



**CITY OF
GRAND RAPIDS**
IT'S IN MINNESOTA'S NATURE

*CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
CONFERENCE ROOM 2B – GRAND RAPIDS CITY HALL
REGULAR MEETING, TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2018 – 3:45 PM*

CALL TO ORDER: Pursuant to due notice and call thereof the regular meeting of the Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission was held in Conference Room 2B of the Grand Rapids City Hall, 420 N Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, at 3:45 pm

CALL OF ROLL: On a Call of Roll, the following members were present: Sonja Merrild, David Marty, John Connelly, David Dobbs, Harry Smith, Kayla Schubert and Myrna Peterson.

Absent: Kathy Dodge

Staff Present: Matt Wegwerth, Amy Dettmer and Michele Palkki

Commissioner Merrild called the meeting to order at 3:45 pm.

Welcome new Commissioner Kayla Schubert. Introductions were made.

SETTING THE AGENDA Nothing to add

CORRESPONDENCE Nothing to report

MINUTES

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Meeting held on December 5, 2017 with changes.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER PETERSON, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SMITH TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 5, 2017. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

FINANCIALS

The regular budget for 2018 is 5,000.00. This money is available from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018.

Ms. Dettmer reported that starting in February the budget will also include the 1.5% funding that is in the Art Adoption and Acquisition Plan, which will come from projects the city does in the future.

This money will be placed in a fund that carries over from year to year, not part of the general fund.

The Commission requested that City Engineer Matt Wegwerth join our meeting in February to share more about how funds will be generated, tracked, accessed, and what expressed purposes they can support.

NEW BUSINESS

IRA Civic Center Renovation / Role of Arts and Culture

City Engineer Matt Wegwerth was present to discuss the IRA Civic Center Renovation and what the role of the Arts and Culture Commission would be.

Mr. Wegwerth distributed a draft plan that also included an area for future tenants. This could include having an area for the Arts Commission.

The City would like to have a representative from the Arts and Culture Commission attend meetings regarding the renovation. There will likely be different working groups that will have representation during the remodel phase, including representation from the Boys & Girls Club, Invest Early, the Grand Rapids Area Hockey Association, Mobility Mania, the local arts community, the Y, and others.

Mr. Wegwerth reported that there is a meeting scheduled on January 17, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the IRA Civic Center to work as a large group and then break into committees. The City would like to have a representative from the Arts and Culture Commission. After a discussion, several members relayed that they would plan to attend.

The representative from the Arts and Culture Commission to attend any future meetings will be David Dobbs. Commissioner Dobbs will report back to the Commission when necessary.

Pedestrian Bridge

A question was raised as to when the construction would begin for the new pedestrian bridge.

Mr. Wegwerth reported that even though the bridge received \$750,000.00 in bond money there was faulty wording in the legislative language that needs to first be corrected.

The City is working with the state to get the correction, but they cannot move forward with this project until correct language is in the document. The City will keep the Commission updated.

Artist in Residence

Commissioner Peterson reported that we have a new artist to vote on tonight. The Grand Rapids Arts has recommended our approval for Kathy Mommsen to begin February 15 until May 15, 2018.

APPROVAL OF ARTIST – February 15, 2018 until May 15, 2018.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CONNELLY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MARTY TO APPROVE THE ARTIST KATHY MONNSEN BEGINNING FEBRUARY 15 AND CONTINUE UNTIL MAY 15, 2018. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Peterson reported that the artist area in the loft needs to be cleaned. A discussion was held as far as whose responsibility it is and that staff would check with Mr. Mattei.

A discussion was held regarding hiring someone to clean the loft and rafter areas.

ALLOCATE FUNDS – Up to \$250.00 for cleaning

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MARTY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CONNELLY TO ALLOCATE UP TO SPENDING \$250.00 TO CLEAN THE ARTIST LOFT. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Forecast Public Art

Commissioner Merrild reported that there was not enough time in 2017 to get this completed, however, it would be beneficial to have something started in the near future. After a discussion, the Commission felt that we need the expertise of a company like Forecast Public Art to help us get the Art Placement Plan and the work associated with the Downtown Business Corridor Grant off to a good start. A small sub group consisting of Commissioners Merrild, Connelly, Dobbs and Schubert will work on putting something together for Forecast Art to develop a scope of work.

Downtown and Business Corridor Grant

Commissioner Merrild reported that the City did receive this grant. The grant (\$28,500) will revitalize the Central Business District using art: three murals, three sculptures, sidewalk poetry and new signage, as well as three new downtown gallery entrances that are ADA compliant.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Commissioner Merrild reported that the Vergin's were wondering if a decision was made yet regarding the Lion Fountain. After further discussion it was noted that until we have a format to work with accepting art as well as purchasing art we are not making any plans at this time.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by Michele Palkki, Administrative Assistant

Michele Palkki

The next regular meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission will be February 6, 2018.

Eliminating

Arts in northern

Minnesota



THE REIF

Ben Edwards
Board Chair

Tom Karges
Vice Chair

Kirk Adams
Treasurer

Abby Kuschel
Secretary

Kris Ferraro

Sean Martinson

Jeanne
Nicklason

Glenna Olson

Tom Peltier
ISD #318 Rep.

Rhonda Peters

Bud Schneider

Greg Tuttle

Noah Wilcox

David Marty
President

To: GR Arts & Culture Commission

From: David Marty, President

Date: January 23, 2018

Re: Nomination for Timberlake Lodge for Mayor's Arts Award

The Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission has called for nominations for the Second Annual Mayor's Arts Award to be presented to a business or organization that has made a significant impact on the arts in the Grand Rapids area through support of local arts organizations, programs and individual artists. Examples of significant impact include advocacy, community outreach, workplace based gallery exhibitions, volunteerism and other activities that promote the value of arts and culture in our community.

Today I nominate Timberlake Lodge and the Ives family, a key area business and family as someone who meets all criteria. They have been extremely influential in making the arts scene in Grand Rapids interesting and vital.

Financial support from Timberlake Lodge and the Ives family for the area arts includes generous operating support and project sponsorship for many of our key arts organizations, including the Reif Arts Council, Grand Rapids Players, Itasca Orchestra and Strings Program, Grand Rapids Area Male Chorus, MacRostie Arts Center and more. In terms of leadership, it was a matching gift from Timberlake Lodge and the Ives family (together with the Wilcox family) that launched the major \$10.5 Million Reif renovation project. Mike and Mary were key in soliciting additional major gifts for this and other arts projects.

Beyond financial support, there is considerable personal support, too. Mary Ives and daughter Michelle, in particular, have served on several arts boards over the years, including the Reif Arts Council, Grand Rapids Players, MacRostie and others. Following a long term on the Reif Arts Council board, Mary Ives stepped forward in 2011 to serve as co-chair for the Core Steering Committee for the new Reif Center. In that capacity, Mary met every Monday morning at 7 AM over a 5-year period, and had a key role in helping to direct the major expansion and renovation.

In terms of advocacy, Mary and Mike were key advocates with various legislators (Sandy Layman, Justin Eichorn and others) to secure \$4.5 Million in bonding funds for the Reif project, and with various IRRRB representatives (cont.)

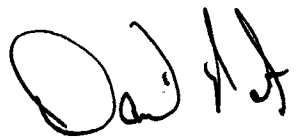
Reif Performing Arts Center
720 NW Conifer Drive, Grand Rapids, MN 55744
(218) 327-5780 | www.reifcenter.org

for additional public funding for the project. They remain active advocates for the arts both personally through their legislative contacts and through the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce.

The Ives' commitment is not a superficial one. They have a sincere commitment to supporting local artists. A visit to Timberlake Lodge will reveal the original work of many area visual artists that have been purchased for display in public areas, including works by Tom Page, Liz White, Dorothy Hall, Deb Page, Chris Rostvoldt and many others. This collection includes locally crafted handmade furniture and the most recent acquisition: new Amish table in the restaurant area

The Timberlake Lodge support extends to performing artists, too. Over the years, Timberlake Lodge has hosted and supported many arts events, including, notably, Tom Page's arts celebration "Peasants with Torches". Timberlake Lodge has hosted the Minnesota Orchestra during their visits to the community and regularly welcomes and hosts many of the performers for the Reif Center, artists and presenters for the MacRostie, musicians for the Choral Groups and Tall Timbers Day and other community events

This is just a brief summary of the many contributions to area arts organizations and artists by Timberlake Lodge and the Ives family, an excellent choice for the Mayor's Arts Award presented by the Arts and Culture Commission of the City of Grand Rapids.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Ives". The signature is stylized and cursive.

1/23/18

ITASCA
ORCHESTRA | & | STRINGS
PROGRAM

January 23, 2018

Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission
Attention: Amy Dettmer

2017-2018
Board of Directors

Regarding: Nomination of Timberlake Lodge

Dave Kooda
President

Dear Arts and Cultural Commission,

Katie Marshall
Vice President

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Itasca Orchestra & Strings Program to nominate Timberlake Lodge and the Ives Family for the Mayor's Arts Award. The Timberlake Lodge and the Ives Family have supported the Itasca Orchestra & Strings Program in many ways including donations and ongoing support through the purchase of business advertising in our concert programs. The revenue generated through our business ad campaign is vital to our Itasca Symphony Orchestra.

Shannon Benolken
Treasurer

Tom Nelson
Secretary

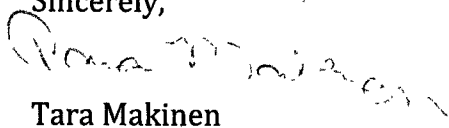
Cindy Aultman
Christa Berg
Joan Foster
Anissa Grotjohn
Brad Johnson
Dr. Rebecca Kuntz
Cathy Shields
Amanda Skaudis
Heidi Wick

Additionally, Timberlake Lodge provides welcoming and very comfortable accommodations for our guest artists and Itasca Symphony Orchestra (ISO) conductor at a nonprofit discount. It may seem like a small thing, but our ISO Conductor of 26 years, Keith Swanson, especially thanks me and the Board after every concert because he enjoys and appreciates the room the IOSP reserves for him at Timberlake after our concerts. Whether an artist is traveling 80 miles or 4,000 miles, having a beautiful place to stay, at a price point a nonprofit budget can pay, is just another way we can thank artists for sharing their talents with our community.

Tara Makinen
Executive Director

The Timberlake Lodge does business in a way that means our community is better off because of their actions. Our local arts community is stronger because of the contributions made by the Ives Family. The Itasca Orchestra & Strings Program strongly supports their nomination for the Mayor's Arts Award.

Sincerely,


Tara Makinen
IOSP Executive Director
218-327-5781
tara@itascaorchestra.org



MacRostie Art Center

celebrating 50 years

January 19, 2018

Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission
420 N Pokegama Ave
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

To the Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission:

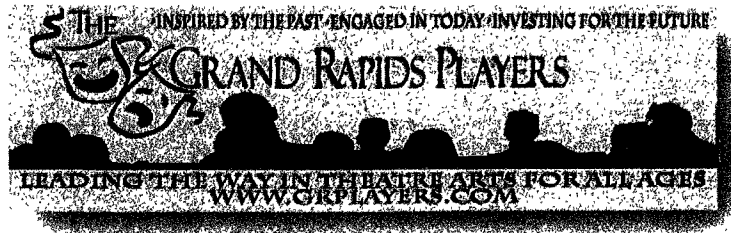
I am writing with enthusiastic support for the nomination of Timberlake Lodge for the Mayor's Arts Award.

Timberlake Lodge and the Ives Family have made a significant impact on the local arts community. At MacRostie Art Center we appreciate the support of Timberlake Lodge as a sponsor of our gallery exhibitions and the support of the Ives family as members and patrons of our events. Through their actions they demonstrate a sincere commitment to supporting local artists and an understanding of the value of the arts in community life.

Timberlake Lodge and the Ives Family truly embody the spirit of the Mayor's Arts Award, and on behalf of MacRostie Art Center, I am pleased to endorse their nomination.

Sincerely,

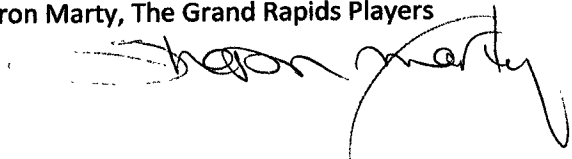
Katie Marshall
Executive Director



On behalf of The Grand Rapids Players, I would like to endorse the nomination for Timberlake Lodge and the Ives Family for the Mayor's Arts Award 2018.

The Ives family has a long-standing history of support to The Grand Rapids Players that includes holding a board position, frequent attendance at our performances, providing accolades and financial support to our funding campaigns as well as underwriting support for a number of our productions. They continue to graciously and emphatically promote our events in their lodging and hospitality venues and to their patrons. We appreciate the Ives family and their commitment to the arts throughout our community, not only in theatre but other artistic programs and events. We are fortunate to have them call Grand Rapids 'their home'. Thank you for this chance to show the support of The Grand Rapids Players in the Mayor's Arts award nomination of Timberlake Lodge and the Ives Family.

Sincerely, Sharon Marty, The Grand Rapids Players

 1/16/2018

Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission,

1/19/17

This letter is in recommendation of Mike and Mary Ives.

Mike and Mary have been supporters of the arts for over 20 years. My first experience was their purchase of a bronze sculpture entitled "Continuum" 1978. Since that time they have gone out of their way to support not only my art by purchasing original art, but that of my wife Deborah as well as supporting the arts community at large. Their hotel/lodge has been the host site of Peasants with Torches, a community celebration of arts and culture. Mary has personally taken the time to inform me of commission possibilities.

Mike and Mary's cultural reach is much greater than I stated and will undoubtedly be expanded by those most involved with their cultural capital project donations. My experience has been most positive and heartily endorse their recognition.

Tom Page

Mr. David Marty
President, The Reif
720 NW Conifer Dr.
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Dear David:

It has come to my attention that you have nominated the Timberlake Lodge and The Ive's family for the second annual Mayoral Arts Award.

As the recipient of the first Mayor's arts award, I want to acknowledge the prestige and honor associated with being recognized with this special award.

I support your nomination fully. The Ive's family has a long-established history with supporting the arts and raising awareness of the arts in the Grand Rapids community. And the Timberlake Lodge showcases a fine collection of many works from several area artists. Further, Mary Ive's involvement with The Reif board, and her dedicated work on the core community demonstrates the family's commitment to a strong and vibrant arts culture in Grand Rapids.

Please let this letter serve as support of your nomination that The Ive's family and the Timberlake lodge be recognized with this special annual award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Noah". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Noah W. Wilcox

Amy Dettmer
Staff Liaison
Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission

01/26/2017

RE: Nomination of Brewed Awakenings for Mayor's Arts Award

Dear Ms. Dettmer:

This letter places in nomination Brewed Awakenings Coffee House for the Grand Rapids Arts and Culture Commission's Mayor's Arts Award.

Joan Foster, owner, has been a consistent supporter of the arts ever since Brewed opened its doors in its former space adjacent to MacRostie Art Center. Her business featured local bands as well as performers passing through town, and featured mugs and murals designed by Duluth potter Karin Kraemer.

In 2006, Brewed moved to its present place. The new space featured murals again by Kraemer. Joan also commissioned local Swatara artist Peter Gordienko to create mosaics on the outside of the building. A few years ago, artist Diamond Knispel of Grand Rapids and Bemidji was commissioned to "mosaic" the bathrooms.

In 2011, the Minnesota Orchestra came to town for a week's residency, and Joan offered them all gift cards. It quickly became a hangout for the orchestra. While I realize, this is also a smart business move, it also sends the message that Grand Rapids is a welcoming arts community. Word goes far.

Monthly, Brewed has featured a different artist on its walls with an opening every First Friday. This is no easy feat.

Also Brewed donated coffee for many years for the Itasca Symphony Orchestra's intermissions. Joan now offers bake goods at intermission as a fundraiser.

These are the contributions I know about. I am sure there are more. For all the years that Brewed Awakenings Coffee House has supported the arts, I am honored to return the favor with this nomination for the Mayor's Arts Award.

Sincerely,

Kathy Dodge

Amy Dettmer

From: Carol Hessevick <hessevic@mchsi.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 10:10 PM
To: Amy Dettmer
Subject: Nomination for Mayors Art Award

I wish to nominate Edna Trunt, proprietor of, "Your Quilting Room", long arm quilting studio. She has made a large impact in the art of quilting in the area and has mentored many in all aspects of this fiber art. Her many displays have been an inspiration. The Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation has asked Edna to hang her art work at a First Friday Art Walk. She has a permanent show of her commissioned art work hanging at the Grand Rapids Library, The Children's Discovery Museum, and at, "Your Quilting Room", studio. She is very generous in donating her art quilts to be raffled and auctioned as fund raisers for Grace House, Minnesota Deer Hunters Association, St. Joseph's Catholic community Spirit Fest, Loon Country Quilters bi-annual quilt shows.

She designs, creates and donates 100's of beautifully crafted art quilts to honor and thank our veterans, and to comfort children in emergency crises and to Community Connect . She also is a staunch supporter of the arts in the schools, the Itasca County Fair, and at the Reif Center. She is a gifted artisan who readily shares her passion and skills to other quilt artisans and wannabe quilters of all ages and levels of experience.

Respectfully submitted by
Carol Hessevick