The public is invited to learn about the impact of the first 10 years of Arts Legacy investments in Minnesota's Region Five - Crow Wing, Cass, Morrison, Todd and Wadena Counties.

June 24, 2019 from 11:00 AM to Noon at Great
On June 24, 2019 from 11:00 AM to Noon at Great River Arts, 122 1st St SE, Little Falls, MN, a panel of citizens, artists, and arts leaders will discuss the impact that Arts and Culture Legacy Fund investments have made in the region in the first ten years since the passage of the Legacy Amendment in 2008. In addition, Sheila Smith, Director of Minnesota Citizens for the Arts, will talk about how the Arts Give Back to our communities, in conjunction with the release of a new economic impact study of the region from Creative Minnesota.

In the last 10 years FWAC has awarded almost 3 million dollars in grants from the Arts and Cultural Heritage fund (Legacy dollars). In total, FWAC has invested $3.8 million from all sources in the region, including an additional $803,658 from state General Funds. These investments have increased participation and attendance at arts events, as well as boosted the economic impact from arts activities in communities across the region, according to the Creative Minnesota study. The presentation will be prior to a board meeting of Minnesota Citizens for the Arts to be held at Great River Arts that afternoon.

The Legacy Amendment was passed by a statewide vote of the people of Minnesota in 2008 to dedicate a portion of the state's sales tax to create four new funds for 1. land conservation, 2. water conservation, 3. parks and trails, and 4. arts and culture. The legislature appropriates the dollars from the Legacy Arts and Culture Fund to the Minnesota State Arts Board, Regional Arts Councils, Minnesota Historical Society and other entities to provide access to the arts and culture for all Minnesotans.

Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA) is a statewide arts advocacy organization whose mission is to ensure opportunity for all people to have access to and involvement in the arts. MCA organizes the arts community and lobbies the Minnesota State Legislature and Congress on issues pertaining to the nonprofit arts and conducts original research posted at www.CreativeMN.org. MCA works with over 40,000 arts advocates in Minnesota. www.artsMN.org. @MN Citizen

The Five Wings Arts Council (FWAC) encourages and promotes arts creation, appreciation, and education through grant programs and technical assistance to enhance the quality of life for Minnesota residents in Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, and Wadena Counties. The Five Wings Art Council believes that art strengthens communities, promotes diversity and through the expression of art communities will flourish while cultures are celebrated. FWAC believes that everyone should have opportunities to take part of the arts.