



City Manager's Office
50 West 13th Street
Dubuque, Iowa 52001



CONTACT:
Jan Stoffel
Arts and Cultural Affairs Coordinator
City of Dubuque
563-690-6064
janstoff@cityofdubuque.org

NEWS RELEASE

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Dubuque Tops \$1.5 Million Dollar Mark in Arts Funding

2011 Grant Winners Announced

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The City of Dubuque has provided over \$1.5 million dollars in funding for the arts since the establishment of the City's Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory commission in 2004. This announcement coincides with the selection of recipient organizations for the City's annual arts and culture funding programs.

The City has invested \$1,560,000 through three programs established by the Dubuque City Council. In all, \$1,200,000 has been awarded to area arts and cultural organizations through the Operating Support Grant Program and \$240,000 through the Special Projects Grant Program, with an additional \$120,000 to fund Art on the River, a temporary sculpture exhibition along the Mississippi RiverWalk in the Port of Dubuque.

Operating support is provided to established 501(c)(3) arts and culture organizations located in the City of Dubuque that primarily serve Dubuque residents with year-round arts and culture events, programs and services, and that can demonstrate a record of programmatic and administrative stability. Funding is based upon a percentage of an organization's operating expenses.

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission reviewed 13 funding requests from Dubuque arts and culture organizations requesting \$252,274 in funds from the FY 2011 Arts and Culture Funding Program for Operating Support. The following organizations were selected by the commission and approved by the City Council:

- Bell Tower Productions - \$13,098
- Colts Drum and Bugle Corps – \$40,000
- Dubuque Arts Council - \$5,186
- Dubuque Chorale - \$789
- Dubuque County Historical Society - \$40,000

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- Dubuque County Fine Arts Society - \$2,668
- Dubuque Main Street/Cultural Corridor - \$5,566
- Dubuque Museum of Art - \$22,888
- Dubuque Symphony Orchestra - \$40,465
- Dubuque Arboretum - \$5,539
- Fly-By-Night Productions - \$1,143
- Grand Opera House - \$ 16,962
- Northeast Iowa School of Music - \$5,696

The Special Projects Grant Program was designed to encourage the development of new or expanded arts and cultural programs in the Dubuque community. The Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission reviewed a record fourteen applications from Dubuque organizations requesting \$85,141 in funds from the FY 2011 Arts and Culture Grant Program for Special Projects. Funding is based upon a points system. The recipients are:

- Friend of Mines of Spain: *Meskwaki Interpretation* - \$5,000
- Bell Tower Productions: *Kids for Summer Production* - \$7,516
- Loras College, *Project Runway Dubuque Style* - \$3,547
- Dubuque Symphony Orchestra: *Madame Butterfly* - \$10,000
- Dubuque County Historical Society: *Women and Spirit* - \$6,000
- Dubuque Art Center: *Art Market* - \$2,937

The Art on the River temporary sculpture exhibit recently opened the fifth annual exhibit, which will be on display at the Port of Dubuque until June of 2011. Artists submit proposals, submissions are evaluated by a jury, and the 10 selected are offered a \$1,500 stipend for exhibiting a year. This year, 100 entries from artists in 18 different states and one foreign county were received, and Dubuque artist John Anderson-Bricker won the first ever \$1,000 Cash Award for Best of Show.

Partial funding for City Arts and Cultural Affairs staff to administrate these programs comes from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.

For additional information, please contact Jan Stoffel, arts and cultural affairs coordinator for the City of Dubuque, at 563-690-6064 or janstoff@cityofdubuque.org. More information about all of the funding programs can be found at www.cityofdubuque.org/arts&culture.