



## Absent Narratives Implementation Fund

October 2019 – May 2020

Awardee	School District	Award Amount	Location (City)	Project Overview
Jonathan Edington  Folwell Performing Arts School	Minneapolis Public Schools	\$1,000	Minneapolis	This project will capture student and family stories as visual art projects which will be permanently displayed at Folwell. This proposal will support four culturally specific projects, representing Latino, African American, Indigenous and Asian/Pacific Islander students and families within the school community.
Jovita Hernandez  Emmet D. Williams Elementary School	Roseville Area Schools	\$300	Shoreview	As a part of their social studies unit called "History of Place," this project will increase 2nd grade student engagement by learning from Indigenous Minnesotans through traditional storytelling. This unit teaches the history of Roseville through the Native American lens, a narrative that is absent from the curriculum.
Katina Zambrano  Garden City Elementary	Osseo Area Schools	\$1,000	Brooklyn Center	Students will amplify their voices and deeply connect to the stories, histories, cultures and languages of their school community in this project by discussing books by authors of color and expressing themselves through visual art and poetry. Students will celebrate their authentic and diverse ways of being during an end-of-year multicultural event that illuminates the strengths and beauty of the Garden City community.
Lora Hill Aeliot  Riverway Learning Community	Charter School	\$1,000	Winona	The project will increase student engagement by providing students with a deeper understanding of the Dakota and Ojibwe through the We Move and We Stay exhibit at the Science Museum.
Mary Thome  Central Park Elementary	Roseville Area Schools	\$1,000	Roseville	This project, "Stories as Roots," will bring guest storytellers into classrooms to share absent narratives stories with students and families during the school day and at two evening events.
Natalia Benjamin  Century High School	Rochester Public Schools	\$935.74	Rochester	This project will give students an opportunity to both explore the voices of diverse authors, and write about their own identity, personal experiences, and family/friend experiences that tell the story of their identity. These stories will be published in an anthology of the class writing projects and shared with their families and the school community during a family night in May 2020.



Paul Sommers  Justice Page School	Minneapolis Public Schools	\$1,000	Minneapolis	This project #BringYourSmellyFoodtoSchool is a yearlong curriculum that helps students embrace different aspects of their individual and communal identities. Using food as a medium and finding multiple ways to explore the “seemingly” simple question, “Where are you from?” as a tool, students will investigate their understandings of self, their cultural background, and their place in relationship to the rest of the world.
Roberta Hernandez  Central Park Elementary	Roseville Area Schools	\$900	Roseville	Student engagement will increase through books with narratives by and about people that are missing from the curriculum and classroom. This project will add high quality classroom book sets for 25 teachers to use with students.
Thomas Carlson  Perpich Center for Arts Education		\$1,000	Golden Valley	This project will support the development of the American literature class called "Centering Voices That Have Been Marginalized" through class sets of culturally responsive books and student engagement with cultural experts.
Titilayo Bediako  WE WIN Institute  At Bright Water Montessori		\$1,000	Minneapolis	This project will teach 1st through 3rd grade students about the holiday Kwanzaa and its importance to African Americans.
Heather White, Katie Britton, Erin Maly, Patty Paquette  Lincoln Park Middle School	Duluth Public Schools	\$2,000	Duluth	Nigerian-born artist Daniel Oyinloye will create an absent narratives video that will showcase the community's own diversity by giving a voice to those in the community whose stories are not represented in main-stream media.



## Children's Museums Grants

July 2019 – October 2021

Awardee	Award Amount	Location (City)	Project Overview
Children's Discovery Museum <a href="http://www.cdmkids.org/">http://www.cdmkids.org/</a>	\$158,000	Grand Rapids	Financial support (scholarships) for classroom/community field trips and bussing will be available to allow children of all abilities and ethnicities to have a museum experience. A portion of the funding will be allocated to new exhibits that will be determined by staff, consultants, & the community Advisory Board based on their findings during Year I.
Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota <a href="https://www.cmsouthernmn.org/">https://www.cmsouthernmn.org/</a>	\$256,000	Mankato	The Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota (CMSM) will establish new exhibits to enhance Arts and Cultural Heritage learning at the Museum, expand existing exhibits with additions designed to enrich Arts and Cultural Heritage learning experiences, and embark upon a community engagement process aimed at forging deeper connections with diverse constituencies.
Duluth Children's Museum <a href="https://www.duluthchildrensmuseum.org/">https://www.duluthchildrensmuseum.org/</a>	\$69,000	Duluth	Arts and cultural program access is a major focus of this project. Several rotating exhibits in the Exhibit Hall will be highly interactive, with a focus on art, creativity, and problem solving. This year's selected Artist in Residence program, "Playing with Letters," highlights the work of University of Minnesota Duluth Professor of Graphic Design and typography artist David Short in an interactive experience where visitors will explore the creation, observation, and practice of graphic design.
Great River Children's Museum <a href="https://greatrivercm.org/">https://greatrivercm.org/</a>	\$230,000	St. Cloud	The Great River Children's Museum START-UP Project will focus on the critical next steps that GRCM must take as an emerging children's museum with a site and an existing building that needs to be repurposed from a bank to a children's museum. Start-up activities that would be supported by Minnesota Legacy Funds include: The hiring of a Museum Development Director, Community Engagement activities and Exhibit and Program Development.
Otter Cove Children's Museum <a href="https://www.ottercovem.org/">https://www.ottercovem.org/</a>	\$137,000	Fergus Falls	The activities and exhibits that will be completed with this funding include the exhibit design, building and installation of a miniature downtown Fergus Falls, the completion of an art and maker space, specific outsourced elements for the farm and field room, scenic byway map, and interactive art installations from emerging and established regional artists.



Region 5 Children's Museum	\$188,455	Brainerd	<p>Residents and visitors will have opportunities to enjoy and benefit from 60 programming events in at least 20 communities over the 18-month grant cycle. In addition, local engagement specialists will bring programming directly to at least 100 participants experiencing significant participation barriers. Artwork, stories, and other participant-generated content will be collected and recorded to inform and to be integrated into the design and development of future children's museum's exhibits, environments, and programs. The children museum will engage communities of all ethnicities, abilities, and incomes and will pay special attention to reaching community members experiencing participation barriers.</p>
The Works Museum <a href="https://theworks.org/">https://theworks.org/</a>	\$121,545	Bloomington	<p>Through the We Are All Engineers project, The Works Museum will leverage the organization's expertise in elementary engineering education and the cultural knowledge of community partners to co-create and deliver new elementary education programs that align with the cultural benchmarks in the Minnesota State Science Standards introduced in June 2019. The Works Museum will create opportunities for visitors to interact with engineered objects from the Dakota, Ojibwe, Hmong, Mexican, and Somali cultures. Children will explore these objects through open-ended play: touching, trying, examining, and investigating. They will also experience stories about how these cultures engineer and learn the cultural context behind material choice and function of the objects.</p>
Wheel and Cog - Children's Museum of Hutchinson <a href="https://wheelandcog.com/">https://wheelandcog.com/</a>	\$40,000	Hutchinson	<p>Project, "It takes a Village," involves community outreach development, updates to brochures with current information and class offerings, and improved cohesive signage inside and out of the museum space. Feedback continues from community and guests that improved signage is needed to locate the museum. Through working with the city of Hutchinson, we will plan to create a tasteful sign for guests to locate the museum.</p>



## Community Partner Fund Awardees

November 2019-June 2021

### [Minnesota Prison Writing Workshop \(MPWW\)](#)

Community Partner Fund awardee MPWW extends Minnesota's vibrant literary community to incarcerated men and women. With this award, MPWW will create community partnerships between the thriving network of incarcerated writers served by the organization and the diverse network of Minnesota publishers, platforms, and artistic venues. At prisons in Faribault, Lino Lakes, Moose Lake, Shakopee, and Stillwater, MPWW will work in close collaboration with Writers Collectives – self-governing groups of experienced incarcerated writers – to identify the partnerships and opportunities that would be most valuable to them. In doing so, MPWW will amplify the voices of incarcerated men and women, connect Minnesotans to the stories of one of the most marginalized communities in our society, challenge stereotypes about the incarcerated community, and promote critical thinking about the criminal justice system.

"The grant from the Minnesota Humanities Center will create new platforms for the incarcerated community, which is very isolated, to participate in the broader artistic discourse and have a voice in shaping our culture. By presenting their stories and voices to broader audiences, this project will also showcase the diversity and humanity of the men and women currently living behind prison walls," said Mike Alberti, Managing Director Minnesota Prison Writing Workshop.

### [The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition \(NABS\)](#)

NABS leads in the pursuit of understanding and addressing the ongoing trauma created by the U.S. Indian Boarding School policy, which forced Indian children to attend schools where their languages and cultural practices were prohibited. For this project, NABS will partner with the Upper Sioux Nation to increase access to student records from the Pipestone Indian Boarding School, unveiling narratives and histories that have been intentionally hidden in order to oppress indigenous communities. This project directly amplifies a community's solution for change as Upper Sioux members have requested that the truth about this history be made accessible to boarding school survivors and their descendants in order to better understand the impact of these experiences and facilitate healing. NABS will scan, digitize, and conduct research using the records of Pipestone Indian Boarding School. Ultimately, these records will become part of the Upper Sioux tribal archive's physical collection and NABS' digital archive as the organization works to digitize and make accessible boarding school records.



## Cultural Identity Microgrants

November 2019 – May 2020

Awardee	Award Amount	Location (City)	Project Overview
Anh-Hoa Thi Nguyen	\$5,000	Maplewood	The author will write a food memoir book about her complicated relationship with Vietnamese food and how cultivating that relationship over time influenced her desire to learn about her Vietnamese culture and family history.
Artists Collective for Community Collaboration	\$5,000	St. Paul	AC3 will create two art-building workshops for indigenous youth and their families, focusing on the lives and stories of missing or murdered indigenous women (MMIW) in Minnesota.
Bee Yang	\$5,000	Cannon Falls	Bee will compose and record traditional Hmong song poetry.
Chaz Wagner	\$5,000	Nett Lake	Chaz will develop an Ojibwe Podcast that includes oral interviews with local elders, community experts, activists, and Anishinaabe peoples of Minnesota.
Dakota Wicohan <a href="https://dakotawicohan.org/">https://dakotawicohan.org/</a>	\$5,000	Morton	This program will provide a fun, supportive and engaging opportunity for Dakota youth to learn the Dakota language and culture through weekly activity nights and video making.
Maggie Lorenz/Wakinyan Luta Oyanke Drum and Dance Society	\$5,000	St. Paul	Guest speakers will provide cultural teachings pertaining to the drum, the songs, the dances, and powwow protocols.
MIGIZI <a href="https://www.migizi.org/">https://www.migizi.org/</a>	\$5,000	Minneapolis	MIGIZI will begin to digitize 40 years of audio archives to enable future usage by American Indians and all Minnesotans.
Oyate Hotanin <a href="https://oyatehotanin.org/">https://oyatehotanin.org/</a>	\$5,000	St. Paul	This project will support 3 short term projects led by artists in their coalition: The January Buffalo Show, RedTalk Symposium, and Live At the Buffalo Show CD Audio Mastering and short run printing.
Penumbra <a href="https://penumbratheatre.org/">https://penumbratheatre.org/</a>	\$5,000	St. Paul	Supporting inclusion of pan-African voices and stories, Weathering, a new play in-progress written by Harrison David Rivers and directed by Talvin Wilks, explores the histories and health outcomes for mothers of color in America.
Telling Queer History/ Inquilinxs Unidxs por Justicia <a href="http://tellingqueerhistory.com/">http://tellingqueerhistory.com/</a> <a href="http://www.inquilinxsunidxs.org/">http://www.inquilinxsunidxs.org/</a>	\$5,000	Minneapolis	TQH and IX will host a December storytelling event to support the intersectional identities of immigrant members who are also part of the queer community.
<b>Total Awardees: 10</b>	<b>Total: \$50,000</b>	<b>Total Cities: 6</b>	



## Hmong Cultural Heritage Microgrants

November 2019 – May 2020

Awardee	Award Amount	Location (City)	Project Overview
Hmong American Day	\$5,000	St. Paul	HAD will collaborate with Hmong for Native Speakers courses in the Osseo School District at Park Center Senior High and Osseo Senior High to provide engaging activities that invite students to continue with their learning and sharing of Hmong language and culture.
Hmong Archives <a href="https://hmongarchives.org/">https://hmongarchives.org/</a>	\$4,000	St. Paul	Hmong Archives will: photograph all items of the Martha Kaufman-Zimmerman Collection and four archival boxes of objects of Wat Tham Krabok, and post them on their website; publish books in Hmong and English with selected images and texts; and record, transcribe, and translate video interviews with Hmong elders.
Hmong Cultural Center of Minnesota <a href="https://www.hmongcc.org/">https://www.hmongcc.org/</a>	\$3,090	St. Paul	The new theater room exhibit will allow visitors to view clips of historical documentaries about the Hmong diaspora and Hmong American Experience.
Hmong Museum <a href="https://hmongmuseummn.org/">https://hmongmuseummn.org/</a>	\$5,000	St. Paul	Hmong Museum will pilot a program around the practice and teaching of Hmong elder's knowledge and skill around a folk art activity, such as bamboo basket weaving.
Hnub Tshiab – Hmong Women Achieving Together <a href="https://hmongwomen.org/">https://hmongwomen.org/</a>	\$5,000	St. Paul	Hnub Tshiab will create a personal development workbook that will supplement their book titled Staring Down the Tiger: Stories of Hmong American Women, which provides a platform to tell stories of Hmong women.
Pha Association, Inc.	\$5,000	Brooklyn Park	Elders and youths will engage with each other to strengthen their proficiency in the Hmong language and Hmong alphabet through lessons.
The SEAD Project <a href="https://www.theseadproject.org/">https://www.theseadproject.org/</a>	\$5,000	Minneapolis	The SEAD Project will develop free online resources that teach Hmong language and culture to the public.
Tou SaiK Unites <a href="http://www.tousaikunites.com/">http://www.tousaikunites.com/</a>	\$5,000	St. Paul	Tou SaiK Unites implements Unified Worldwide, a Hmong language Hip Hop project which includes creating and sharing songs accompanied by a curriculum to relearn Hmong language through writing lyrics.
<b>Total Awardees: 8</b>	<b>Total: \$37,090</b>	<b>Total Cities: 3</b>	



## Somali Cultural Heritage Microgrants

November 2019 – July 2020

Awardee	Award Amount	Location (City)	Project Overview
East Africa Health Project	\$2,500	St. Paul	EAHPRO will host a multicultural event and dinner to show how Somali culture and heritage and dance are important and can be part of prevention of obesity and chronic diseases. <a href="http://www.eahpro.org/">http://www.eahpro.org/</a>
Isuroon	\$5,000	Minneapolis	Isuroon will pilot a new program to create a space for Somali youth to discuss the realities of being a first- or second-generation immigrant with the compounding factors of their racial, linguistic, ethnic and religious identities through the arts and nature. <a href="https://www.isuroon.org/">https://www.isuroon.org/</a>
Multicultural Resource Center	\$3,120	Pelican Rapids	MRC will hire the Somali Cultural Museum's Dance Troupe to perform at the city of Pelican Rapids' International Friendship Festival, and run a Somali dance workshop the day after the Festival.
Somali Community Resettlement Services	\$5,000	Faribault	SCRS will develop a "Basic Somali Language and Culture Class" curriculum. This course will be a 20 – 30-hour training for people in the general community, and possibly Somali youth. <a href="https://somalcrs.org/">https://somalcrs.org/</a>
Somali Parents Autism Network	\$5,000	Minneapolis	This project will help families express their feelings through poetry, sharing historical perspectives on disability within the Somali Community. <a href="http://spanmn.org/">http://spanmn.org/</a>
Soomaal House of Art	\$2,500	Minneapolis	3 Somali emerging artists will get the opportunity to learn, explore and exhibit a concept from beginning to end product through Spearwave - a monthly intimate exhibition and gathering space for conversations about art and culture. <a href="https://www.soomaalhouse.com/">https://www.soomaalhouse.com/</a>
Speaking Out	\$5,000	Minneapolis	With Ayeeyo Childcare Center, a Somali-American family's business, Speaking Out will create workshops that use storytelling and acting to center Somali stories, language and culture.
Tusaalo Mentoring – Ubah Medical Academy	\$2,500	Hopkins	This innovative program connects Somali youth with local Somali professionals through culturally-specific and school-based mentorship. <a href="https://www.ubahmedicalacademy.org/">https://www.ubahmedicalacademy.org/</a>
Unite Cloud	\$5,000	St. Cloud	#unitecloud will partner with a local Somali-owned business, Nori Cafe and Creamery, to host bi-monthly "Somali Language Nights" where a local member of the Central MN Somali community teaches Somali phrases to non-Somali community members. <a href="https://unitecloud.org/">https://unitecloud.org/</a>
West Bank Athletic Club	\$5,000	Minneapolis	West Bank Athletic Club will make their soccer tournament a more holistic community event by incorporating Somali singers and poets into the soccer tournament program. <a href="https://www.westbankac.org/">https://www.westbankac.org/</a>
<b>Total Awardees: 10</b>	<b>Total: \$40,620</b>	<b>Total Cities: 6</b>	



## Humanities Innovation Lab

July 2019 – December 2019

Awardee	Award Amount	Location (City)	Project Overview
Chris Martin	\$2,000	Minneapolis	Chris will create an audio walk for Bde Maka Ska, one of a series of conversations around the idea of "Restoration": the lake's name restoration, ecological restoration, and the ongoing project of restoring the Dakota language to fluency before it disappears.
Cornerstone Montessori Elementary School <a href="http://www.cornerstone-elementary.org/">http://www.cornerstone-elementary.org/</a>	\$1,500	St. Paul	Staff will read and discuss <i>A Good Time for the Truth</i> and, in consultation with author Sun Yung Shin, examine the school library and approaches towards literacy education, using the lens of equity and restorative justice.
Crystal Creek Citizen-Artist Residency <a href="https://www.crystalcreekcitizenartist.com/">https://www.crystalcreekcitizenartist.com/</a>	\$2,000	Houston	This project will support an artists-in-residence program to build relationships and develop creative projects with local, rural communities in Houston County.
Eric Avery	\$2,000	Minneapolis	Community workshops around reparations, changing economics, and economic solidarity will be conducted with food, activities, and conversation.
Interact Center for the Visual and Performing Arts <a href="https://interactcenter.org/">https://interactcenter.org/</a>	\$2,000	St. Paul	Artists with disabilities will be supported in developing a new interactive multimedia piece in collaboration with visual artists.
Iraqi and American Reconciliation Project <a href="https://reconciliationproject.org/">https://reconciliationproject.org/</a>	\$2,000	Minneapolis	Istikan gatherings will be held with Iraqi-Minnesotan storytellers and IARP to come together and create the space to explore, collaborate, experiment, and problem solve together.
Jacob Virden	\$2,000	Minneapolis	A podcast and video series exploring the Upper Harbor Terminal riverfront redevelopment in North Minneapolis will be created.
Katie Pratt	\$1,000	Minneapolis	A hands-on climate mapping workshop where participants create maps of their personal emotional "terrain" of climate change will be developed and hosted.
New Arab American Theater Works <a href="https://www.newarabamericantheaterworks.org/">https://www.newarabamericantheaterworks.org/</a>	\$2,000	Minneapolis	A dialogue on the topic of Islamophobia and anti-immigrant sentiment centering the Arab community will follow a play at the Guthrie on the same topic.
Pang Yang and Jenna Cushing	\$2,000	Brooklyn Park	Hmong authors will be brought together to inspire future young Hmong authors and to connect classroom Hmong language educators and Hmong-focused publishers.
Local Solutions to End Poverty <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LSEPduluth/">https://www.facebook.com/LSEPduluth/</a>	\$600	Duluth	Local community members will be supported to speak, lead, facilitate, and ask questions in a community-led, issue-focused candidate forum.