletters, artist and space directories, workshops and technical assistance to all.

**The Regional Arts Councils**
- Give grants to small and medium arts organizations (generally rural), schools, libraries, cities, service organizations, community groups, individual artists and student artists, depending upon the needs of their own region.
- Provide newsletters, artist and space directories, workshops and technical assistance to all.

What are the Regional Arts Councils?

The state is divided into eleven Regional Arts Councils (RACs). Each support a different geographic area of Minnesota. Minnesota’s RACs are unique in the nation as a model for decentralized decision-making for arts grants, programs and services. The Minnesota Legislature established the RAC system in 1977 in order to serve the needs of arts organizations and artists throughout the state on a grassroots level. RACs are funded primarily by the State of Minnesota, supplemented by grants from the private sector. For more info., contact RAC President Drew Digby at 218-722-0952.

What is the Minnesota State Arts Board?

The Minnesota State Arts Board (MSAB) is a state agency funded primarily by the State of Minnesota, supplemented by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the private sector. The MSAB is governed by eleven private citizens appointed by the Governor from all over the state to serve four-year terms. As a state agency, the board sponsors a wide variety of grant programs, services and resource publications for individual artists, arts organizations and schools throughout the state. For more information, contact the MSAB at (651) 215-1600 or http://www.arts.state.mn.us
1. **General Fund:**
The State’s general fund is where the state keeps money for most of the spending it does. The general fund to the arts is decided by the House and Senate State Government Finance Committees.

2. **Legacy Fund:**

**What is the Arts Legacy Fund?**

On November 4th, 2008, 56% of Minnesotans Voted Yes on the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment!

Voters overwhelmingly supported putting the arts into the state constitution when Minnesotans voted to pass the Legacy Amendment in 2008. MCA led the Vote Yes! campaign with many conservation partners and arts advocates. We were inspired by the strong majority of voters who affirmed that the arts are a defining feature of Minnesota. It showed that we value both the arts and our great outdoors.

However, there continue to be legislators that need to hear about the importance of the arts to their districts and the impact that the MSAB and RAC grants are having in their hometowns.

The state Constitution says clearly that Legacy dollars cannot be a substitute for traditional state funding sources, a protection against erosion of traditional state arts funding, which is known as “General Fund” dollars.

Protecting Legacy dollars from being diverted to other things is one of our hardest tasks, but educating legislators about where the money is currently going and that their constituents are benefiting helps protect Legacy Funding. We have succeeded in getting 47% of Arts Legacy Fund (our long term goal is 50%) dedicated to the Minnesota State Arts Board and Regional Arts Councils, although still only about half of the grant requests to the MSAB/RACs are being funded.

Legacy Funds must go to:
1. Arts & Arts Access
2. Arts Education
3. Arts & Cultural Heritage (i.e. History)

See page 11 for full text of the amendment.

**Legacy Amendment Facts-at-a-Glance**

- With 56% of the vote, the Amendment received the highest percentage of all candidates and initiatives in Minnesota on the statewide ballot on election-day. We even got more votes than President Obama in Minnesota.
- Children who have not even been born yet will benefit from increased access to the arts and culture and to a cleaner, healthier environment because of the passage of the Amendment.
- The Legacy Amendment passed during the worst recession since the Great Depression, showing the importance of the arts and environment to Minnesotans.
- 1,635,040 people voted Yes! for the arts and the environment!

**Since the Passage of the Amendment:**

- Arts Funding has reached all 87 Minnesota counties.
- MSAB/RAC System approves roughly 2,000 grants across the state every year.
- Attendance at arts and culture events has doubled in Minnesota.
- The arts have over $2 billion in economic impact on Minnesota’s economy.
Here are 8 easy tips for meeting with your legislators:

1. **Make sure you have your facts straight.** Take a moment to familiarize yourself with the materials in this handbook before you meet with legislators. You don’t need to memorize the information provided, but reading it ahead of time will help to refresh your knowledge of current arts issues. **If a legislator asks you something that you don’t know, don’t guess.** Instead, offer to send the information to them at a later date. Let MCA know if you need help!

2. **Be on time, be patient and be nice.** There is no quicker way to lose support for your issue than by being rude to legislators. Your legislator may have two committee meetings going on while they are supposed to be meeting with you and may be late. They can’t help being over-scheduled. Don’t be offended – be glad that you have time with them and make the most of it.

3. **Introduce your team members and note what connection each person has to the legislator’s district.** If you have a chance to talk to each other before your meetings so you know everyone’s connections to the legislators and their districts. Your team may include people who live in the legislator’s district (constituents), people from organizations who have received grants from the MN State Arts Board (MSAB) or Regional Arts Council (RAC), people from organizations that have toured the legislator’s district or an artist who has done a residency in one of the legislator’s local schools. You may even be with one of the legislator’s friends!

4. **KISS: Keep it Short and Simple.** You may only have the legislator’s ear for five minutes, so get to the point as soon as everyone has introduced himself or herself. Be clear about why you are there, why they should care, and what you want. **Make sure to clearly say the “Message of the Day.”**

5. **Make your issue personal.** If you have time, tell stories about how arts funding and state grants have benefited the people and communities in the legislator’s district. Your team leader will have a list of the grants that have been awarded in the district. How have these benefited children in the area? Senior citizens? How have the arts brought the community together?

6. **Before you leave, say “thank you” again.** Your team leader will also have a thank you card for each legislator that your team meets with – **be sure to sign them!**

7. **Let us know what happened in your meetings!** Please fill out an evaluation form for every meeting you attend. You can do so by filling out the google form link that was emailed to you or visiting the following link: https://forms.gle/ENHArKCSCpQdrCM6. Your feedback is very important to us, so please take a few minutes to jot down your impressions and any specific statements of support or opposition that the legislator made.

8. **Let this be the beginning of your relationship with your legislators. Send your legislators a note thanking them for their time.** Invite them to local arts events, openings and other activities that they or their family may enjoy. Be a resource to your legislators. If he or she expressed interest in obtaining information on a certain arts issue or organization, send it to them! Let MCA know if you need help. Visit www.leg.state.mn.us to find all the information you need to contact your legislator.
What Issues Does MCA Work On?

→ State Arts Funding. To ensure access to the arts for all Minnesotans by working to protect, and if possible increase, state appropriations to the arts in Minnesota.

→ Enlightened Tax Policies. Recognizing and encouraging the public's engagement with and support of arts nonprofits by working to promote and maintain tax policies beneficial to charitable giving, arts philanthropy and nonprofit arts organizations.

→ National Arts Issues. To support federal funding of the arts, enlightened national tax policies for charities and other issues of interest to arts supporters.

→ Cultural Bonding Requests. To support a state role in providing resources to create cultural infrastructure in Minnesota, but not to work on any individual organization’s project.

→ Arts Education. To support the inclusion of arts as a basic requirement in Minnesota schools.

How Do MCA, the Arts Community, and the Legislature Fit Together?

At MCA, we connect arts advocates with their legislators, monitor activity at the Capitol, and inform our members of what's happening and who to contact. We also talk directly with legislators as bills move through the Legislature. MCA's Arts Advocates from all over the state talk to their legislators about the arts and why they should vote with us.

Who is MCA?

→ MCA's staff and board: As your voice at the Capitol, we organize and educate the arts community to affect the outcome of legislative decisions on arts funding, tax policies that affect philanthropy, and other issues important to the non-profit arts.

→ Individual Artists and Arts Advocates, including audiences in every corner of Minnesota. There are 108,755 creative workers in the state.

→ Small, medium, rural, suburban and metro arts organizations of all genres and their staff, boards, and audiences (there are 1800 non-profit arts & culture organizations in the state).

→ Large arts organizations of all genres and their staff, boards and audiences (there are about 200 arts organizations with annual budgets over $100,000).

→ The Regional Arts Councils staff and boards: eleven independent, state funded grant making organizations supporting small and rural arts organizations and schools all across the state.

→ State Arts Board members and staff: the state government’s arts funding agency.

Caption: MCA Board at Annual Meeting 2019
The Legislature has a Senate (67 members) and a House of Representatives (134 members). You live in the district of one state Senator and one state Representative.

There are a lot of issues to be discussed and voted on each year, so the House and Senate split up into committees, just like most non-profit boards do, to get most of their work done. The Chairs of the committees have the most power, so MCA works to educate the Chairs about the arts.

During the legislative session, the state’s budget is split into pieces and sent to the committees for discussion and votes, including the arts budget. We pay most attention to the committee that gets the arts. (The budget making process takes place in odd numbered years; 2015, 2017, 2019 etc.).

In both the House and Senate, once committees decide how much money they will spend, they send their piece to the "floor" so that the whole Legislature can vote on it. This is another good time to call or write.

The Senate and House then have to agree with each other in a conference committee how the final bill will look. MCA tries to help them to agree on a high amount for the arts.

When the Legislature is done, the budget goes to the Governor to sign. MCA works to educate the Governor about the arts so he won't veto the budget.

When the budget is signed the money goes to the Minnesota State Arts Board (MSAB) and eleven Regional Arts Councils (RACs) to make grants.

The MSAB and RACs together, as one state system, make grants to arts organizations, artists, and community groups for arts activities in every corner of Minnesota.
MCA Board Members hail from every corner of the state!

Jamie Andrews, Minneapolis
Mary Ann Aufderheide, Minneapolis
Morgan Baum, Hutchinson
Sandy Boren-Barrett, Maple Plain
Brenda Byron, Waseca
LaTia Childers, Minneapolis
Peg Churchwell, Alexandria
Nicole DeBoer, Marshall
Drew Digby, Duluth
Sean Dowse, Red Wing
Kristin Eggerling, Hallock
Tanya Gertz, Saint Cloud
James Haskins, Minneapolis
Gao Hong, Northfield
Michelle Kiley, Little Falls
Leslie LeCuyer, Foley
Jon Limbacher, St. Paul
Scott Lykins, Brainerd
Kristin Makholm, Minneapolis
Tammy Makram, Luverne
Carla McGrath, Minneapolis
Kathy Mouacheupao, St. Paul
Tamara Nadel, Minneapolis
Mark Nerenhausen, Minneapolis
Michael-jon Pease, St. Paul
Alana Petersen, Pine City
Faye Price, Minneapolis
Michael Robins, Minneapolis
Laura Seter, Bemidji
Frederica Simmons, Minneapolis
Dana Sikkila, North Mankato
Christopher Stevens, Minneapolis
Amy Stoller Stearns, Detroit Lakes
Sheila Terryll, Minneapolis
Ross Willits, Roseville
Daniel Zielske, Mankato

MCA Staff:
Sheila Smith, Executive Director
Jennifer Halcrow, Interim Director
Larry Redmond, Lobbyist
Mark Albers, Operations Manager
Jennifer Gilles, Intern
Keana Vang, Intern

Find out how you can become an Arts Advocate and join MCA:

www.artsmn.org
@MNCITIZEN
651-251-0868
#ArtsAdvocacyDay20
#MNArtsGiveBack
@MnCitizen
BECOME AN ARTS ADVOCATE!
MINNESOTA CITIZENS FOR THE ARTS \* MEMBERSHIP FORM

WE CARE ABOUT THE ARTS and are committed to working to preserve them. We use our resources and financial support wisely to work on behalf of the entire arts community. Our services and programs are funded entirely by members like you.

NAME(S):

ORGANIZATION:

ADDRESS:

CITY / STATE / ZIP:

CONTACT PHONE:  CONTACT EMAIL:

- **ADD ME** to the Arts Alert email listserv so I can receive updates on arts legislation.
- **KEEP ME INFORMED** about volunteer opportunities at MCA.

SUPPORT MINNESOTA’S ARTS COMMUNITY!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP</strong></th>
<th><strong>ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>STUDENT/SENIOR</strong> ($20)</td>
<td><strong>PATRON</strong> ($100)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INDIVIDUAL</strong> ($30)</td>
<td><strong>SPONSOR</strong> ($250)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HOUSEHOLD</strong> ($40)</td>
<td><strong>BENEFACTOR</strong> ($500)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ADVOCATE</strong> ($50)</td>
<td><strong>OTHER $____________________</strong></td>
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DUES AMOUNT ENCLOSED $________________________

- Please charge my credit card.  - A check is enclosed.

CREDIT CARD TYPE:

EXP DATE:

CREDIT CARD NUMBER:

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!
STAFF@ARTSMN.ORG / 651-251-0868

MCA is a 501(c)4 organization, which lobbies for and influences legislation. Gifts or memberships are not tax deductible under current IRS guidelines, but may be deductible as a business expense.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! PLEASE SEND THIS FORM TO MCA AT:

661 LaSalle Street #220
St. Paul, MN, 55114

LEARN MORE OR JOIN ONLINE AT ARTSMN.ORG

MINNESOTA CITIZENS FOR THE ARTS
@MNCITIZEN