



**Student Artist Training
Grant Program**

**Program Guidelines &
Application Form**



**Application Deadline:
March 15, 2011**

**Northwest Minnesota Arts Council
Northwest Regional Development Commission
115 South Main, Suite 1
Warren, MN 56762**

**Questions? Contact Mara Wittman, Arts Council Director
1-800-646-2240 (218) 745-9111
www.nwrdc.org/arts.htm
mara@nwrdc.org**

2010 Student Artist Training Grants

NW Arts Council - 115 South Main - Warren, MN 56762 - (218) 745-9111

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

I. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Students currently in grades 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12 attending one of the public or private high schools in the seven counties of the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council area are eligible to apply. The seven counties are: Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau. Students with little or no previous formal arts training, as well as students with extensive backgrounds, are encouraged to apply.

Students may apply to study one of the following arts disciplines:

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|----------|
| -- Literary Arts | -- Visual Arts | -- Music |
| -- Theater | -- Media Arts | -- Dance |

Students who have received a Student Artist Training Award in the past are eligible to apply for a second award but it must be in a different arts discipline. A student who has received two awards may not apply a third time.

II. HOW TO APPLY

- A. You must submit a completed **Application Form** and an **Artistic Statement** and send it to our office, NWRDC, 115 South Main, Warren, MN 56762. The deadline is March 15, 2011. This is a postmark deadline so if you are sending it on March 15th make sure the post office stamps it in front of you. Applications postmarked after March 15th will not be eligible.
1. **Application Form:** An application form is included with these Guidelines. Complete Sections A, B, C, and D. Section C must be signed and dated by your parent or guardian.
 2. **Artistic Statement:** This statement must consist of one typed, single-spaced page which responds to all four questions listed below. Please use a 12 size font and leave one inch margins on all sides. Also, be sure to put your name at the top of the Artistic Statement page.
 - a. What do you expect to learn from a mentor or training experience that you are not learning now?
 - b. List some of the most challenging things you have done with your art and describe why they were challenging to you.
 - c. As an artist, what are your strongest and weakest areas?
 - d. Is there a professional artist (past or present) whose work you especially admire? Why?
- B. You must attend the **Review Session** that is scheduled for Saturday, March 26, 2011 in Warren. Please make every attempt to attend this session in person or through Skype. If you cannot attend check with Mara Wittman, Arts Council Director to see whether there is another option. First priority will be given to students who attend the review session, often attendance is the only way you can receive a grant.
- C. You will present, at the Review Session on March 26, 2011, a sample of your **prepared work**. Depending on your art form, you will either bring a **portfolio of work** or do a **short performance** as detailed on the next page:

1. **Literary Arts:** Submit with your Application Form by March 15, 2011, two to five **typed** poetry or prose pieces which you have created within the past two years. They must be original. Include your name on each page and when each piece was written. You will discuss these pieces with the review panel at the Review Session.
2. **Visual Arts:** Bring to the Review Session five examples of your work created within the past two years. They must be original, signed and dated. If your work is large, fragile, or difficult to transport you can bring photographic work samples to pass amongst the jurors. Please try to bring at least one original.
3. **Music:** You will present a live, three to five minute piece of music at the Review Session. Credit the source of your performed work. A piano will not be available. If you are a pianist, please submit with your application a VCR or audio taped version of your work sample.
4. **Theater Arts and Dance:** You will present two live, highly contrasting pieces of work of up to three minutes each at the Review Session. (For example, you may present one comedy piece of up to three minutes and one serious piece of up to three minutes.) Credit the source of your performed work.
5. **Media Arts:** You will present at the Review Session, either (a) a three to five minute sample of your original taped work or (b) five examples of your two-dimensional work. Work samples must have been created within the past two years. (Media arts includes video, photography, audio, and computer imagery.) A television and DVD and screen will be available at the review site.

Footnote for Visual, Literary, and Media Arts: The work that you present at the Review Session must be original. It cannot be copied from any published source or from work created by other artists, unless you have purposely and creatively modified or reinterpreted the original work, using your own vision or style. If another artist's work served as a source for an original student work, that artists' work should be credited.

III. THE REVIEW SESSION

- A. You must attend the **Review Session**. This session will take place in Warren on Saturday, March 26, 2011. Depending on the number of student applicants, we may need to add a Sunday, March 27, 2011 Review Session. Please reserve both dates on your calendar as the date of your Review Session cannot be rescheduled. The Northwest Minnesota Arts Council will inform each applicant, by e-mail or phone of the exact date and time of his/her review.
- B. The Review Session assesses a student's motivation, commitment, creative and imaginative thinking ability, and the ability to acquire skills rapidly. Students with little or no previous formal training or education in the arts are not considered at a disadvantage in this process. This review panel at the Review Session is made up of arts educators, professional artists, and one member of the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council.
- C. The Review Session will last no longer than 15 minutes for each student. Students are reviewed individually. The arts review session has two components:
 1. The review panel will look at your **work samples** and discuss them with you (see Section II.).
 2. The review panel will briefly **interview** you.
- D. Each student applicant will be rated by the review panel. All applicants will be notified by mail of the student award results by May 1, 2011.

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APPLICATION FORM

For office use only Discipline: _____
Review Date: _____ Time: _____
Panel: _____ Rating: _____

SECTION A: STUDENT DATA (All responses must be typed or printed in black ink)

Applicant's Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____

E-mail Address: _____

School: _____ Current Grade: _____

Parent or Guardian: _____

SECTION B: ARTIST OR TRAINING SUGGESTION

Is there an artist with whom you would like to study or a training you would like to attend? Applicants who take the time to research an artist or training that fits their level of development and future goals will be given some priority during the review process. Your suggestion below will be considered along with other artists and trainings in the selection process to best ensure the programs goal. Remember this is a grant for up to \$500.00 so additional costs related to an expensive training will need to be covered by you or your family. Call Mara at 1-800-646-2240 or email mara@nwrdc.org for possible examples of artists and trainings available prior to the deadline date.

Artist or Training Name: _____ Contact Phone Number: _____

Artist Address or Training Location: _____

If you have studied with this artist or attended this training before please state the month/years of study:

Example: Guitar lessons 6/08 - 10/09. _____

SECTION C: TO PARENTS OR GUARDIANS. PLEASE READ AND SIGN BELOW.

The success of your son's or daughter's training depends, in part, on your support. The total value of each award is a \$500.00 grant which includes \$450.00 for payment to the mentor or training and \$50.00 for supplies costs. You will be expected to help provide the following:

1. Although some materials (up to \$50.00) can be covered by the grant **often additional materials** are necessary to the study, such as paints, canvas, dance shoes, sheet music, camera equipment, musical instrument, etc.
2. **Transportation** to and from where lessons or the training will take place.
3. Past experience has shown that the Artist/Mentor/Training students who make the most progress receive **support and encouragement** to practice at least three hours per week at home.

As parent or guardian for _____ (Student's Name), I certify that I have read the information in this application and that I agree to provide the three items listed above.

Signature _____

Date _____

SECTION D: APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

All responses must be typed and completed in the space provided on this form. If you use a computer, type your answer then carefully cut it out and tape it to this sheet of paper. Note: You should not be overly concerned if your answers to these questions refer to one type of art work, but you want to study another type. For example, perhaps you want to learn watercolor, but you have only worked with pen and ink. Or, perhaps you want to write short stories, but have only written poetry. This will be taken into consideration during the Review Session.

1. **Describe what art form you want to study and what specific aspect of this art form you want to focus on with a mentor or at a training.**

2. **What efforts have you made on your own to study in this art form? Describe your past activities which shows your interest in this art form.** For example, a student who is interested in creative writing should already be active with writing poems or short stories, or keeping a journal.

3. **How much time do you now spend on this art form? _____ hours/week**

4. **A mentorship or training workshop is an intensive learning experience. You will be spending a minimum of three hours per week in practice at home if you are awarded a mentorship or up to two weeks sometimes at a training workshop. Why are you willing to commit this amount of time to this program?**

5. **List the equipment or materials that you would use in your art form. For example: camera and photography supplies, musical instrument, painting supplies, etc.**

Do you have access to the equipment or materials now? _____ If not, how will you obtain these items?

6. **Attach your Artistic Statement to this application form. This statement must respond to all four questions listed below and must be no longer than one typed, double-spaced page. Be sure to include your name.**
 - a. **What do you expect to learn from a mentor or training that you are not learning now?**
 - b. **List some of the most challenging things you have done with your art and describe why they were challenging to you.**
 - c. **As an artist, what are your strongest and weakest areas?**
 - d. **Is there a professional artist (past or present) whose work you especially admire? Why?**

7. **Be sure your parent or guardian sign and date this form. Send or deliver this Application Form, along with your Artistic Statement (and samples of your work if you are applying to study Literary Arts, Dance, or Piano) to the NWRDC, 115 South Main, Warren, MN 56762 by or on March 15, 2011.**

8. **Carefully read the guidelines to be sure you are prepared for your Review Session which will occur March 26 or 27, 2011 in Warren. Be prepared to discuss your work samples and respond to questions from the review panel.**