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East Central  
REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL

## *Essential Arts*

April, 2017

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## IMAGE Art Show 2017 Open April 22 - 28



### 170 Regional Artists Displaying Artwork!

The IMAGE Art Show will be held April 22nd through April 28th, with an opening reception on Saturday, April 22nd from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A welcoming ceremony and the judges' presentations are scheduled for 6:00 p.m. that same evening. IMAGE will also be open on Sunday, April 23rd, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Monday - Friday, April 24 - 28, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. The show is open to the public and is free of charge. The 2017 IMAGE Art Show will be held at the East Central Regional Arts Council at its office and gallery located in downtown

Braham, MN. A total of 170 regional artists have entered this show!

This is the 30th year of IMAGE, an annual judged art show for visual artists residing in Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine Counties (Region 7E). Sponsored by the East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC), IMAGE is a celebration of artists living in Region 7E. Visual artists from all five counties are participating.

This year's IMAGE awards are: 2 Judge's Choice Awards (\$500 each); up to 10 Excellence Awards (\$200 each); and up to 10 Merit Awards (\$150 each). In addition, artwork entered will be eligible for People's Choice (\$300) and Purchase Awards. ECRAC will purchase one or more entered artwork(s) which will then become part of the Council's permanent collection. These awards (with the exception of People's Choice) will be presented at the opening reception on April 22. The People's Choice Award will be distributed after the show ends. Everyone attending the show is allowed to vote for their favorite piece artwork.

For more information on the show or the hours, you may call 320-396-2337 extension 1, or email to: [info@ecrac.org](mailto:info@ecrac.org). For the complete IMAGE Art Show calendar you can also go online to:

<http://ecrac.org/about-ecrac/calendar>



## New Study Looks at the Impact of the Arts

A new study on the health and impact of the nonprofit arts and culture sector in East Central Minnesota will be released at 1:00 PM on April 28, 2017, by Creative Minnesota, Minnesota Citizens for the Arts, and the East Central Regional Arts Council. (ECRAC). The presentation of the results will be made at the ECRAC offices, 112 Main Avenue South, Braham, among the artwork hung as part of the 30th Annual IMAGE Art Show, followed by a brief discussion of the economic impact of the arts and culture in the region.



**If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to ECRAC at [info@ecrac.org](mailto:info@ecrac.org) or 320-396-2337 ext. 1.**

As the most comprehensive report ever done about the sector's health and economic impact, Creative Minnesota 2017 fills in the gaps of available information about Minnesota's cultural field and seeks to improve our understanding of its importance to our quality of life and economy. Creative Minnesota 2017 quantifies the impact and needs of Minnesota's artists and creative workers, updates previous studies on the economic impact of nonprofit arts and culture organizations, and reviews other research about the arts sector in the state.

The report includes both new, original research and analysis of data created by others. Creative Minnesota's research is available for free at [creativemn.org](http://creativemn.org).

The presentation will show astonishing results for both the state and for East Central Minnesota.

- On a statewide basis, the study found that the combined statewide economic impact of nonprofit arts organizations, their audiences and artists and creative workers is over \$2 billion annually. This includes \$819 million spent by nonprofit arts organizations, \$564 million spent by audiences, and the direct spending of artists in their communities, on things such as art supplies and studio rental, of \$644 million in the state.
- Every region of the state was found to have a robust arts economy.
- Among many other regional results that will be revealed at the presentation, in the area that the East Central regional Arts Council serves, there is a combined economic impact by nonprofit arts and culture organizations and artists of \$17 million per year.
- The study also shows strong support by Minnesotans for the arts, and provides guidance on what artists need to make a living and a life in the state.

Many regional organizations were part of the study:

Audubon Center of the North Woods, Braham Pie Day, Cambridge Center for the Arts, Center City Opera Company, City of Milaca, City of Onamia, Depot Studios, East Central Minnesota Chorale, East Central Regional Arts Council, Elim Oasis Adult Day Health Center, Franconia Sculpture Park, Isanti County Historical Society, Kanabec County Art Association, Kanabec History Center, Milaca Area Historical Society, Milaca Fine Arts Council, Mora CAPP-Comprehensive Arts Planning Program, Mora Vasaloppet, Northern Exposures Photography Club, Old School Arts Center, Onamia Area Friends of the Library - Arts Programs, Paradise Community Theatre, Pine Center for the Arts, Princeton Area Visionary Committee, St. Croix Valley Potters Tour, We R Able, Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community, Cambridge-Isanti Performing Arts Committee, Central Minnesota Art Co-op, City of Braham, City of Lindstrom - Karl Oskar Days Committee, City of Lindstrom - Park Commission, City of Mora- Arts Programs, City of Sandstone - Quality of Life Task Force, East Central Minnesota Pride, East Central School, Family Pathways, Hazelfest at Hazelden, Isanti County Parks, Isle School District - Community Education, Kanabec County Agricultural Society, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe/History Project, Mille Lacs County Historical Society, Minnesota Goose Garden, Northwest Company Fur Post, Onamia Public Schools Arts Project, Pine City Art Council, Pine City Heritage Players, Pine City Library Foundation/ History Project, Pine County Agricultural Society, Pine County Historical Society, Princeton Public Schools Library

**RURAL ARTS AND CULTURE SUMMIT!**

Scholarships are available for individuals from the East Central region to participate in the 2017 Rural Arts and Culture Summit, which will be held in Morris, MN on June 6 - 8, 2017. Scholarships are awarded on a first come, first served basis for artists, arts enthusiasts, community and economic developers, and other community leaders. Carpooling is encouraged to allow as many people as possible to participate. Participants will be reimbursed by the East Central Regional Arts Council for the attendance fee, \$40 per night for lodging, and travel expenses (\$0.53 per mile) with a maximum total reimbursement of \$400.

Organized by Springboard for the Arts and the Center for Small Towns, the Summit gathers rural artists, arts organizations and community leaders to highlight arts-based strategies to rural community and economic development. People from across the state and country will gather to celebrate the imaginative and creative thinking that has helped to create vibrant small town cultures.

For more information about the Summit and to register please go to their website: [www.ruralartsandculturesummit.com](http://www.ruralartsandculturesummit.com)

**For information on these scholarships call 320-396-2337 extension 1 or email: [info@ecrac.org](mailto:info@ecrac.org) before May 15, 2017.**

## Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists

Springboard for the Arts has a professional development curriculum designed to teach business skills to artists in all disciplines - visual, performing and literary arts. ECRAC is sponsoring the curriculum at our office in Braham.

The last 2 workshops will be held at ECRAC's office, with 3 workshops scheduled on 2 different weekends in 2017. Each session lasts 2.5 hours. The Friday sessions will start at 5 pm; Saturdays will start at 9:30 a.m. and again at 1 p.m. Meals will be provided both Friday night and Saturday at noon.

May 5-6: Pricing; Recordkeeping & Legal Considerations -  
last day to register is May 1

Jun 2-3: Funding; Grant writing; and Business Plan Essentials -  
last day to register is May 30

You can participate in each weekend session individually for \$20 each. Scholarships are available upon request at the time of registration. Also, notify us if you have any dietary considerations when registering.

**Advance registration is required for the workshops.**  
**To register, contact ECRAC at 320-396-2337 or email [info@ecrac.org](mailto:info@ecrac.org).**

Also, artists should know that Springboard's Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists curriculum is also available as the Work of Art Toolkit, a 12-part workbook and video series that guides artists through every facet of building a successful and sustainable career. It is available for free digitally via the Creative Exchange platform at <http://springboardexchange.org/workofart/>. If you can't make it to Braham for the in person sessions, this may be a good option for you.



**Live in Region 7E, interested in the arts, and want to make an impact with your volunteer work?!?!**

If you are a Region 7E artist, arts organization member, or are an arts advocate, and are interested in filling a position with the Regional Arts Council, please go to <http://ecrac.org/news/wanted-more-awesome-board-members> for more information. The deadline for nomination forms and resume submission for this appointment is **May 31, 2017**. Thanks for your interest!!!

## ABOUT ECRAC

The East Central Regional Arts Council (ECRAC) is a non-profit 501c3 organization that has been designated by the Minnesota State Arts Board as the regional arts council for Region 7E in East Central Minnesota. The mission of the East Central Regional Arts Council is to support the arts and bring the life enhancing values they afford to Region 7E residents. ECRAC accomplishes this mission through programs and special initiatives for artists and arts organizations. You can find out more about the East Central Regional Arts Council at [www.ecrac.org](http://www.ecrac.org). The office and gallery is located at 112 Main Avenue South, in downtown Braham, MN.





**East Central Regional Arts Council**  
112 Main Ave S  
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[www.ecrac.org](http://www.ecrac.org)

**For more information (320)396-2337**

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