New Creative Minnesota 2017 Study of the City of Hopkins Reveals Large Impact of the Arts on Local Economy

SAINT PAUL, MN: Creative Minnesota, Minnesota Citizens for the Arts and Hopkins Center for the Arts, and Stages Theater Company released a new study today indicating that the arts have a large impact on the City of Hopkins.

“Nonprofit arts and culture organizations contribute to the vibrancy of Minnesota’s economy and quality of life and make our state a magnet for jobs and businesses. Now we can quantify that in Hopkins” said Sheila Smith, Executive Director of Minnesota Citizens for the Arts. “In addition to providing life changing experiences, educational opportunities and accessibility to audiences of all ages in their stages and museums, arts and culture organizations are important employers and economic engines.”

“Hopkins has been committed to fostering the arts throughout the city for many years,” said Molly Cummings, Mayor of Hopkins. “We feel strongly that the arts enrich people’s lives, both our residents and visitors, and that the arts are an important economic driver. The city is always exploring new ways to expand the reach of the arts, to be sure it is accessible to all, building community, providing educational opportunities as well as offering ways to foster creative expression and another way to connect with one another and the world in which we live.”

“In Hopkins, art connects people through shared experience, provides an economic stimulus, adds interest and beauty to everyday life, sparks conversation and celebrates diversity. What else can do all of that?” asked Kersten Elverum, Director of Planning & Development for the City of Hopkins.

As the most comprehensive report ever done of the state’s creative sector, 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 and nonprofit arts and culture organizations. The report includes both new, original research and analysis of data created by others.
All Creative Minnesota research is available for free at CreativeMN.org.

CITY OF HOPKINS HIGHLIGHTS:

- **ORGANIZATIONS AND AUDIENCES**: The economic impact from 255,047 attendees and the organizational spending of eleven local nonprofit arts and culture organizations in Hopkins is over $11 million annually.

- **Hopkins** ranks number one in attendance and attendee spending of the 15 study areas around the state (see the rest at CreativeMN.org).

- Hopkins nonprofit arts and culture organizations engaged over 123,000 young people in the arts, by far the largest number among study areas.

- Notably, the local economic impact of audiences alone is over $7 million annually, bringing dollars to the area that would not otherwise be there.

- **ARTISTS AND CREATIVE WORKERS**: Hennepin County has the largest community of artists and creative workers in the state, with over $269 million in economic impact from the spending of its 39,399 artists and creative workers. Our recent survey of Minnesota artists showed that space was the #1 need of the artist and creative worker community.

- It’s clear that arts development decisions made in Hopkins over the last 15 years have made a significant difference, setting Hopkins apart.

*Note that the study areas in this report for nonprofit arts organizations and audiences (Hopkins) and for artists and creative workers (Hennepin County) are different.

OTHER LOCAL FINDINGS:

“Hopkins Center for the Arts and Stages Theatre Company have partnered with Minnesota Citizens for the Arts and MRAC (Metropolitan Regional Arts Council) for this Creative MN Local Study,” representatives from the organizations said. “Dedicated to providing our community and beyond with artist opportunities for expression, education and enjoyment, we look to this report for valuable data that may guide us in our pursuit of continued expansion and improvement for the future.”

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NONPROFIT ARTS AND CULTURE SECTOR:

- In the City of Hopkins the combined economic impact of nonprofit arts organizations and their audiences in is $11,176,380 annually. This includes:
  - $4,142,322 spent by nonprofit arts organizations,
  - $7,034,058 spent by 255,042 attendees,
- This economic impact represents an infusion of $581.29 per county resident into the local economy from the arts and culture.
- Further, the direct spending of artists in their communities in Hennepin County, on things such as art supplies and studio rental is $268,713,503.
IMPACT AND NUMBER OF NONPROFIT ARTS AND CULTURE ORGANIZATIONS:

- 11 nonprofit arts and culture organizations in the City of Hopkins served 255,042 attendees at arts and cultural events in 2014. This number includes 123,555 K-12 students served annually.

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<th>NONPROFIT ARTS AND CULTURE ORGANIZATIONS IN MN BY DISCIPLINE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PERFORMING ARTS</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>ARTS MULTIPURPOSE</td>
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<td>HISTORY &amp; HISTORICAL PRESERVATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>VISUAL ARTS &amp; ARCHITECTURE</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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- The economic impact of just nonprofit arts and culture audiences in this region totaled $7,034,058. This spending at local businesses is above and separate from the cost of the ticket to the event, and includes spending in restaurants, gas stations, and other local businesses by attendees on the way to and on the way home from an event. The average spent by an attendee is $27.58, and is money that would not have been spent in the community unless the event had occurred. Nonlocals spend even more, bringing dollars to the community that would otherwise not be there.

- Finally, the economic impact of nonprofit arts and culture organizations and attendees in Hopkins includes $1,231,161 in state and local government revenues and supports 276 FTE jobs which generate $7,181,845 in resident household income annually.

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE STUDY INCLUDED:

- Art ASAP, Inc.
- Augusta Care
- Friends of the Hopkins Center for the Arts
- Hopkins Center for the Arts
- Hopkins Historical Society
- Hopkins Westwind Concert Band
- JazzMN, Inc.
- Mentoring Peace Through Art Inc.
- Reach for Resources
- Stages Theatre Company
- Vail Place

LOCAL ARTISTS AND CREATIVE WORKERS:

- Creative Minnesota 2017 found that there are over 39,399 artists and creative workers in Hennepin County. Creative workers are defined as people who make their living wholly, or in part, by working for for-profits, non-profits, or self-employed, in 41 creative occupations.
These occupations include: architects, choir directors, curators, librarians, art directors, craft artists, fine artists including painters, sculptors and illustrators, multimedia artists and animators, commercial and industrial designers, fashion, graphic and interior designers, set and exhibition designers, actors, producers and directors, dancers, choreographers, music directors and composers, musicians and singers, editors, writers and authors, sound engineering technicians, photographers, camera operators.

The most common creative worker jobs in the county are Photography, Music, and Graphic Design.

The direct spending of artists and creative workers in the community generates $35,024,245 in state and local government revenues.

Unfortunately, the average hourly wage for creative workers in Hennepin County is $25.48, which is below the average worker wage of $30.73.

STATEWIDE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NONPROFIT ARTS AND CULTURE SECTOR:

Statewide, the study found that the combined 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.

Just looking at the economic impact of nonprofit arts and culture organizations, Minnesota has double the arts economy of Wisconsin even though we have nearly the same population, ten and a half times the arts economy of Kansas and twelve and a half times the arts economy of South Dakota.

Statewide, state and local government revenue from the arts sector exceeded $222 million, including income and sales taxes.

STATEWIDE IMPACT AND DEMOGRAPHICS OF ARTISTS AND CREATIVE WORKERS:

Creative Minnesota 2017 found that there are over 104,000 artists and creative workers in Minnesota whose spending in the state totals $644 million annually.

24 percent of self-identified artists in Minnesota are employed full-time as artists, 42 percent are employed part-time, and the rest, 34 percent, are retired, hobbyists or students.

STRONGEST NEEDS FOR ALL MINNESOTA ARTISTS:

SPACE TO WORK: Artists desire spaces and tools of their own to do their work – but not in solitude.

CONNECT: Artists have strong interest in opportunities to form connections and serve communities.
• **LEARN**: Artists embrace and are seeking more learning experiences, experienced artists would like to pass on their skills, younger artists are looking for mentors.

• **EARN**: Artists remain ambitious about developing paying audiences and generating income from their work, but their identities as artists and the non-monetary value they derive from their practice are strong regardless of earnings.

• **AUDIENCE**: Artists desire to reach wider audiences and markets.

**STATEWIDE IMPACT AND NUMBER OF NONPROFIT ARTS AND CULTURE ORGANIZATIONS:**

• **1601 nonprofit arts and culture organizations in Minnesota** served **22 million attendees** at arts and cultural events in 2014.

• These organizations serve **3.8 million K-12 students**, hosting **29,318 school group visits** each year. There are approximately 900,000 K-12 students in Minnesota, so on average every student is participating four times a year in arts and culture activities provided by these nonprofits.

• The economic impact of just the participating organizations and their audiences totaled $1.4 billion, **an increase of $185 million since our previous study in 2015**. This is primarily due to an additional 332 participating organizations, but also includes a **1.5 percent increase in impact** by the organizations participating in both studies.

**STATEWIDE PUBLIC OPINION POLLING ON THE ARTS:**

Minnesotans strongly believe the arts and culture are important to their quality of life, and Minnesotans attend and participate in the arts more than other Americans:

• **76%** of Minnesotans, compared to 68% of all Americans, attend arts and culture events

• **63%** of Minnesotans, compared to 49% of all Americans, are personally involved in creative activity in their everyday life

• **91%** of Minnesotans believe that people who create art are contributing something important to their communities

• **90%** of Minnesotans believe that arts & cultural activities help make Minnesota an attractive place to live and work

• **82%** of Minnesotans believe it’s important to have the opportunity to express themselves creatively or to experience the creativity of others every day.

**ABOUT CREATIVE MINNESOTA**

*Creative Minnesota* is a long-term collaborative initiative of statewide arts and culture supporting organizations in partnership with Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA). Creative Minnesota’s first round of studies, released in February 2015, looked at the economic impact of the nonprofit arts and culture organizations in the state’s 11 arts regions and at the state as a whole. The second round in October 2015 looked at the economic impact of nonprofit arts and culture organizations in 17 Minnesota cities and counties. The 2017 study expanded its scope to look at the impact and needs of Minnesota’s artists and creative workers. All *Creative Minnesota* research is available for free at [CREATIVEMN.ORG](http://CREATIVEMN.ORG).
The *Creative Minnesota* team includes Minnesota Citizens for the Arts, The McKnight Foundation, the Minnesota State Arts Board, the Forum of Regional Arts Councils of Minnesota, Target, Bush Foundation, Mardag Foundation, and Jerome Foundation, with in-kind support from the Minnesota Historical Society and others.

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**Highlights of Creative Minnesota 2017’s Data Sources:**

**ORIGINAL RESEARCH:**

- **“Artists Count” Survey** of 2100 Minnesota artists by Creative Minnesota done with 194 organizational partners in 2016.
- **“Artists Thrive” Survey** of 800 Minnesota artists by the Minnesota State Arts Board in 2015.
- Analysis and Update of economic impact data of 1601 nonprofit arts and culture organizations

**ANALYSIS OF OTHER DATA SETS WITH MANY PARTNERS:**

- Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA), University of Minnesota analysis and mapping of “Artists and Arts Workers in the United States” from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages
- Minnesota Compass analysis of Integrated Public Use Microdata Series from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2010-2014, on arts participation
- Minnesota Center for Survey Research, University of Minnesota, Public Opinion Polling, 2014 and 2015 State Surveys
- Center for the Study of Art and Community, literature review, synthesis and analysis by Bill Cleveland.
- For a full list, download the report at www.creativeMN.org

**The Legacy Amendment**

The Legacy Amendment was passed by a statewide vote of the people of Minnesota in 2008 to dedicate a portion of the state’s sales tax to create four new funds for 1. land conservation, 2. water conservation, 3. parks and trails, and 4. arts and culture. The legislature appropriates the dollars from the Legacy Arts and Culture Fund to the Minnesota State Arts Board, Regional Arts Councils, Minnesota Historical Society and other entities to provide access to the arts and culture for all Minnesotans.

**Major Sponsoring Organizations:**

- **Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA)** is a statewide arts advocacy organization whose mission is to ensure opportunity for all people to have access to and involvement in the arts. MCA organizes the arts community and lobbies the Minnesota State Legislature and Congress on issues pertaining to the nonprofit arts and conducts original research. MCA works with over 40,000 arts advocates in Minnesota. 651-251-0868, www.artsMN.org @MNCitizen
- **The McKnight Foundation:** www.mcknight.org
- **Target:** https://corporate.target.com/corporate-responsibility
- **Bush Foundation:** www.bushfoundation.org
- **Mardag Foundation:** http://www.mardag.org/
- **Jerome Foundation:** http://www.jeromefdn.org/

- **The Minnesota State Arts Board:** http://www.arts.state.mn.us/
- **Forum of Regional Arts Councils of Minnesota:** http://www.arts.state.mn.us/racs/forum.htm
- **Minnesota Historical Society:** http://www.mnhs.org/about
- **Ideas that Kick:** www.ideasthatkick.com
- **Americans for the Arts:** www.AmericansForTheArts.org
- **CURA Center for Urban and Regional Affairs,** University of Minnesota: http://www.cura.umn.edu/
- **Minnesota Compass:** http://www.mncompass.org
- **Hopkins Center for the Arts:** www.HopkinsArtsCenter.com
- **Stages Theatre:** www.stagestheatre.org

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