



Our Vision

Red Wing thrives as a vibrant, creative river town that values its natural environment, welcomes all people, and unlocks opportunity for everyone.

Our Mission

We strive to create a sustainable, healthy, accessible, resilient, and equitable community where every person feels at home.

Meeting Announcement and Agenda Arts & Culture Commission Regular Meeting City Council Chambers, 315 West 4th Street, Red Wing, MN & Virtually Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 5:30 PM

This meeting will be held in the City Hall Council Chambers and virtually via Webex at the same time. Members of the public can join this meeting either in person at City Hall or virtually. [Join the meeting via Webex](#). To join via telephone, please dial (415) 655-0001. Enter access code 2555 176 8375 and password 2026 when prompted.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Agenda

4. Oaths of Office

4.A. The following commissioners will be sworn into their second term on the commission.

1. Zamira Mendoza
2. Katie Nolan
3. Stephanie Rogers

5. Election of Officers

5.A. Each year, the Commission conducts elections for officers. The staff liaison will conduct elections for the following positions:

1. Election of Chair
2. Election of Vice Chair
3. Election of Pro Tem (if desired by the Commission)

6. Approval of Minutes

6.A. Motion to Approve Minutes.

1. November 19, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

2. December 17, 2025, Workshop Minutes

7. Public Comment

We now invite anyone to share their thoughts on a topic that is not on the agenda. We welcome all opinions and ideas. We appreciate you stating your name at the lectern, and please remember that personal attacks may be ruled out of order. You will have up to three minutes to comment, and we appreciate your time in coming tonight.

8. Motions & General Business

8.A. Motion to Adopt 2026 Meeting Schedule.

The proposed 2026 meeting schedule was discussed at the December workshop. The Commission is now asked to vote to formally adopt the schedule.

8.B. Creative Laureate Program Update.

8.C. Review of Maintenance and Repair of Large Jester Statue.

More cost information has come back regarding the repair of the large jester statue. Commission members are asked to review the email chain and discuss level of restoration they would like to commit to.

9. Communication Items

9.A. Sculpture Tour Update.

RWA has received 30 submissions from 19 Minnesota artists. The next step is for the selection committee to narrow down the options to the top six in the coming weeks.

9.B. Commissioner Comments

9.C. Announcements

10. Adjournment

Accommodations for signing interpreter, Braille, large print, etc. can be made. Call City Hall at 385.3600 seven days prior to the need. Hearing assistance devices are available during meetings.

**Red Wing Arts & Culture Commission
Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers
November 19, 2025**

Members Present: Chair Katie Nolan; Commissioners Zamira Mendoza, Stephanie Rogers, Emily Guida Foos, Gary Stone, Mike Arturi, Ashley Bickle, Mark Grandlund, and Sam Brown. Commissioner Culver joined the meeting remotely at approximately 5:40 p.m.

Members Remote: Commissioner Riegelman attended the meeting remotely.

Members Absent: Commissioner Woerpel (excused absence). Commissioner Culver (excused absence, though later joined the meeting at approximately 5:40 p.m.).

Others Present: Becky Norton, Council Liaison, and Melissa Hill, Staff Liaison

1. Call to Order

Chair Katie Nolan called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted. Chair Nolan and Commissioners Mendoza, Rogers, Guida Foos, Stone, Arturi, Bickle, and Grandlund were in attendance.

Commissioner Riegleman attended the meeting remotely.

AND

Commissioner Woerpel previously indicated he would be absent.

Commissioner Culver previously indicated he would be absent.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Chair Nolan, seconded by Commissioner Rogers, to approve the agenda as drafted. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7:0.

(Commissioner Granlund was not present for this vote)

4. Approval of Minutes

A. Motion to Approve Minutes.

- 1. September 17, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes.**
- 2. October 15, 2025, Workshop Minutes.**

A motion was made by Chair Nolan, seconded by Commissioner Rogers to

approve the minutes as drafted/amended. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 8:0.

5. Public Comment

Chair Nolan reviewed the public comment procedure.

No one was present to offer public comments.

6. Motions & General Business

A. Artist Laureate Program

Chair Nolan stated that the focus of the meeting is the votes on the Artist Laureate Program.

Chair Nolan drew the Commissioners' attention to their packet, which contained the most up-to-date version of the Artist Laureate Program.

Chair Nolan stated that, because the Arts & Culture Commission has spent a considerable amount reviewing the Artist Laureate Program, she suggested that there is no need to review the complete Program at this time.

Chair Nolan stated that the ACC Responsibilities document still references a Program Committee, and there is no Program Committee. Chair Nolan asked if there is a need to create a Program Committee or should that area be directed to a committee that currently exists.

Chair Nolan stated that in the Artist Version Document, there is an inconsistency regarding the number of work samples that are requested for the selection process versus what's in the application.

Commissioner Stone does not believe a specific number of artist samples should be stated. If the artist fails to give enough samples to earn the Commission's support, they will simply not receive the award.

Commissioner Mendoza concurred with Commissioner Stone but added that there should be a requirement of at least one sample, while making it clear that the work samples will greatly impact the decision-making process.

Chair Nolan brought up the phrase, "the quality of an artist," and Commissioner Stone took offense with the terminology.

Commissioner Granlund requested some rewording that simply referred back to the description of the Artist Laureate Program.

Commissioner Stone requested that "the quality of the artist" be changed to "the quality of the works of art."

Commissioner Mendoza suggested that Chair Nolan's first concern could be

resolved by changing the term “Program Committee” to “Public Art Committee.” Chair Nolan was satisfied with Commissioner Mendoza’s suggestion.

Commissioner Stone stated that there is a need to publish the full definition of the Artists’ Excellence Scoring Criteria because the public and the artists should know how the decision for the award will be made without having to dig for the information. Complete transparency is necessary.

Commissioner Granlund asked Commissioner Stone specifically what he would add that is not already present in the description of the Artist Laureate Program.

Commissioner Stone pointed out some sources that were cited in the document. Chair Nolan stated that the citation is not there for the purpose of forcing the applicants to dig for information. The citations are there to prevent plagiarism. Commissioner Mendoza stated that the citations were included at the request of Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone reiterated that he does not like the term “quality of the artist.”

Chair Nolan asked Commissioner Stone if there was a term that he would prefer to replace “quality of the artist” with.

Commissioner Stone would prefer to use the term “the quality of the works that the artist produces.”

Chair Nolan asked Commissioner Stone if he would be happy with the term “the quality of the artist’s work portfolio.”

Commissioner Rogers concurred with Commissioner Stone and further stated that the quality of the person is simply not applicable for this situation. The goal is to give a budding artist their first big project.

There was consensus among the Commission to make the change in wording.

Commissioner Foos asked if each of the five sections is weighted equally.

Commissioner Mendoza stated that all sections should be weighted equally.

Commissioner Rogers asked if there are a total of ten points for the category of Artistic Excellence, or ten points for 1(a) and ten points for 1(b), for a total of 20 points for the category of Artistic Excellence.

There was consensus to have equal weight, and a perfect score would be a total of 50 points.

Chair Nolan welcomed Commissioner Culver, who joined remotely at

approximately 5:40 p.m.

Commissioner Stone asked about the amount of money available. Commissioner Stone recollected that \$2,400 was available for the Artist Laureate Program.

Chair Nolan stated that \$2,500 is the amount of money that the Arts & Culture Commission receives every year to do with as the Commission so desires without having to request the City Council's approval.

Commissioner Stone requested clarification.

Chair Nolan stated that for the first year, \$1,200 can be awarded to three artists because there is a surplus of \$8,668.38 in the Arts & Culture Commission budget. In subsequent years, it will be necessary to stay within the \$2,500 budget.

Staff Liaison Melissa Hill explained that the Arts & Culture Commission has not spent its full budget of \$2,500 each year, so there is a surplus that must be committed tonight. Any surplus funds not committed this year will not be carried forward to next year. Staff Liaison stated that beginning January 1, 2026, the Arts & Culture Commission budget will be back down to only \$2,500.

Commissioner Rogers asked where the artist's connection to the Red Wing Community is located within the application packet.

Commissioner Rogers further clarified her concern by stating that perhaps there could be the addition of "Please describe your connection to the Red Wing Community" to the scoring section.

There was consensus to add Commissioner Rogers' suggestion to the scoring criteria.

Staff Liaison Hill stated that the applicants would be held to the same standard of "community belonging" that the members of the Arts & Culture Commissioners are held to.

There was consensus to add "a brief description of the artist's connection to the Red Wing Community" as number 5.

Commissioner Stone expressed concern about the wording of the conflict-of-interest clause.

Commissioner Mendoza stated that this was discussed during the last Workshop Meeting.

Chair Nolan concurred with Commissioner Stone that the artist would not have

any conflict-of-interest because the artist would not have a vote. Only Arts & Culture Commission voting Members can have conflicts of interest.

There was a consensus to strike the conflict-of-interest clause from the artists' application documents. It would still stay in the Arts & Culture Commission documents.

Commissioner Brown suggested that the Arts & Culture Commissioners should not be allowed to apply for the Artist Laureate Program.

Council Liaison Norton lobbied to keep the conflict-of-interest clause in the artists' application documents.

Commissioner Foos stated that a conflict-of-interest does not mean that the artist can't apply; it simply means they are responsible for disclosing the potential conflict of interest.

Commissioner Foos stated that being transparent is the most important reason to leave the conflict-of-interest clause in the document.

Chair Nolan asked if there was any additional input from the Commission.

Commissioner Stone stated that all artists and cultures are creative. You cannot stop them from making art. They will work under any conditions, whether of public support or in isolation. Sometimes they are restricted to a community, sometimes they are recognized broadly, or belatedly, or even not at all. Art is the thing that makes us most universally human and most humanly connected to each other.

Commissioner Stone stated that the payment schedule needs to be addressed. There was some previous discussion about paying half at the beginning of the artists' projects and the other half upon completion.

Commissioner Granlund stated that payment should be spelled out in the actual contract.

A motion was made by Commissioner Granlund, seconded by Commissioner Rogers, to approve the Artist Laureate Program with the discussed changes. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 9:0.

A motion was made by Chair Nolan, seconded by Commissioner Granlund, to approve up to \$3,600 from the Arts & Culture Commission Budget to Fund the Honorarium for The Artist Laureate Program. The motion was tabled.

Commissioner Foos inquired about the availability of funding to pay for the repair of a sculpture that is mentioned later in the agenda.

Chair Nolan stated that there will still be some money to spend on the sculpture repairs.

Chair Nolan stated that she wants to table her motion until later in the meeting.

Commissioner Mendoza asked if the repair for the sculpture could come from the Municipal Arts Fund.

Chair Nolan stated that it could, which is why a discussion needs to be had.

Commissioner Granlund suggested that if the cost of the repair for the Jester sculpture is \$5,500, the remaining balance could come from our other funds.

Staff Liaison Hill stated that it sounds like the Arts & Culture Commission would like to prioritize the Artist Laureate Program funding for \$3,600. The second priority is funding some marketing for the Program. The remaining balance is the third priority, and the Jester sculpture repair is simply an idea.

Commissioner Rogers asked if the sculpture repair could be partially funded from more than one fund. The answer is yes.

Commissioner Brown raised concerns about earmarking \$3,600 this year, knowing that the funds will be substantially lower next year. For the sake of consistency, Commissioner Brown recommended that \$2,400 be used for year one, because \$2,400 will also be available in year two.

Commissioner Mendoza stated that it makes more sense to allocate the funds to the first year of the Program and let the sculpture repairs come from the Municipal Arts Fund.

Commissioner Stone stated that there is no reason to make all three grants the same amount of money.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Foos to fund the Artist Laureate Program from the Arts & Culture Budget for up to Three Laureates for up to \$1,200 Each. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 9:0.

Chair Nolan asked how much the Commission would like to spend on marketing.

Chair Nolan stated that there is a balance of \$5,000.

There was discussion about the potential for stuffing a flyer in the utility bills, using the City's Facebook page for advertising, posters, videos, and newspapers.

A motion was made by Chair Nolan, seconded by Commissioner Brown, to
Commit up to \$150 for marketing of the Artist Laureate Program from the Arts &

Culture Commission Budget. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 9:0.

B. Jester Repairs.

Chair Nolan provided an overview of the repair costs for the Jester.

Commissioner Culver asked if the remaining balance of the Arts & Culture Commission budget could be allocated to a repair fund.

Commissioner Rogers stated that she would like to see some decisions and progress made regarding the public art in Red Wing.

Chair Nolan stated that the idea is to have Max Cora & Gita Ghei access some pieces of public art each year for preventative maintenance on a rotating basis, so that not all of the public art is being accessed every year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Granlund, to use the remaining \$4,818 from the Arts & Culture Commission budget for the restoration and repair of the large Jester sculpture, and any funds left over will be used for the restoration and repair of the LaGrange Park bronze sculptures. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 9:0.

7. Communication Items

A. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Foos stated that the sculpture walk call for artist submissions is almost finalized.

B. Announcements

There were no announcements.

8. Adjournment

Chair Nolan adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

**Red Wing Arts & Culture Commission
Workshop Meeting
Community Development Building
December 17, 2025**

Members Present: Chair Katie Nolan; Commissioners Zamira Mendoza, Stephanie Rogers, Gary Stone, David Culver, Mark Granlund, Evan Wert and Sam Brown

Members Absent: Commissioners Foos and Woerpel (excused absences) and commissioner Riegelman (unexcused).

Others Present: Melissa Hill, Staff Liaison

1. Roll Call

Chair Katie Nolan called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. Roll call was conducted. Chair Nolan and Commissioners Mendoza, Rogers, Stone, Culver, Granlund, Wert, and Sam Brown were in attendance.

Commissioners Foos and Woerpel previously indicated they would be absent.

Chair Nolan welcomed and introduced new commission member Evan Wert. Commissioner Wert explained his previous work history and personal experiences that led him to applying to serve on a board or commission. His original application had been to the Heritage Preservation Commission but he agreed to a seat on the Arts & Culture Commission following a conversation with Mayor Iocco. He is looking forward to learning more and working with the Commission.

Each commissioner then spoke in turn, introducing themselves to commissioner Wert and sharing their relevant personal history.

2. Workshop Items

A. 2026 Meeting Schedule.

Chair Nolan introduced the proposed 2026 meeting schedule and explained that this was a discussion item only, and that the Commission would vote to adopt the schedule during their January meeting.

Staff liaison Hill noted two meetings on the proposed schedule that may conflict with Charter Commission meetings, March 18 and June 17, 2026. Hill explained that the March 18th Charter Commission meeting date was tentative, but the Charter Commission would be meeting on June 17, requiring the Arts & Culture Commission to find an alternative meeting date.

Discussion ensued and consensus was reached to leave the March 18th meeting as is and discuss options later if the Charter Commission decided to hold their March meeting.

Commissioner Mendoza suggested moving the June 17th meeting to June 10th and there was general agreement with this date.

Staff liaison Hill noted that she would make the recommended change and present the updated version for adoption at the January meeting.

B. Committee Break-Out Session.

For commissioner Wert's benefit, Chair Nolan explained the committees of the commission, which include an executive, finance, marketing, and public art committee. After hearing the descriptions, commissioner Wert indicated he would prefer to work on the marketing committee.

At 6:23 pm, Chair Nolan requested the group break into their committees to discuss their tasks related to the Artist Laureate Program and reconvene at 6:45 pm.

Chair Nolan called the commission back together at 6:48 pm and asked for follow-up regarding the committee sessions.

Commissioner Rogers explained that the marketing and finance committees brainstormed ideas for a tag line for the Artist Laureate program and asked for the full committee's opinion of the ideas.

Commissioner Mendoza read a list of potential tag lines the committees had thought of. Discussion ensued with further tag line ideation.

Staff liaison Hill proposed the tag line "Our community is your canvas," which was generally approved.

3. Adjournment

Chair Nolan adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.



~ Arts & Culture Commission 2026 Regular Meeting and Workshop Schedule ~

The Red Wing Arts & Culture Commission regular meeting schedule will be at City Hall, 315 W. 4th Street. The meetings will take place in the City Council Chambers beginning at 5:30 p.m. They will hold their regular workshops in the main conference room of the Community Development Building, 419 Bush Street, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting at 5:30 p.m. Council Chambers, City Hall 315 W 4 th St., Red Wing, MN	Workshop at 5:30 p.m. Community Development 419 Bush St., Red Wing, MN
	Wednesday, February 18, 2026
Wednesday, March 18, 2026	Wednesday, April 15, 2026
Wednesday, May 20, 2026	Wednesday, June 10, 2026
Wednesday, July 15, 2026	Wednesday, August 19, 2026
Wednesday, September 16, 2026	Wednesday, October 21, 2026
Wednesday, November 18, 2026	Wednesday, December 16, 2026

A quorum of the Red Wing City Council Members may be in attendance.



Our Community
is your Canvas

City of Red Wing
Creative Laureate Program



Apply for up to \$1,200 to
spark your creative project.

visit redwingmn.gov/990/Arts-Culture-Commission

ACC Creative Laureate Program, Square Social Media Post (FB / IG / LinkedIn)



ACC Creative Laureate Program, Landscape Cover Photo (FB / IG / LinkedIn)





City of Red Wing Arts & Culture Commission
Creative Laureate Program Timeline

Marketing of Program	3 months prior to application period	Dec 1
Application Period Open	3 Weeks	Mar 1
Deadline	-	Mar 23
Application Reviews		
1st Review Round	2 Weeks	Apr 7
2nd Review Round (6)	4 Weeks	May 7
3rd Review Round (3)	During Workshop Meeting	June 3
Vote 3 to Recommend	Voting Meeting	Jul 3
Awarded by Commission	2 Weeks	Jul-Aug

City of Red Wing Arts & Culture Commission (ACC) Grant Application Process & Timeline

Step 1: Identify & Assess Grant Opportunities (6-8 weeks before deadline)

Timeline: Ongoing, but at least **6-8 weeks before the grant deadline**

- The **ACC Finance Committee** identifies relevant grant opportunities.
- The **Finance Committee** evaluates:
 - Grant priorities and alignment with ACC's mission.
 - Financial requirements (matching funds, reporting obligations).
 - Eligibility and application timeline.
- The **Finance Committee submits a recommendation** to the full **ACC** at its next meeting for consideration.
- If necessary, notify City Administrator, Staff Liaison and Finance Department of a potential application.

Step 2: ACC Review & Approval to Apply (5-6 weeks before deadline)

Timeline: At least **5-6 weeks before the grant deadline**

- The **Finance Committee presents its recommendation** to the full **ACC for discussion and vote.**
 - includes program or project
 - General budget
- If ACC approves proceeding with the grant, it assigns a lead (ACC member, city staff, or partner organization).
- If City Council approval is needed (e.g., city match, resolution, policy changes), submit a request to be placed on the next **City Council agenda.**

Step 3: City Council Approval (If Required) (3-4 weeks before deadline)

Timeline: At least 3-4 weeks before the grant deadline

- If City Council approval is needed:
 - Request to be added to the **earliest** City Council meeting agenda.
 - **Allow at least two weeks** before the meeting for agenda submission.
 - Attend the City Council meeting to present or answer questions.
 - Obtain a **resolution of support** if required by the grantor.

⚠️ **Note:** Since City Council meets twice a month, plan ahead to avoid delays.

Step 4: Grant Development & Finalization (2-3 weeks before deadline)

Timeline: At least 2-3 weeks before the grant deadline

- Develop the **full application**, including:
 - Narrative and project details.
 - Budget, cost estimates, and funding sources.
 - Letters of support (if applicable).
- Obtain **required signatures and approvals** (ACC Chair, City Administrator, Finance Department, etc.).
- Submit **at least one week before the actual deadline** to allow for review and final adjustments.

Step 5: Grant Submission & Tracking (1-2 weeks before deadline)

Timeline: At least 1-2 weeks before the grant deadline

- Submit the grant application through the appropriate platform (online portal, email, or mail).
- Retain a **copy of the application** for ACC and city records.
- Notify ACC members and City staff of submission.

Step 6: Grant Award & Management (Ongoing)

Timeline: Immediately after award notification & throughout the grant period

- If awarded, coordinate fund administration with the **City Finance Department**.
- Assign a project lead for implementation, tracking, and reporting.
- Submit **required financial and programmatic reports** on time.
- Provide **updates to the ACC and City Council** as needed.

Summary Timeline Example (Based on a Grant Due May 15)

Step	Task	Timeframe
Step 1	Finance Committee identifies opportunity, reviews priorities, and submits to ACC	March 1-15
Step 2	ACC reviews and approves grant application	April 1 (ACC meeting)
Step 3	Submit request to City Council (if needed)	April 8 or April 22 (City Council meeting)
Step 4	Develop and finalize application	May 1-8
Step 5	Submit application	May 8-15
Step 6	Grant management and reporting	Ongoing



Prospective Funding Report (2026 - 2027)

City of Red Wing Arts & Culture Commission

Executive Summary

The ACC Finance Committee has prepared this report of prospective funding opportunities for the Arts & Culture Commission to advance our priorities, programs & initiatives- as well as increase our organizational budget (Municipal Arts Fund and Arts & Culture Commission Fund) for the next few years. Funding priorities for FY27 include: the Creative Laureate Program, Red Wing Art's Sculpture Walk, Percent for Art Program and growth of our general operating budget. The following contains details about each application process, timeline, links to website, program guidelines & other notes.



SAINT PAUL
& MINNESOTA
FOUNDATION

> [MN Community IDEAS Grant Program: Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation](#)

- **Timeline:** Interest Form Due Before 1pm on **January 28, 2026**
- Two-Step Application Process (With \$750 Stipend in Round 2)
- Greater MN and Government Entities are Eligible to Apply

Program Overview: This program seeks to design, test and spread ideas that make our communities better for everyone and inspire, equip and connect people through meaningful, community-led change. Grants will be awarded within three target communities, with three grants awarded within each of the communities: Greater Minnesota, Twin Cities 7-county Metro Area and Native-led, Native-serving organizations. This program's selection criteria focus on an organization's transformational impact; or the long-lasting, meaningful change that can happen through ideas of all sizes, within communities of all sizes, and through organizations of all sizes.

Selection Criteria: Innovation - Development - Equity - Agency (full criteria on the website)

Application Process: Step 1) Submit Interest Form and Step 2) Submit Full Application

During Step 1: All eligible organizations that completed an interest form will be entered into a randomized selection process to identify 20 organizations within each of the target communities.

During Step 2: The Foundation will convene a separate Community Selection Committee for each

target community. Members will include a diverse group of community members from each target community.



> [Our Town Grant Program: National Endowment for the Arts](#)

- **Timeline:** Full Application Due on Either Dates: **February 12, 2026** or **July 9, 2026**
- Two-Step Application Process, Greater MN & Government Entities are Eligible to Apply

Program Overview: Our Town grants support creative placemaking projects that integrate arts, culture, and design in efforts to advance local economic, physical, and other community-desired outcomes. Projects must be place-specific (such as a community, neighborhood, or cultural district) and should focus on community priorities. Projects should demonstrate a specific role for arts, culture, and design to strengthen the local community, support changes at the local level, and lay the groundwork for long-term impact. Artistic work produced as part of an Our Town project should help achieve a broader community-identified goal described in the application. Projects should engage a variety of local cross-sector partners to undertake the work. We strongly encourage (but do not require) applications that establish new or deepen existing cross-sector partnerships between nonprofit organizations, local governmental or quasi-governmental entities, and the relevant arts, culture, and the design expertise necessary to carry out the project.

Selection Criteria: The NEA Our Town Grant Program supports project activities such as:

- Planning activities that incorporate artists as key project leaders, including artist/designer facilitated community planning, cultural planning, cultural district planning, mapping creative assets, or public art planning.
- Community design processes, including design of artist spaces, design of cultural facilities, charrettes, or public space design.
- Strengthening the creative economy to include artists working in non-arts settings, professional development for artists/designers, arts instruction, and other supports for creative industries.
- Opportunities to highlight a community's artistic and cultural resources through artistic excellence in arts festivals, performances, workshops, and public art.

Application Process: Step 1) Access Application, Create a Workspace & Step 2) Complete the Form

During Step 1: Access application and create workspace to complete a short organizational form. The form collects basic information about your organization and must be completed before Part 2.

During Step 2: Submit the Grant Application Form (GAF) through the NEA's Applicant Portal (AP). The application collects the answers to the narrative questions about your organization and the project, organizational and project budget, key individuals and partners, and work samples.



**BUSH
FOUNDATION**

> **Community Innovation Grants & PRIs: Bush Foundation**

- **Timeline:** The Grant Program Application Form is **Open Year-Round**
- Flex Funding Options With no Caps on Amounts or Duration of Funding
- Greater MN and Government Entities are Eligible to Apply

Program Overview: This is the Bush Foundation's largest and most flexible program that aims to have a big and lasting impact in the region. The organization funds the most promising ideas, across issue areas, that have the potential to make our region better for everyone. The foundation typically offers multi-year funding of significant amounts, which also means that they give a small number of grants each year. Before applying for a grant, it is strongly encouraged you to contact the foundation to learn more about your idea and help answer any questions.

Selection Criteria: Transformative Impact - Strong Plan - Leadership - Alignment (see the website)

- Develop, test and spread great ideas. Community Innovation grants support efforts to develop and test ideas to solve problems and create opportunities and spread the best ideas across communities.
- Inspire, equip and connect leaders. Great ideas spread through people. Community Innovation grants invest in efforts to inspire, equip and connect leaders to more effectively lead change.

Application Process: Step 1) Schedule a Call with Staff and Step 2) Complete the Application

During Step 1: Applications are accepted at any time, but the foundation encourages a meeting with them to hear ideas, answer questions and help determine the best grant program fit for you.

During Step 2: After meeting with the organization- complete the full, online application form. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Board and staff are part of the decision-making process.



Philip S. Duff, Jr. Endowment Fund

> [Red Wing Community Grant Program: Duff Endowment Fund](#)

- **Timeline:** The Grant Program Application Form is **Open Year-Round**
- Simplified Application Process (With a Short List of Requirements)
- Greater MN and Government Entities are Eligible to Apply

Program Overview: (Founder Biography & Mission) Phil Duff was a former editor and publisher of the *Red Wing Republican Eagle*, and was someone dedicated to community service and journalism. Born in Minneapolis in 1922, Duff graduated from Yale in 1946 following U.S. Navy service. After attending the National Institute of Public Affairs, he worked for several Minnesota newspapers before co-owning the *Dodge County Independent*. He had served in the Minnesota Senate from 1950-1953. In 1953, he moved to Red Wing, becoming a junior partner at the *Republican Eagle*, buying it out in 1960. With Arlin Albrecht, he expanded to purchase 20 other community papers. Duff stepped down as editor in 1982 but remained an active columnist and editorial writer, focusing on the world's relationship to Red Wing, MN. Duff was known for his strong, principled editorials. The Duff Endowment Fund reflects his lifelong passion and mission: *"to provide the residents of the Red Wing area opportunities."* The Fund was created to encourage Red Wing residents to become acquainted with public affairs, to educate themselves on the role of Red Wing, Minnesota, USA as part of the rest of the world and, as they participate in public affairs, to be better prepared to be candidates for public office. The funds are distributed for projects initiated by the Duff Fund Advisory Board and by the grant applications. Philip S. Duff Jr. Endowment Fund is a fund of the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation, a statewide community foundation that serves all of Minnesota.

Selection Criteria: Community - Alignment - Clarity - Evaluation (full criteria available below)

- Grants are given based upon: fit within the City of Red Wing, ability to fit the mission, ability to define a clear goal, have measurable outcomes that are documented and a plan for evaluation.
- Grants are not meant for: maintenance, staff funding or to be an on-going source of funding.

Application Process: Step 1) Submit Full Application Narrative with the Required Attachments

During Step 1: Recipients must submit a signed copy of the application form, evidence of a 501.c.3 or a part of a local government, budget indicating sources of revenue, list of other participant agencies, list of board members of the organization & description of the project goals / evaluation.



MINNESOTA COMMUNITY IDEAS PROGRAM GRANT INTEREST FORM INFORMATION

INTEREST FORM OVERVIEW

The **Minnesota Community IDEAS Program** seeks to design, test and spread ideas that make our communities better for everyone and inspire, equip and connect people through meaningful, community-led change. This statewide grant program will award \$125,000 to 9 new organizations in 2026. Grants will be awarded within three target communities—Greater Minnesota, the Twin Cities Metro Area, and Native-led organizations serving Native communities—with three grants awarded within each of the three communities.

To be considered for funding, organizations must first complete a brief online interest form to provide details of the organization, confirm eligibility, and provide a brief summary of the proposed idea.

A copy of the interest form is provided below for reference.

Interest form submissions will be accepted from January 5 through January 28, 2026. All Interest forms must be submitted by 1 p.m. on January 28, 2026.

Eligible organizations who complete an interest form will be entered into a random selection process to determine organizations invited to complete a full application.

If you have questions about eligibility or the application process, please contact the Minnesota Community IDEAS program team at MNCommunityIDEAS@spmcf.org or call [651.325.4202](tel:651.325.4202).

PREQUALIFICATION QUESTIONS

To be considered eligible for this opportunity, your organization must be able to answer “Yes” to all of the following pre-qualifying questions:

1. Is your organization certified by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) public charity or a public agency/unit of government or Indian tribal government under Section 7871 of the Internal Revenue Code, or is your organization utilizing an eligible fiscal sponsor which is certified as described above?
 Yes
 No
2. Is your organization located in Minnesota?
 Yes
 No

3. Is the impact proposed in this application focused primarily on benefiting communities in the state of Minnesota?

- Yes
- No

4. Is this the only interest form submitted on behalf of your organization or the group/coalition/collaborative for which you are applying?

- Yes
- No

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

1. Legal name of your organization: _____

2. D.B.A. name of organization (if different than legal name): _____

3. Organization Employer Identification Number (EIN): _____

4. Organization primary address:

Street: _____

City: _____

County: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

5. Organization website: _____

6. Organization phone number: (_____) - _____

7. Primary Application Contact

- First Name: _____
- Last Name: _____
- Job Title: _____
- Email: _____
- Phone Number: _____

8. Secondary Organization Contact

- First Name: _____
- Last Name: _____
- Job Title: _____
- Email: _____
- Phone Number: _____

FISCAL SPONSORSHIP (IF APPLICABLE)

The Foundation accepts applications from organizations or programs that are fiscally sponsored. Fiscal sponsors must be 501(c)(3) public charities or government entities (including schools). If your organization is selected to submit a full application, the Foundation will learn more about your fiscal sponsor and collect a fiscal sponsorship agreement.

9. Fiscal sponsor organization name: _____

10. Fiscal sponsor Employer Identification Number (EIN): _____

TARGET COMMUNITY IDENTIFICATION

The Foundation will distribute awards evenly among three target communities. Among all eligible organizations submitting interest forms for this opportunity, the Foundation will use random selection to identify 20 organizations from each target community that will be invited to complete a full application.

Each organization may only apply within one target community. If your organization has multiple locations, please select one target community that most closely reflects the community or impact associated with the proposed idea.

Within which target community is your organization applying?

- Greater Minnesota** – Organizations located outside the 7-County Metro Area.
- Twin Cities Metro Area** – Organizations located within the seven counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington.
- Native-led organizations that serve Native communities** within Minnesota and the 11 Native Nations that share the same geography.
 - Organizations must have at least 51% of the Board of Directors and Senior Leadership identifying as Native to be considered Native-led.

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

The following questions ask you to briefly provide a summary of your organization and the proposal for which you are seeking funding. The Foundation will be using a random selection process to select organizations invited to complete a full application. The responses provided here are for information purposes only and will not be used for any consideration of those invited to apply.

1. Provide a brief description (3-5 sentences) of the community your organization serves and the opportunity, challenge, issue or need that your organization works to address?

2. Provide a brief description (3-5 sentences) of the proposed idea your organization hopes to accomplish with support from this opportunity?

From: gita ghei <g@gitapatina.com>

Sent: Friday, January 9, 2026 9:00 AM

To: Katie Nolan <kate.me.nolan@gmail.com>

Cc: Melissa Hill <melissa.hill@redwingmn.gov>

Subject: Re: Red Wing public art maintenance assessment + repairs to large jester

Hi Katie,

for the large Jester, we have estimate \$1800 for scaffold costs, including design, rental, delivery probably, and set up time.

We would also like to add \$500 contingency for materials, as we have not priced the paint yet.

Let us know if this sounds ok, and hope your meeting goes well Monday!

Have a good weekend,

Gita

On Jan 7, 2026, at 3:12 PM, Katie Nolan <kate.me.nolan@gmail.com> wrote:

Thanks Gita. Do you have an estimate of what the scaffolding and set up costs would be for the large jester?

On Jan 6, 2026 at 8:48 PM -0600, gita ghei <g@gitapatina.com>, wrote:

Hi Katie, thank you for your note! And Happy New Year.

I am pasting the info from the document I have for maintenance of these 4 sculptures, because at this time, the estimates from last year would still be good. We would not need to re-evaluate the condition for at least another year. If you would like to share an approved budget number for the large Jester, i think it would be fine to say that we could go down and assess what is the best we could do with in the budget for this year. That visit and assessment we could do for \$250.

Let me know if you need anything else at this time, and we look forward to keeping the collection well maintained.

Gita Ghei

Max Cora

Life Long Learning Recommended Treatment

- wash with non-ionic cleanser
- ask the artist if the leaves need any highlights, if so highlight
- wax twice cold to preserve the natural green patina, and buff.
- *addition of brown paint where flaking*

Estimated Cost 1 day likely with scaffold, \$1800

Small jester at Levee Park: **Recommended Treatment**

- wash with non-ionic cleanser
- strip off any residual coatings
- touch up any areas needed due to bird droppings
- highlight face and leg patches to increase the intended contrast of colors
- wash base and use a poultice to reduce staining
- hot wax the brown bronze, buff, cold wax all, buff.

Estimated Cost

2 people, 1.5 days, \$2,200

Large Jester at Colvill, cost does not include scaffolding and set up costs:

Recommended Treatment

Lamp needs to be addressed as a separate repair, city electrician to be involved

Scaffolding will be set up and taken down each day

- use solvents to remove residual and failing lacquer coating
- clean and redo patina in dark and light contrasting gold and brown
- Paint contrasting colors per community choice
- Cold wax
- Re paint steel base after applying rust converter.

Estimated Cost

\$5500, does NOT include the lamp

Lindbergh, the boy

R Treatment

- Wash with non ionic cleanser
- Strip residual coatings (lacquer and / or wax)
- clean base with poultice (some green staining may remain),
- repair hole under foot with caulk or grout
- touch up discolored patina and tape spots

- hot and cold wax, 2 coats

Estimated cost

2 people, 1 day estimated, \$1,800

Thank you , please let us know if you have more needs for your Monday meeting

Gita

On Jan 5, 2026, at 7:44 PM, Katie Nolan <kate.me.nolan@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Gita,

Happy New Year! I hope the holidays treated you well. I'm reaching out about two things related to Red Wing's public art.

1. Per the attached Public Art Maintenance Plan, we're doing yearly evaluations of different pieces of art. Can you send me a quote for how much it would cost to evaluate the current condition of:
 1. Jester
 2. Large Jester
 3. Charles A. Lindbergh
 4. Lifelong Learning
2. At the ACC's last voting meeting, the commission voted to spend a certain amount of money to make repairs on the Large Jester. **Melissa, can you share what that amount was?** I don't think it was quite enough to cover the cost of all the previously recommended repairs, so I think part of doing a fresh assessment on the Large Jester this year will be determining what repairs can be done within that budget or if it's worth going to the City Council to ask for funds for additional repairs.

If it's possible to get the quote by next Monday, 1/12, we can vote to approve paying you at our meeting on 1/21. If not, we'll add it to the agenda for our March voting meeting.

Thank you for all your help keeping our public art beautiful!

--

Katie Nolan

Arts & Culture Commission

<Public Art Maintenance Plan.pdf>