



CELEBRATING

ARTS & CULTURE

MINNESOTA REGIONAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEMS

Legacy Amendment Highlights

Serving MINNESOTA COMMUNITIES

OUR MISSION: MINNESOTA REGIONAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEMS
COORDINATE AND IMPROVE PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES WITHIN
THEIR REGIONS AND ACROSS THE STATE.

VISION

Minnesota Regional Public Library Systems energize the public library community by providing leadership in identifying where public libraries will be in the future.

OUR BELIEF

Minnesota Regional Public Library Systems are:

- *Agents of change*
- *Equalizers of service*
- *Promoters of life-long learning, and*
- *Providers of access and opportunity*

REGIONS

See Regions opposite page >

Minnesota Regional Public Library Systems offer traditional materials and electronic information technology to almost every Minnesota community. The regional library systems have over fifty years of successful experience supporting the work of local libraries and creating maximum efficiencies among all 382 public library locations. By working together, Minnesota's libraries bring a wide and deep array of services to every resident – even the smallest libraries in Minnesota's system have access to the range of materials and electronic services provided through the regional library systems.



< *Libraries bring together all ages
in a positive environment.*

210 LaBree Ave. N
P.O. Box 593
Thief River Falls, MN 56701-0593
www.nwrlib.org

118 5th St S
Moorhead, MN 56560
www.larl.org

1915 Fir Avenue West
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
viking.lib.mn.us

410 5th St. SW
P.O. Box 327
Willmar, MN 56201-0327
www.pioneerland.lib.mn.us

290 S. Lake Street
P.O. Box 697
Worthington, MN 56187-0697
www.plumcreeklibrary.org

5528 Emerald Avenue
Mt. Iron, MN 55768-2069
<http://www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us>

310 2nd Street North
P.O. Box 84
Pine River, MN 56474-0084
www.krls.org

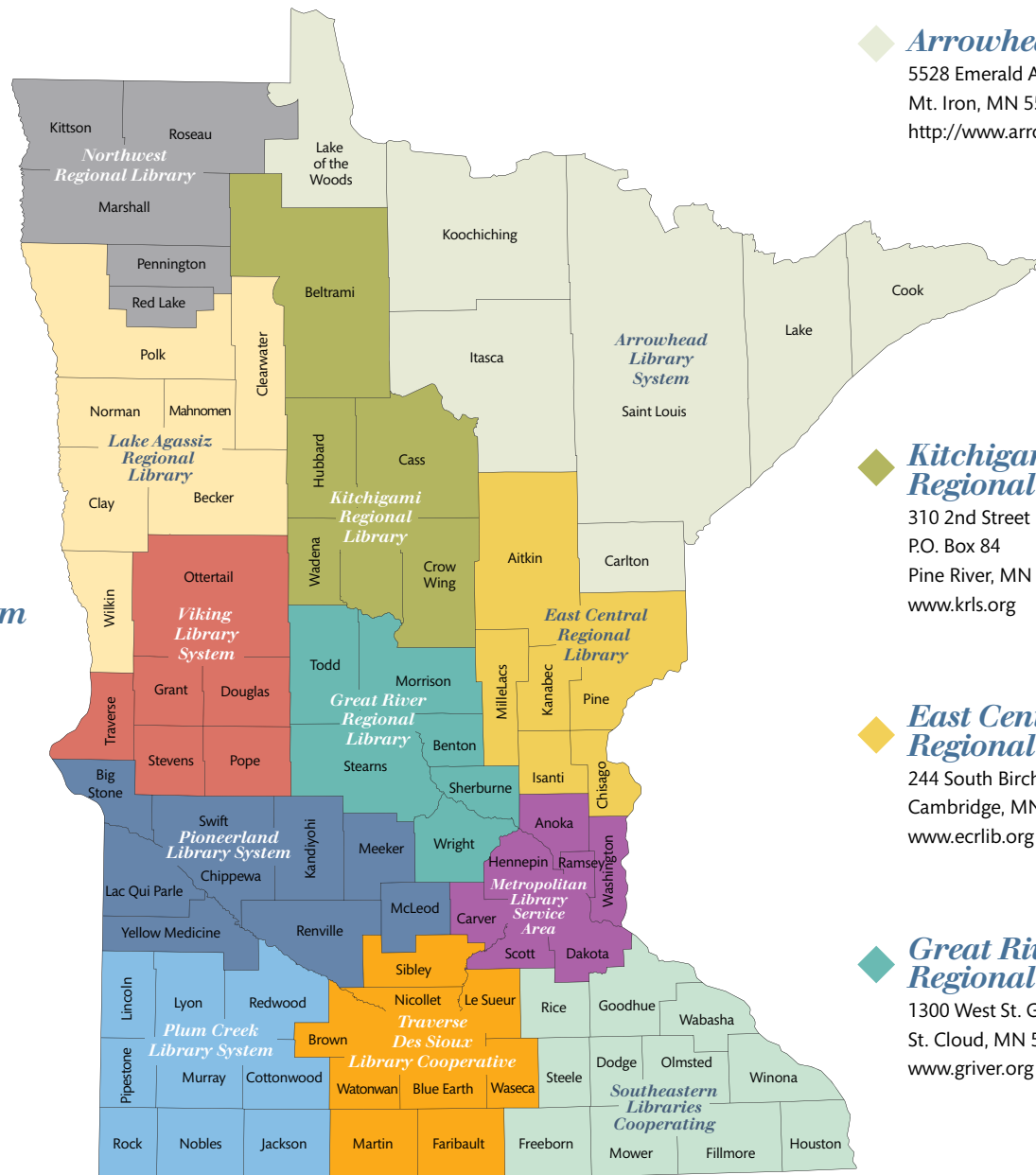
244 South Birch Street
Cambridge, MN 55008-1588
www.ecrlib.org

1300 West St. Germain
St. Cloud, MN 56301-3697
www.griver.org

1400 Madison Avenue Suite 622
Mankato, MN 56002-5488
tdslib.org

2600 19th St. NW
Rochester, MN 55901-0767
www.selco.info

1619 Dayton Ave., Suite 314
St. Paul, MN 55104-6206
www.melsa.org



STATE LIBRARY SERVICES

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
1500 Hwy 36 West, Roseville, MN 55113
<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/StuSuc/Lib/StateLibServ/index.html>

ART FOR THE COMMUNITY



Sculptures enhance the landscape of so many of our public libraries.

ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC ART IS EXPERIENCED
DAILY BY MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITIES.

They don't have to go to museums or galleries, they don't have to collect art in their homes, they just pass by it on their way to work or while running around town doing errands. Public art becomes a reflection of its city and time.

Art inspires and activates the imagination. It encourages thought and attention. It is transformative. And Minnesota's public libraries make it accessible to individuals in communities small and large, rich and poor.



A stained glass artist works to install an original piece filled with wildlife.

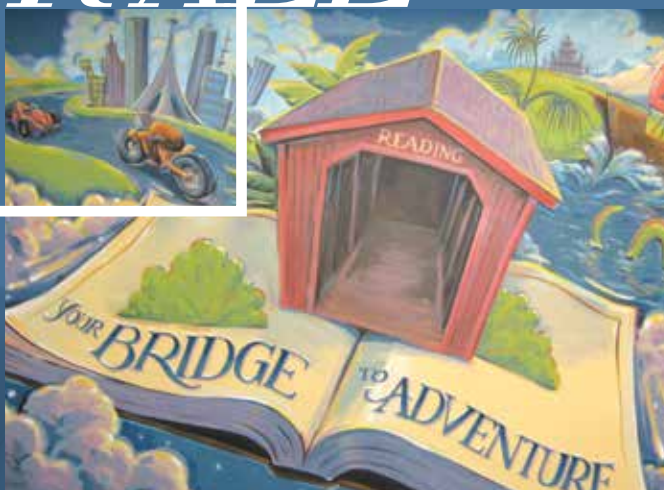




"It was wonderful to learn a new craft. Helping create the special piece of mosaic for the library was very gratifying."

ART FOR ALL

> We value the art that grazes the walls of our libraries such as murals like this.



COMMUNITY MOSAICS PUBLIC ART WITH ARTIST LISA ARNOLD

Minneapolis-based mosaic artist Lisa Arnold created library mosaics as part of an artist-in-residence series of programs. She developed a concept, a map of Minnesota, with customizable elements so that each mosaic would be unique but also fit the larger theme of Minnesota and libraries.

Each mosaic is an outline of the state, with the location of the branch library represented by an object and tiles that state the location, along with a bookshelf of selected genres or categories of books along the bottom of each mosaic.

Lisa taught workshops on glass and tile mosaics at each library while creating the pieces. Participants helped make creative decisions about the tile or glass used in each mosaic, as well as the placement of the city on the map of Minnesota, and the genres of books that would be featured. The workshops gave community members the opportunity to build the library mosaic, as well as learn the techniques to create their own miniature mosaics. The libraries now have the mosaics on display for all to enjoy.

THE THRILL OF *LIVE* Performance

PROVIDING THE COMMUNITIES OUR LIBRARIES THRIVE IN WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPERIENCE LIVE PRODUCTIONS IS ANOTHER WAY TO ENGAGE ALL AGES WITH A WIDE VARIETY OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSION INCLUDING MUSIC, THEATRE, AND DANCE.



Our libraries make it possible for all ages to experience a variety of music for free.

If you have had the good fortune to attend a live performance - whether it be a rock band, symphony concert, opera or community theater - you will surely notice an excitement that is absent in the recorded versions of our entertainment choices. There is an energy you feel, perhaps because you are present at the moment of artistic creation. Maybe it's the fact that you simply don't know what will come next, and that unpredictability keeps you enthralled. Or, maybe it's because you, simply by the virtue of being present, are actually part of the experience.

Live performance is unlike anything else, and helps lend a newfound respect for art and artists. It is something that Minnesota's public libraries support, foster and nurture.



Authors entice young minds when they hold readings of their books.



MUSIC GO ROUND

"I like to expose my granddaughter to a variety of types of music. Library programs make it an affordable option."



The Okee Dokee Brothers have performed free concerts at many of our libraries across the state. ^

MUSIC BUILDS IMAGINATION AND INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY.

The Okee Dokee Brothers play music and sing songs that are friendly for the whole family. As the winners of a 2012 Grammy Award for Best Children's Album, the duo produces interactive music programs that are popular with children and adults.

These free events have made the art of music accessible to people from all demographics.

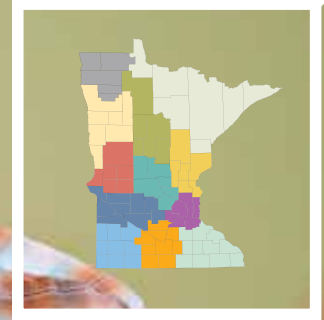
Their music is lively, engaging, and positive. The bluegrass/folk duo encourages kids to explore their creativity as well as the nature around them. The Okee Dokee Brothers "believe this can motivate kids to gain a greater respect for the natural world, their communities and themselves."

Get Lost IN A BOOK

>
*Readings and discussions
of literature give readers a
different perspective.*



<
*Meeting authors is a special
occasion for readers.*

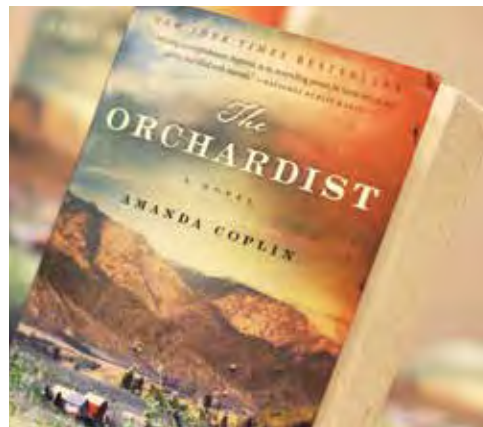


***LITERATURE** OFFERS READERS THE POTENTIAL TO
ESCAPE FROM THE TROUBLES OF DAILY LIFE, WHILE ALSO
CONNECTING WITH THE WIDER WORLD.*

Literature thrives because of its capacity to entertain readers. It also provokes thought and encourages empathy — enabling it to be a catalyst for change in individuals and in the world.

The authors that visit public libraries serve as an inspiration to the state's many budding writers, who can ask questions, get tips, and learn more about how their favorite authors work. Visiting authors encourage kids and adults alike to not only read for pleasure, but write for pleasure, too.

Along with authors visiting, many libraries encourage literary arts with reading programs, writing workshops, and conferences for all ages whether it's writers over 50 or teen writers.



>
*The Once Upon a Reader tour
enables children to interact
with their favorite authors
and illustrators.*





"Having the opportunity to hear the author's thoughts makes the experience of reading a book more memorable."

CELEBRATING THE LITERARY ARTS.

The Minnesota Book Awards is a year-round process involving nominations, judging, and the selection of finalists and winners. More importantly, the Awards is a statewide outreach program connecting readers to the work of Minnesota authors.

Last year, more than 100 individuals volunteered their time and talents to support the Book Awards.

Nearly 300 books by Minnesota authors were nominated and over 700 book lovers, publishers and writers attended the gala Awards ceremony – thousands more watched on public television.

CELEBRATING THE LITERARY ARTS



Hosting authors at libraries around the state is inspirational for young readers and writers.



HAVE Fun

ART-MAKING AND HANDS-ON LEARNING PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING FOR ALL AGES IN A TANGIBLE WAY.

With free library access to the public, people from all walks of life are able to experience what it is to be an artist, whether sculpting clay, painting strokes, placing tiles or any of the other countless ways to express oneself through the creation of art.

For adults, just as for children, fun and play are crucial components of learning. By creating programs that center on hands-on learning, and by adding elements of art into existing programs, we engage and educate all ages. Minnesota Regional Public Library Systems events teach participants about the art-making process and then let them use their own creativity to complete their artwork as individuals.

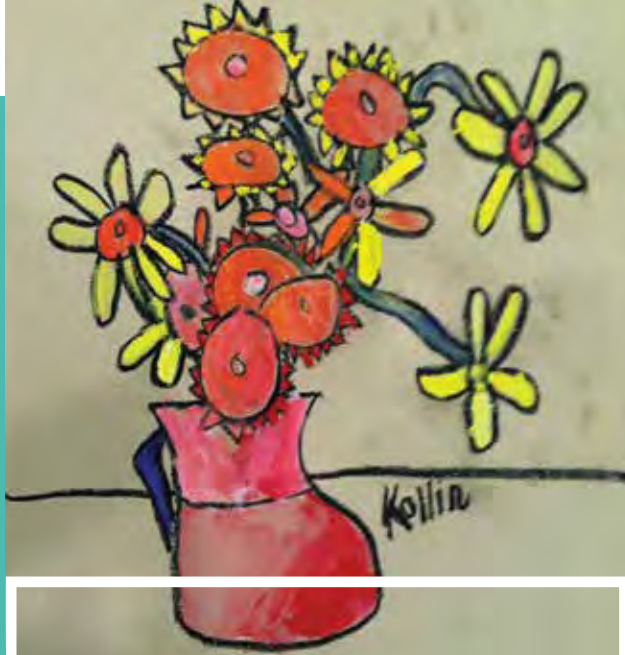


Patrons learn how to create art through listening to artists' techniques and gaining firsthand experiences.



Making art gives young artists the opportunity to work hands-on with different mediums.





"Programs at the library are the best-kept secret in Minnesota."

MAKE SOMETHING



The 3-D printer is a new and unique machine for artists to use.

"SO MUCH FUN & THE END RESULT WAS AWESOME!"

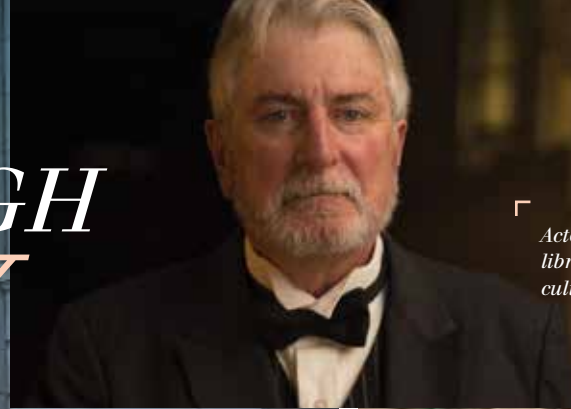
Children made pictures using a large steamroller to press painted designs into the paper.



Jewelry making takes time and patience to bend wires and string beads.



EXPLORATION THROUGH *HISTORY* and *Culture*



Actors portraying historic figures teach library patrons about the history and culture of their time.

EVENTS & PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHTING HISTORY AND CULTURE CAN CONNECT PEOPLE ACROSS DIFFERENT SOCIAL VALUES, BELIEFS, RELIGIONS AND CUSTOMS.

Cultural programs allow us to better understand ourselves and our communities. Libraries provide a source of learning and inspiration that is accessible to anyone and everyone.

Minnesota Regional Public Library Systems encourage the process of finding and incorporating history and culture into our lives.



Libraries serve many enthusiastic history students through the History Day Hullabaloo event.





Learning about library resources helps students take full advantage of the resources at their fingertips.

“Love it! History class was never this much fun.”



A unique experience is created when historical figures come to life to tell their tales. ^

FOR ENGAGING IN HISTORICAL EVENTS

Using maps, posters, clothing and artifacts, Arn Kind's presentations make history come alive for his audiences through his realistic and colorful portrayal of the people who participated in historical events. Students and adults alike were engaged in the experience as Arn portrayed a Civil War soldier, an outlaw and a citizen defending his town from the outlaws.

Not only can the public learn about history and culture through books, archives, and records, but libraries also host events to make history come alive.

< Audience participation is encouraged during some performances.

HONORING THE PAST



PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Our libraries bring activities to the public to entice them to get involved with their local branches. >



MINNESOTA REGIONAL PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEMS OFFER COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND RESOURCES.

The Minnesota regional public library systems strive to serve and interact with their communities in new and exciting ways. We do this by identifying opportunities around the state where libraries can come together in collaboration; maximize the use of resources; and promote their library collections, programs, and services with a unified voice.

Minnesota libraries are happy to sponsor artists in their community to reach the general public. >





"Thank you so much for the opportunity."

PUBLIC OUTREACH



SERVING ALL RESIDENTS OF MN

In a continuing effort to serve all residents of Minnesota, we strive to provide services to patrons who cannot conveniently use library facilities.

We are dedicated to making programs accessible to all through innovative programs such as partnerships that provide free tickets to productions by community-based arts organizations, bus trips, and events held in nursing homes, schools, and prisons.

Libraries help to engage young minds through creative learning and play.

THANK YOU *for your* Support!

The projects highlighted in this document, and many more, were made possible with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund from the people of Minnesota for Library Legacy activities.

The libraries of Minnesota are dedicated to bringing educational, fun, and artistic experiences to all Minnesotans. These experiences will enrich lives and leave a positive, lasting impact on communities. In order to continue providing free programming like this, we need the continued support from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



The content and photos provided in this document were provided by Arrowhead Library System, East Central Regional Library, Great River Regional Library, Kitchigami Regional Library, Lake Agassiz Regional Library, Metropolitan Library Service Agency, Northwest Regional Library, Pioneerland Library System, Plum Creek Library System, Southeastern Libraries Cooperating, Traverse des Sioux Library Cooperative, and Viking Library System.