



ArtsinStark
Kids. Jobs. Communities.

Immediate Release

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ArtsinStark Awards \$85,000 in Special Project Grants

The ArtsinStark Board of Directors has unanimously approved awarding **\$85,000** in Special Project Grants. The Special Projects were divided with **15** being funded for regular grants (up to \$ 7,500) and **32** for mini grants (\$750 or less). An additional **\$55,000** will be awarded to SmARTs partnerships with schools and announced at a later date.

Among the mini grants, seven were awarded to individual artists, including Claire Murray Adams who will create handkerchief memories for seniors, Margene May who will design a quilt with middle school students and Marty Chapman who will host a woodturning show featuring area craftsmen. Mini grants awarded to area schools include projects like a pop-art stamp project with Fairless Elementary and High schools, a solar powered "tree of light" sculpture at Louisville Middle School, and the creation of illuminated poetry at North Canton Elementary.

"The impact is astounding. The funded programs involve over 200 artists and over 24,000 participants," said Grants Officer Anne Wadian. "And that doesn't begin to include the students and individuals that our SmARTs programs will affect."

Mini grants, awarded to area non-profit organizations, include Julliard Arts Center to create mannequins portraying historic artists, the Paul & Carol David YMCA to host an after school theatre program for 350 youth, and Stark County Jobs and Family Services for a 10-week hip-hop dance program.

Some of the non-profits earning awards for larger projects include Canton Calvary Mission's recording studio project for teens, a 16-week schedule of live entertainment at Lions Lincoln Theatre, Soroptomists International's film regarding the empowerment of women, and jazz activities and concerts corresponding to the North Canton Playhouse's production of Chicago in 2012. For a **complete list** of grant winners please go to ArtsinStark.com under the heading of GRANTS.

ArtsinStark background:

ArtsinStark began over 40 years ago in 1968, with the dream of building a Cultural Center for the Arts along side the Canton Civic Center. In 1970, that dream came true. Today ArtsinStark is the County Arts Council. We are a non profit organization that gives out grants, manages the Cultural Center, and runs the Annual Arts Campaign. We are committed to using the arts to create smarter kids, new jobs, and healthier communities. Nearly 80% of all dollars we raise through the Annual Arts Campaign go out to Stark County non-profit organizations, artists and schools in the form of grants. Annually, that's \$1.2 million to more than 100 organizations and individual artists.