



► FISCAL YEAR 2024

Return on Investment Report South Dakota





I want to extend our heartfelt thanks for your continued partnership with Arts Midwest. Together, we are amplifying creativity across South Dakota and beyond.

In FY2024, we took steps to make the arts more inclusive. We launched the Midwest Award for Artists with Disabilities, giving \$3,000 awards to support visual artists and help them build their careers.

Our Creativity News Desk shared stories about the power of Midwestern creativity, focusing on Native, rural, and communities of color. We published 120 stories from across the region and brought together the Creative Midwest Media Cohort for an in-person learning retreat.

We also advanced our shared commitment to building new partnerships with federal agencies. In FY24, we connected with organizations like USDA Rural Development and Health and Human Services, working to identify new opportunities for the Midwest's creative sector.

Throughout our grants, programs, and other services, we're proud to support creativity, arts, and culture in South Dakota, delivering a 563% return on investment to your constituents in FY24. We're excited for what lies ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Torrie Allen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Torrie Allen
President & CEO, Arts Midwest

South Dakota At A Glance

FY24: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024



8
Grants Awarded



12
Communities Reached



\$26,198
State Dues



\$173,684
Returned

563%
Return On Investment

See the last page of this report for a full breakdown of our FY24 investment in South Dakota.



If My Dreams Had Dreams (2022; mixed media on canvas) by Mary Payton from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, one of the recipients of the 2023 Midwest Award for Artists with Disabilities. Courtesy of the artist.

We invest time, funds, and resources in organizations and individuals that advance creativity in South Dakota.

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|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| <h3>Creative Midwest Media Cohort</h3> <p>We supported organizations in producing media projects that cover stories of Midwestern creativity through the Creative Midwest Media Cohort. This year-long pilot program included grants for storytelling projects and an in-person cohort convening in May 2024.</p> | 1 Organization Supported | \$15,000 Awarded | 3 Participants in South Dakota |
| <h3>GIG Fund</h3> <p>We distribute grants through the GIG Fund that support creative projects and educational events in the Midwest. These flexible funds help organizations present artists in their community by supporting programming and touring costs.</p> | 4 Organizations Supported | \$14,000 Awarded | 1,949 Participants in South Dakota |
| <h3>Midwest Award for Artists with Disabilities</h3> <p>We support accessibility in the arts and celebrate Midwestern creativity through the Midwest Award for Artists with Disabilities. Awardees receive \$3,000 and are encouraged to use it toward growing their artistic career.</p> | 1 Artist Supported | \$3,000 Awarded | |
| <h3>NEA Big Read</h3> <p>We partner with the National Endowment for the Arts to deliver the NEA Big Read. The NEA Big Read provides grants to organizations that bring communities together to read and discuss a book.</p> | 1 Organizations Supported | \$20,000 Awarded | 1,120 Participants in South Dakota |



A young artist painting at an outdoor art session hosted by Nis'to in the Sisseton, South Dakota area, as featured in a Creativity News Desk story. Photo by Dustina Gill.

We support convenings, community artist residencies, and resource sharing opportunities in South Dakota.

| | |
|---|---|
| <h3>Creativity News Desk</h3> <p>The Creativity News Desk amplifies stories about the power of arts and creativity in the Midwest. We commission stories from writers, photographers, videographers, illustrators, and podcasters across our region.</p> | <p>16 Stories Featuring South Dakota</p> <p>2,792 Readers in South Dakota</p> |
| <h3>Ideas Hub</h3> <p>We added ten new resources to the Ideas Hub, an online collection of free, curated articles and tools that help creative leaders foster growth within their organizations.</p> | <p>190 Readers in South Dakota</p> |
| <h3>Jazz Road</h3> <p>We partnered with South Arts on Jazz Road, an artist-centric touring and residency grants program that works to spread jazz throughout the country. In September 2023, Arts Midwest held an Artistic Career Workshop in Minneapolis, MN for jazz artists to expand and enhance their careers.</p> | <p>1 Artists Supported</p> <p>\$15,000 Awarded</p> |
| <h3>National Leaders of Color Fellowship</h3> <p>We partnered with the other United States Regional Arts Organizations on this professional development and networking initiative that aims to support multicultural leadership in the creative and cultural sector.</p> | <p>1 South Dakota Participant</p> |
| <h3>World Fest</h3> <p>Through World Fest, we tour musicians to Midwestern communities to foster an understanding of and appreciation for global uniqueness and differences. In FY2024, World Fest artists engaged with communities in Ohio through weeklong in-person residencies.</p> | <p>27 Events</p> <p>5,115 Participants in South Dakota</p> |

We provide opportunities for staff at our partner State Arts Agencies to connect, learn, and give feedback.

State Arts Agency Connections

We hold semi-annual SAA Executive Director summits, bi-monthly video calls, regular check ins about our program and grants, and we gather when able at events like the NASAA Assembly. These conversations invite our members to discuss challenges and opportunities facing them, share ideas and resources, and consider future strategies for action. Our Board of Directors includes two SAA Executive Directors, who bring their expertise to Board meetings and discussions.

Federal Agency Work

Arts Midwest partners with the Midwest state arts agencies to build relationships with representatives of federal agencies. In FY24, this work included continued research into federal funding opportunities throughout the year; planning meetings to determine next steps with federal agencies; meetings with representatives of the National Endowment for the Arts, USDA Rural Development, Health & Human Services, and Economic Development Administration; and presenting on Arts Midwest and the Midwest State Arts Agencies to the Chicago Federal Executive Board.

Accessibility Support

We provide State Arts Agency accessibility coordinators with funding to attend the Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability (LEAD®) conference.

Site Visits

Our staff visited South Dakota for 9 days this year for the South Dakota Arts Conference and We the Many, World Fest, and NEA Big Read programming.

We collaborate with a network of writers, photographers, videographers, and illustrators to amplify impactful stories of arts, culture, and creativity in the Midwest.



Rural Libraries Connect the Heartland, One Book Chat at a Time

By Cinnamon Janzer

Sarah Smarsh's 2018 memoir *Heartland*, a book about rural issues, was discussed in rural communities across South Dakota.



Rock The Rez Brings Power Chords to Indigenous Kids

By Jay Gabler

A rock camp “aims to empower Indigenous girls, two-spirited, transgender, and gender diverse youth” in a safe space where they can raise their voices—and crank the amps.



Meet Baxter Badure, A Handmade Saddle-Maker

By Ruth Wiechmann

Inspired as a young ranch hand, Baxter considers saddle-making a “nice little hobby” as he spends evenings after full days of ranching to craft distinct hand-tooled saddles.



LADAMA performs onstage at the public concert during their World Fest residency in Hot Springs, South Dakota. Photo by Jennifer Robistow.

FY24 Grants Awarded

| Grant Opportunity | Grantee or Awardee | City | Congressional District | Grant Amount |
|---|--|-------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| GIG Fund | Grand River Arts Council | Lemmon | At-large | \$4,000 |
| Jazz Road | Joel Shotwell with JAS Quintet | Sioux Falls | At-large | \$15,000 |
| NEA Big Read | K.O. Lee Aberdeen Public Library | Aberdeen | At-large | \$20,000 |
| GIG Fund | Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant Society | De Smet | At-large | \$2,000 |
| Midwest Award for Artists with Disabilities | Mary Payton Zajicek | Sioux Falls | At-large | \$3,000 |
| Creative Midwest Media Cohort | SDPB | Sioux Falls | At-large | \$15,000 |
| GIG Fund | South Dakota Historical Society Foundation | Pierre | At-large | \$4,000 |
| GIG Fund | Vermillion Cultural Association | Vermillion | At-large | \$4,000 |
| 8 Awardees | | | | \$67,000 |

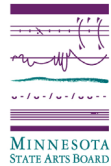
Arts Midwest leverages public and private dollars to bring services to South Dakota.

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|--------------------------|--|------------------|
| Grants + Programs | GIG Fund | \$14,000 |
| | NEA Big Read | \$20,000 |
| | Midwest Award for Artists with Disabilities | \$3,000 |
| | World Fest | |
| | Programming Costs | \$61,407 |
| | Creativity News Desk | |
| | Programming Costs | \$38,585 |
| | Grants | \$15,000 |
| | National Leaders of Color Fellowship | |
| | Programming Costs | \$2,113 |
| | Jazz Road | |
| | Programming Costs | \$1,869 |
| Grants | \$15,000 | |
| Services | SAA Summits | \$1,376 |
| | Accessibility Support | \$1,333 |
| | Total services and grants | \$173,684 |
| | FY24 State Dues | \$26,198 |
| | Services and grants in excess of dues | \$147,486 |
| | Return on Investment | 563% |

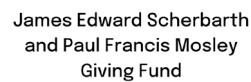
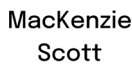
National Endowment for the Arts



State Arts Agencies



Foundations, Corporations, and Other Government Funders



Arts Midwest's activities are made possible by a grant provided by the Minnesota State Arts Board through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature general fund.

Thank You

If you have questions about the information in this report, or if you would like more information about Arts Midwest's programs and services, please contact:

Anne Romens

Vice President

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Cover: LADAMA gets the kids dancing at Hot Springs Bison Center during their World Fest Residency in Hot Springs, South Dakota. Photo by Jennifer Robistow.