

# *A note from the East Central Arts Council . . .*

*“If you are appreciative of this grant award, please thank somebody.”*

We urge you to make a phone call or drop a note of thanks to either the Governor, your State Senator, your State Representative, or all three.

- ◆ Tell them you received an arts grant award from the East Central Arts Council.
- ◆ Tell them the arts are important to the quality of your life in east central Minnesota.
- ◆ Tell them thanks for their continued support of the arts in the State’s budget.

Below is a list of legislator’s names and addresses. We have checked the legislators (Senator and Representative) for your area. Please send the East Central Arts Council a copy of your letter.

(By the way, it would be nice if you personally invited them to your arts event!☺)

## **LEGISLATORS – REGION 7E as of January 1, 2007**

☐  
*Senate  
District  
8*

Senator Tony Lourey  
G-24 State Capitol  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606  
(651) 296-0293  
sen.tony.lourey@senate.mn

☐  
*District  
08B*

Representative Tim Faust  
567 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1206  
(651) 296-0518  
rep.tim.faust@house.mn

☐  
*Senate  
District  
16*

Senator Betsy Wergin  
145 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1206  
(651) 296-8075  
sen.betsy.wergin@senate.mn

☐  
*District  
16A*

Representative Sondra Erickson  
279 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1206  
(651) 296-6746  
1-800-709-0578  
rep.sondra.erickson@house.mn

☐  
*Senate  
District  
17*

Senator Rick Olseen  
G-24 State Office Building  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606  
(651) 296-5419  
sen.rick.olseen@senate.mn

☐  
*District  
17A*

Representative Rob Eastlund  
243 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1206  
(651) 296-5364  
rep.rob.eastlund@house.mn

☐  
*District  
08A*

Representative Bill Hilty  
559 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155 - 1206  
(651) 296-4308  
1-800-788-1329  
rep.bill.hilty@house.mn

☐  
*District  
17B*

Representative Jeremy Kalin  
579 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1206  
(651) 296-5377  
rep.jeremy.kalin@house.mn

Governor Tim Pawlenty  
Office of the Governor -130 State Capitol  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
(651) 296-3391 or 1-800-657-3717  
tim.pawlenty@state.mn.us

## *When writing . . .*

### DO:

- ◆ Use the correct address and salutation, e.g., Dear Senator (name), or Dear Representative (name), or Dear Governor (name).
- ◆ Type or write your letter clearly. If your letter is not easy to read, it could be discarded. Be sure to include your return address on the letter.
- ◆ Be specific. If possible, give an example of how the issue affects your district.
- ◆ Use your own words and stationary. Legislators feel that personal letters, rather than form letters, show greater personal commitment on the part of the writer, and therefore carry greater weight.
- ◆ Be brief. Choose a few bullet points that are direct and succinct. However, include enough information to explain why you are writing and why you appreciate their support for the arts.

## *Sample Thank You Letter*

<b>Date:</b>	March 1, 2007
<b>Correct Address:</b>	The Honorable Jane Doe Minnesota State Senate 200 State Capitol Building 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. St. Paul, Minnesota 55155
<b>Salutation:</b>	Dear Senator Doe:
<b>Issue:</b>	The Eagle Nook Community Theatre Community Theatre would like to personally thank you for your support in funding the arts through the East Central Arts Council – one of the Regional Arts Councils. Because of a recent grant of \$2,000, our organization was able to produce a theatrical, musical production of <i>Old Jackie's Town</i> . This was a parent-child play which involved over 125 local adults and children working together in the areas of acting, technical and support. Approximately 1,250 people from 20 surrounding communities came to see the play, which was a huge success for our town. I have included some press clippings and a program of the event.
<b>Restate Issue/Anticipation of continued support:</b>	This activity would have been difficult, if not impossible, to do without this small grant support. Thousands of volunteer hours went into this regionally supported production. The opportunity for local people to be part of a quality theater experience is just the beginning of the long term positive effect of a production such as this one. It is a rare community event that brings youth and adults together in such a cooperative and positive manner.
<b>Identity:</b>	The Eagle Nook Community Theatre is an all-volunteer community based organization whose mission is to bring artistic experiences directly to the residents of our area. We have added you to our mailing list and will keep you up to date on our activities. We thank you again for doing your part to build strong rural Minnesota communities and families and hope that you will continue your support of the arts in the future.  Thank you.  Sincerely,

Source: *Minnesota Citizens for the Arts; Advocacy Handbook*