

**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BEMIDJI AREA ARTS ENDOWMENT FUND
SEEKS GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS**

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APRIL 1, 2025 (Bemidji MN) – The Bemidji Area Arts Endowment will open its 2025 grant round on April 1. Applications will be accepted through May 1. BAAE is a fund in the family of funds at Northwest Minnesota.

This is an opportunity for nonprofits within 30 miles of Bemidji to apply for grants up to \$1,500 to support art-related projects. This initiative is designed to foster and support artistic endeavors that enrich the local community and enhance cultural experiences.

Eligible nonprofits are encouraged to submit their project proposals through the online portal available on Northwest Minnesota Foundation's website at www.nwmf.org under Grants. The online BAAE application process aims to streamline submissions and provide equal opportunities for all qualifying organizations dedicated to promoting the arts.

Grants to be awarded through the BAAE Arts Project 20225 grant round will include funds from Bemidji Area Arts Endowment, Richard and Pam Nelson Family Visual Arts Fund, Patt and Ernie Rall Children's Performing Arts Fund, and the John Rabel Memorial Music Fund.

The Everett Wilimek Orchestral String Studies Foundation offers grants to children ages 8 to 15 to study violine, viola, cello or bass. Wilimek grants will be used to cover lesson costs and instrument rental. Grant awards will be determined upon grant applications submitted.

"Supporting arts and culture is vital for community growth and engagement," said Bev Erickson, chair of the BAAE Advisory Board. "We are delighted to offer this grant to nonprofit organizations who share our passion for artistic expression and community enrichment."

Applications will be reviewed by BAAE Advisory Board members who have backgrounds in various business and artistic areas, ensuring that chosen projects reflect the diversity and creativity of the Bemidji area. Grantees will be notified of their selection by email in June, with funding dispersed in July.

Northwest Minnesota Foundation is an equal opportunity provider and employer.