



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 14, 2018
CONTACT: Rebecca Cruse, Deputy Director, 605-773-3301

Arts Council Grants \$1.35 Million

PIERRE, SD – The South Dakota Arts Council will provide grant and special initiative support to 200 South Dakota artists, arts organizations, schools, projects and programs totaling \$1.35 million in fiscal year 2019, South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard announced today.

“The arts contribute a great deal to our communities. Across our great state, art-centered events and programs attract tourists and visitors, engage students, create jobs, and bring joy and beauty to our lives,” said Daugaard. “With funding provided through the tourism promotion tax and the federal match from the National Endowment for the Arts, the South Dakota Arts Council is able to support these efforts all across the state.”

Grants awarded to artists total \$216,000 and include four artist fellowships, 10 artist career development grants, four traditional arts apprenticeship grants, one artist collaboration grant, two artist project grants, and 32 touring artist grants. These grants contribute to the artists’ professional development and reward their commitment to live and work in the state. Touring Arts grants also provide South Dakotans the opportunity to attend quality performances and exhibitions in communities all across the state.

Grant awards to 74 organizations total \$696,000. Additionally, \$166,000 has been awarded to support approximately 220 weeks of artist residencies in schools and community settings. The grants encourage organizations to develop and sustain important arts projects in their communities and provide employment opportunities for artists and arts administrators.

Special initiatives and activities funding totaling \$268,000 will support programs such as arts education, public awareness, traditional arts, technical assistance, professional development, excursions grants, Poetry Out Loud, Art for Life and Art for State Buildings.

Arts Council funds are provided by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and by the State of South Dakota from a portion of the state’s tourism promotion tax. Arts Council grants help generate \$20 million each year in local spending. For more information about SDAC programs, visit www.artscouncil.sd.gov.

The South Dakota Arts Council is a state agency organized under the South Dakota Department of Tourism. The Department is led by Secretary James D. Hagan.