

St. Cloud council OKs art grants

By Kari Petrie

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St. Cloud City Council members approved several grants for area arts programs during Monday's council meeting.

The St. Cloud Arts Commission recommended giving project and operating grants totaling \$38,088 to 11 organizations.

Project grants provide up to 50 percent matching funds for arts programs in the St. Cloud area. Operating grants provide funding for

the day-to-day operation of non-profit groups with a two-year history of active programming in the St. Cloud area.

The following organizations were awarded grants for projects:

■ Arts Academy of Central Minnesota, \$4,000, school residency program;

■ Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society, \$3,150, Music in the Gardens series;

■ St. Cloud State University's Department of Fine Arts, \$4,000,

Voicings 2009;

■ Wicked Sister Dance Theatre, \$4,000, performance and free public classes.

The following organizations were awarded operating grants: Chamber Music Society of St. Cloud, \$4,000; Granite City Folk Society, \$2,500; Great River Chorale, \$1,681; Great River Educational Arts Theatre, \$4,000; Minnesota Center Chorale, \$4,000; St. John's Boys' Choir, \$4,000; and Visual Arts Minnesota, \$2,757.