

2016 Round 1 Cultural STAR Interviews

April 11, 2016

Time	Organization Name	Proposal Title	Using 150 words or less (limit 750 characters), please describe the concept and design of your project (what, where, when), highlighting those areas expected to be funded by Cultural STAR.
8:00 AM	Arcata Press/Saint Paul Almanac	Impressions: Poetry and Art	Saint Paul Almanac will have four celebrations in St. Paul to recognize a total of 24 poets and artists whose work will be published on buses, trains, bus shelters, and train stops throughout St. Paul in 2017. Over 600 total impressions of their work will appear. Each season of 2017, 6 poets and artists will be honored with a party that includes a reading and display of their work, food, drink and music. Four St. Paul locations will be used: Black Dog Cafe, Golden's Deli, Western U-Plaza, and a grand finale celebration at Union Depot. Additionally, a full-color book of the project will be created and a film of the project, including readings from the poets, which will be available to the City as a permanent archive.
8:07 AM	ARENA DANCES, INC.	ARENA DANCES 20th Anniversary Celebration Concert- ANTHEM at the FITZ	On November 5, 2016, ARENA DANCES will bring its celebrated modern dance to St. Paul in a one night only concert at the Fitzgerald. This will be the final concert in ARENA's 20-month-long celebration of its 20 years bringing Twin Cities audiences innovative dance by Mathew Janczewski. The concert will include new stagings of 3 popular works and the premiere of a duet featuring the return of original company member and muse Amy Behm Thomson dancing with Janczewski. In addition to the concert, ARENA will invite audiences to join in a fabulous 20th Anniversary Closing Celebration. ARENA staged its first concert 20 years ago at the Ordway's McKnight Theater. The Fitz concert heralds ARENA's intent to perform regularly in downtown St. Paul.
8:15 AM	ArtStart	Artistic Migration: Birds of the Mississippi River Flyway	Artistic Migration: Birds of the Mississippi River Flyway is a community art project that examines and responds to the issue of climate change and its impact on migrating birds of the Mississippi River Flyway. Artistic Migration engages people of all ages, particularly immigrant communities, who work side-by-side with artists utilizing resources from Audubon Minnesota to create large-scale, light-weight, portable bird sculptures that have symbolic meaning to each community. ArtStart showcases the bird installations at its May 2017 EcoArts Fest held at Harriet Island. The birds are carried in a colorful opening pageant, displayed in the Pavilion, and at the conclusion, "take flight" migrating to corporations and then back to community sites.
8:22 AM	Asian Economic Development Association	Little Mekong Night Market	The Little Mekong Night Market is a street festival celebrating Minnesota's Southeast Asian communities. Artist special projects multidiscipline and are design to engage and entertain festival goers. Ranging from performances, visual art, video, craft, and literature, the artists use the venue of the Night Market and cater to the Night Market audience.
8:30 AM	Aurora St. Anthony NDC	Unify University!	Unify University! is a coalition of Hmong, Black, and white organizations working to increase power and pride across multi-racial and multi-ethnic lines, to connect the neighborhoods of Rondo and Frogtown. We hold a parade in the last part of summer, connecting the two sides of the street divided by the Green Line. The funding from Cultural Star would go to organizers in our cross-cultural partnership - the Center for Hmong Arts and Talent, Aurora-St. Anthony NDC, and our organizing team of Vaughn Larry and John Slade. We will continue our partnership with Asian Economic Development Association and their Night Market, ending the parade at the Market. The target date is Saturday July 23rd.

8:37 AM	Ballet Minnesota	2016 Fall Concert	We will be presenting two contemporary dance performances at the St. Paul Union Depot during the Fall 2016 St. Paul Art Crawl, October 14-16, 2016. The concept is to honor and show gratitude to our veterans for their sacrifices, with patriotic themed choreography. Artistic Director Andrew Rist will introduce the 45 minute performances. He will discuss his inspiration, intent, organization's mission, and performance season. Ten veterans will be interviewed through personal contacts and military organizations. Sixteen dancers will perform on a 30' x 40' stage, with folding chairs for attendees. The audience will meet the dancers and artistic director after the performances. We are seeking funds for the artistic personnel and space rental.
8:45 AM	Brownbody	Quiet As It's Kept	Brownbody will present Quiet As It's Kept (QAIK) in October 2016, an artistic work created with actor/vocalist, Thomasina Petrus. Blending Afro-modern dance, skating, live vocals, and Ida B. Wells speeches, it explores the history of racial oppression during reconstruction. Post-performance discussions follow. This production will include an Urban Bush Women (UBW) collaboration, a 30 year old NY based dance company, operating from a woman-centered perspective and as members of the African Diaspora. UBW brings the untold and under-told stories of disenfranchised people to light through dance. Brownbody will translate two UBW works onto ice. Support will offset production expenses. This project is slated to occur at Highland Ice Arena.
8:52 AM	Capitol River Council/Music in Mears, LLC	Music in Mears and Rhythm in Rice 2016	Music in Mears is a free community concert series now in it's 13th year. The season (since 2006) runs from June through August on Thursday nights from 6pm to 9pm. The STAR funds have always been used exclusively to compensate the bands and we will continue with this use. Rhythm in Rice is a new series for 2016 that will also be running June through August on Friday evenings in Rice Park. This will be programmed as an international music series featuring local musicians that perform in music genres from around the world. STAR funding will exclusively support these musicians.
9:00 AM	Break		
9:07 AM	Center for Hmong Arts and Talent	Fresh Traditions X Fashion Show	The history of Hmong art is rooted and sewn into the fabrics of traditional Hmong clothing where the unique combination of vibrant colors and textures make the Hmong identifiable. The Center for Hmong Arts and Talent (CHAT) builds on this tradition and presents the annual Fresh Traditions Fashion Show, a culturally inspired fashion event featuring the creativity, originality and quality of work by Hmong fashion designers. The Fresh Traditions Fashion Show 10th Anniversary will take place on November 6, 2016 at A&E's bulae in downtown Saint Paul.
9:15 AM	CRASH	Sight of Hand with the Saints	Baseball and art? The new St. Paul Saints stadium is located smack-dab in the middle of the Lowertown arts district. Leave it to percussion group CRASH to find the musicality IN baseball. With "Sight of Hand," performers turn baseball coaching signals into percussive rhythms, clapping games and hamboning. This project comprises (1) a live performance at the Saints game between innings, resulting in (2) a high-energy music-video, filmed in part at the live Saints game. Using an actual Saints game as a backdrop, the video intercuts virtuosic percussion performance (rhythmic baseball signals) with real-life baseball signals from Saints coaches, real baseball plays and a live crowd cheering them on. We request funding for the game-day event.

9:22 AM	Creative Enterprise Zone	The Beacon - Arts and Community Engagement	<p>A monumental water tower marking the north boundary of the newly established Creative Enterprise Zone (CEZ) – an iconic reminder of our rich industrial past – will be creatively repurposed by renowned Minnesota artist Karl Unnasch as a self-illuminated "lighthouse" celebrating the rejuvenation efforts underway in the area.</p> <p>In conjunction with the development of the "lighthouse", the proposed project is to connect the community through arts-based community engagement to generate images and words that will be displayed on the tower based on the theme "Dear Saint Paul." In addition, it is to host a celebration of the lighting of the tower.</p>
9:30 AM	Danger Boat Productions LLC	All St. Paul's a Stage	<p>For one unforgettable day, Danger Boat Productions, LLC will turn all of St. Paul into one big theater performance, and the city into one giant stage. All St. Paul's A Stage allows people to send improvised theater scenes as telegrams anywhere in St. Paul. Not only will the recipient experience the scene, but everyone in their office, park or coffee shop can enjoy the performance. The single day structure will be a unique theater event for St. Paul, creating buzz for the project. Since 2011, Danger Boat has used the unique art of improv comedy theater to connect everyday individuals to big ideas.</p> <p>We request \$10,000 in Cultural Star funds, have \$10,000 pending, and have \$15,000 in matching funds secured. The total project cost is \$42,000.</p>
9:37 AM	Dangerous Productions Inc	The Big Lowdown 2016	<p>Dangerous Productions will produce The Big Lowdown 2016, a five-day interactive performance series featuring theater and music from multiple St. Paul cultural groups, August 24-28 2016 at Bedlam Lowertown. Inspired by real stories of immigration from St. Paul residents past and present, it will feature an hour-long roving theatrical adventure (created in collaboration with Live Action Set and Bedlam Lowertown), putting audiences in the shoes of newly-arrived immigrants. Through the sharing of personal stories, we hope to cultivate understanding and celebration of the tenacity and resilience of all immigrants arriving in St. Paul. Each performance will end with a celebration and dance to the music of a local ethnic performance group.</p>
9:45 AM	Eastside Neighborhood Development Company	Empowering Our Children and Families Through American Indian Art	<p>American Indian art reflects a living culture, not an art form frozen in time. American Indian art, both traditional and contemporary reflects an indigenous way of viewing the world and is embedded into our life culturally, spiritually, physically and intellectually. Funds are requested to provide American Indian traditional and contemporary art forms to our children and families so that they may gain insight and knowledge of the rich cultural foundation inherent in their culture. Native language speakers and artists will share their knowledge about indigenous art forms with children and families. The ultimate goal of this project is to use American Indian art as a catalyst to empower and strengthen children, families and community.</p>
9:52 AM	Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies	String Orchestra Camp	<p>Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies (GTCYS) requests renewed support for our five-day String Orchestra Camp which introduces young string students to the excitement of playing in an orchestra. In July 2016, 60 camp attendees will rehearse at the Landmark Center and visit neighboring cultural institutions including the MPR Studios, the McNally Smith recording studios, the Schubert Club's instrument museum, and The Ordway. The camp's culminating free concert at the Science Museum of Minnesota will draw an audience of 250 people from across the metropolitan area into downtown St. Paul. These activities will attract hundreds of patrons to the Cultural District, strengthening the arts community.</p>
10:00 AM			

10:07 AM	Independent Filmmaker Project Minnesota	Filmmaking Equipment for Youth and Adult Classes	IFP MN respectfully requests a \$25,000 capital grant to purchase filmmaking equipment that will increase IFP MN's capacity to provide arts education to people from under represented communities living in and near the Creative Enterprise Zone, as well as the community at large. Funds will be used to purchase new cameras, audio equipment, lighting equipment, and computers with editing software to be used in adult classes and workshops and youth programs. Equipment will also be available to rent at a reduced rate for individual projects. With new equipment, IFP MN will be better situated to increase class sizes for both adults and youth, with specific outreach to people of color and people from low income households.
10:15 AM	INDIA ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA	2016 IndiaFest	India Association of Minnesota (IAM) requests \$31,000 to present IndiaFest August 20 to 20,000. IndiaFest was located in Downtown St. Paul, but growing audiences required re-locating to the State Capitol. IndiaFest showcases the arts and cultural contributions of Asian Indians. In 2016 IndiaFest will feature four internationally renowned dance and theater companies, all based in the Twin Cities: Katha Dance Theatre, Ragamala (dance), Ananya Dance Theatre, and Pangea World Theater. IndiaFest promotes the arts and cultural vitality of St. Paul with the festival's broad range of Asian Indian arts and cultural offerings, which are free and open to the public. IAM will leverage STAR funds to increase corporate sponsorships of IndiaFest
10:22 AM	Irish Fair of Minnesota	2016 Irish Fair of Minnesota	The Irish Fair of Minnesota is a 3-day celebration of the arts and culture of Ireland. Irish popular and traditional music, dance, history and sports attract over 80,000 people from all over the state to Saint Paul the second weekend in August. IFM is the largest free Irish Fair in the United States, the premiere family-friendly event on Harriet Island, and one of the most authentic Irish festivals nationwide. We expect to present 145+ music/dance performances, 60+ speakers/authors and numerous other arts activities at 14 stages. IFM is the largest recruiting event of the year for MN Irish arts groups and sports teams. Cultural STAR funds would allow IFM to hire Gaelic Storm, who will attract large crowds needed to sustain fair revenues.
10:30 AM	Koolabilities, Inc.	The UNDERLAND Project	<p>The UNDERLAND Project is a film series from the mind of Dusty Thune - a teacher, leader, and advocate for young adults with developmental disabilities. He created UNDERLAND so his could showcase their talents.. The purpose of UNDERLAND is to spread awareness about topics and taboos facing the world of people with disabilities through storytelling and the inclusion of special needs young adults in every aspect of the film.</p> <p>We are taking UNDERLAND on a journey of Minnesota communities to show how the special needs community can shine and create a documentary of our trip. We will create awareness of the St. Paul Arts district by inviting participants and their families to visit the Ordway in St. Paul where the film will be shown this fall</p>
10:37 AM	Midwest Special Services, Inc.	Show Gallery Art Classes	MSS will partner with 3 teaching artists to offer arts learning classes for MSS participants as well as members of the general public. These 90 minute classes will be held once a week for 10 weeks at The Show Gallery Lowertown, a public community space. Participants will learn side by side with learners from the general public. Through promotion via our email network, social media, tangible media, and word of mouth we will connect with members of the general public who show an interest in this unique arts learning opportunity. Each class will consist of 8-12 arts learners- 8 learners from MSS, and 2-4 learners from the community. The classes will culminate with a student showcase exhibit at The Show Gallery Lowertown.

10:45 AM	Minnesota Blues Society	Lowertown Blues Festival	Cultural Star support is being sought to support the highly successful Lowertown Blues Festival held in Mears Park July 23rd, 2016. What started as the Famous Dave's BBQ Blues festival that ran from 2004 to 2012, was re-started at Mears Park in 2014 with the new name Lowertown Blues Festival. Over 10,000 attended the inaugural event and over 15,000 attended in 2015 far exceeding all expectations demonstrating the popularity of a free civic blues festival in Lowertown. Specifically Star funds would be used to support national artists Booker T, Lil' Ed and the Imperials, Cory Stevens and the Butanes and increased production costs.
10:52 AM	Minnesota Cameroon Community - MINCAM	Management and operation of our flagship asset - the 57,000 sq. ft. Cameroon Community Center 1020 Bandana Blvd W. Saint Paul MN.	The Minnesota Cameroon Community, (MINCAM) is submitting a \$45,000 grant request for use in its efforts to strengthen the management and operation of its 55,000 sq. ft. Cameroon Community Center (CCC) located in St. Paul. This is half of the total amount for the Organizational Development initiative undertaken by the organization. Details of the rest are in the Program Budget. The project seeks to develop a Comprehensive Strategic Framework to guide MINCAM execute its mission fully. MINCAM seeks to develop a unique blend of collaborative empowerment which could serve as a model for other organizations. This process will include programs configurations, Fund Development and more particularly, Governance and Management.
11:00 AM	Break		
11:07 AM	Minnesota Music Coalition	Year of Music Micro-Grants Program	The Minnesota Music Coalition is partnering with Saint Paul Mayor Chris Coleman to disperse -micro-grants- to get live music infused throughout the City in celebration of Saint Paul's Year of Music. Small grants will be distributed to support artist fees when live music is added to block parties, spring carnivals, fall festivals, annual meetings, or other public events until the end of 2016. Modest support ranging from \$250 to \$500 will help introduce the concept of adding live popular music to many of our most grass roots gatherings while also supporting artists working in Saint Paul.
11:15 AM	Mississippi Park Connection	Mississippi River Visitor Center	Mississippi Park Connection and the National Park Service are undertaking a project to transform the park's visitor center into a gateway river experience at the Science Museum of Minnesota. The nationally renowned Science Museum draws nearly 650,000 visitors annually. A compelling new presence in the lobby will provide park visitors with a positive Mississippi River experience and will effectively connect them to experiences beyond the walls of the museum. Support from the Cultural STAR program will support a specific element in the exhibit called "River Relationships." This exhibit component will be curated by artists and feature voices from our diverse community.
11:22 AM	Mizna	Publishing "Mizna: Prose, Poetry, and Art Exploring Arab America"	Mizna is seeking Cultural STAR support for the publication of two upcoming issues of our literary journal, "Mizna: Prose, Poetry, and Art Exploring Arab America," one of which will have theme of Surviving the Rhetoric, a response to the latest wave of anti-Arab, anti-Muslim, and anti-immigrant sentiment we are enduring. The other will have an open theme and will be open to what the writing community is moved to write about. Each issue will be marked by a Journal Release Reading at Bedlam Lowertown.

11:30 AM	MNKINO	MNKINO Film Score Fest	Funding for the third annual MNKINO Film Score Fest, an event that brings filmmakers, composers, and musicians together to create new short films with original scores that are performed live at the screening. This event will take place at The Science Museum of Minnesota in St. Paul, MN, August 2016. An open call to filmmakers and composers will be posted, and those who sign up will be partnered to create new short films. The novel part of this challenge is that the scores are performed live by the Composer Quest Orchestra during the film screening. Our past two fests have been huge artistic and community successes, with dozens of new films completed and screened, audiences of 175 (2014) and 230 (2015), and local media coverage.
11:37 AM	N/A	Ice Orchestra for the 2017 St. Paul Winter Carnival	The purpose of The Ice Orchestra is to expose audiences to new sounds and new ways of making music. The Ice Orchestra project consists of building percussion instruments from ice, commissioning 4 new pieces of music (Pulitzer prize winner John Luther Adams, Mary Ellen Childs, Steve Heitzeg and myself), and performing these pieces at a concert during the 2017 St. Paul Winter Carnival with an ensemble of 5 musicians. The total cost of the project is \$51,135 with \$25,000 already awarded from the Knight Foundation
11:45 AM	Northern LightsMN, Inc.	Northern Spark 2017 Illuminates Saint Paul's Cultural District	Northern Spark (NS) is an annual, dusk-to-dawn, multidisciplinary, multi-partner, multi-venue, free arts festival that will take place along the Green Line Transit Corridor from downtown St Paul to downtown Minneapolis on June 10, 2017. For NS 2017 Lowertown Saint Paul will be the destination of a night of art experiences that travels from Target Field to CHS Field and brings thousands of visitors to downtown Saint Paul. With Cultural STAR funding, Northern Lights.mn will partner with Cultural District-based organizations, businesses and other stakeholders to commission up to 7 new works by artists from their core constituencies. These projects will premiere in venues and public spaces within the Cultural District during the festival.
11:52 AM	Ordway Center for the Performing Arts	Ordway Summer Dance	The Ordway will continue our Summer Dance Series in 2016 with six evenings of dancing, live music and group lessons led by experienced dance instructors. A popular, free series of events in Rice Park, our Summer Dance Series highlights a different music genre and dance technique each week, ranging from salsa to swing. We will again partner with local businesses like The Saint Paul Hotel and food trucks to provide refreshments for participants.
12:00 PM	LUNCH		
12:07 PM			
12:15 PM			
12:22 PM			
12:30 PM	OROMO SPORTS FEDERATION IN NORTH AMERICA	OROMO SPORTS FEDERATION IN NORTH AMERICA	OSFNA(OROMO SPORTS FEDERATION IN AMERICA) IS HOSTING IT'S ANNUAL SOCCER TOURNAMENT AT CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL IN SAINT PAUL. Our non-profit organization works to promote sports and cultural events within Oromo communities in North America. We hold annual soccer tournament and about 24 teams compete. We had teams coming from as far as Australia, Canada, Seattle, D.C. to name a few...but Minnesota holds the largest share of teams that participate. Most players are residents of Saint Paul and attend different Saint Paul Public schools. Tournament date is July 30-August 6, Beside the soccer tournament, there are many fun filled events in and around Saint Paul that happen during the week long event. One of them is Closing Night Concert!

12:37 PM	Park Square Theatre	Expanded capacity for safety, access and artistry	We will meet the air safety demands of our new producing schedule by installing a powerful new dust collection system for the scene shop, including a portable unit for last-minute sawing on stage. We will better serve actors who are deaf/hard of hearing by installing video monitors in the green rooms to complement existing audio speakers. We will better meet the artistic demands of our expanded producing schedule, including the increasing number of musicals, by acquiring additional video, projection and sound equipment. Finally, we will leverage the opportunity to host an increasing number of performance related events and community gatherings in our spaces by improving sound and video capacity in our lobbies and auxiliary spaces.
12:45 PM	Penumbra Theatre	GIRL Shakes Loose Her Skin	These funds would support the world premiere of GIRL Shakes Loose Her Skin in Penumbra Theatre's 40th anniversary season. This musical represents the first of its kind, the coming of age story of an intellectual, bisexual, African American woman. Rooted in the history of the Black Arts Movement, GIRL draws upon the work of Philadelphia Poet Laureate Sonia Sanchez in all of its personal and political dimensions to connect past and present experiences of women of color. The script has already garnered prestigious workshops and national awards, and as this production directly follows the January, 2017 leadership transition from Lou to Sarah Bellamy, GIRL will demonstrate the direction in which Penumbra is headed under her leadership.
12:52 PM	People Incorporated	Artability Workshops, Show & Sale	Artability is an amazing program encouraging mental health through visual and written artistic expression, providing workshops free of charge to individuals with mental illness. The program features the annual Artability Show & Sale, where artists with mental illness exhibit and sell visual pieces and an anthology of written works. We respectfully request funding for the Show & Sale, which takes place at the Great Hall in downtown St. Paul on October 27th through the 29th. Funds will help cover event costs such as location rental and exhibit supplies. In its 22nd year, the Show & Sale is open to the public, with hundreds of attendees annually. Artists sell their work, receiving 80% of art sales with 20% retained for the Artability program.
1:00 PM	Polica, LLC	PoliÃ§a New Work Development	In 2016, critically-acclaimed band, PoliÃ§a, will collaborate with renowned contemporary string ensemble, stargaze, to create a new evening length musical work. The resulting performance will be presented by St. Paul institutions, the SPCO and MPR at the Fitzgerald Theater in November. While these presenters offer a vital platform to produce a public performance of this work, support from Culture STAR would specifically allow for the crucial and necessary development of the work itself - the rehearsal, composition and collaboration time, as well as the documentation and sharing of the process, creating the greatest impact for the cultural district, and the diverse audiences, both classical and popular, drawn to this unique collaboration.
1:07 PM	Public Art Saint Paul	Utopian Podium Program Series	Public Art Saint Paul requests \$35,000 for a new program series, "Utopian Podium," that will enhance the vitality of the City's Cultural District and strengthen our organization's ability to engage diverse audiences with art, artists, and public spaces. Programs take place in and outside our new offices at 381 Wabasha St. N., located directly across from Ecolab Plaza. Utopian Podium will include an outdoor performance series on Ecolab Plaza this summer. The Podium will be part of a closing festival in September at Urban Flower Field at Roberts and 10th Street. This event would close the final season of the successful 3-years of an award-winning, transitional downtown amenity, created by Public Art Saint Paul.

1:15 PM	Public Domain Productions	Illumination Lantern Parade and Harvest Dance	<p>This project connects St. Paul's Hamline-Midway and Thomas-Dale (Frogtown) neighborhoods in a series of art-making workshops and master parade art classes held at various organizations throughout the two neighborhoods that culminate in a community gathering on October 1st, a non-motorized Illumination Lantern Parade & Harvest Dance that illuminates and celebrates these vibrant communities.</p> <p>The host organizations include Frogtown Farm and Park, Frogtown Neighborhood Association, Center for Hmong Arts and Talent (CHAT), Interact Center for Visual and Performing Arts, and Hamline-Midway Coalition.</p> <p>Workshops and classes will be taught by lead artist, Soozin Hirschmugl, as well as local artists Os Ly, Kao Ly Thao, and master lantern makers, Masanari Kawahara, Malia Burkhart, and Mary Jo Nikoali, as well as Chicks on Sticks, a local stilt-walking group.</p>
1:22 PM	RONDO AVENUE INC	2016 RONDO DAYS CELEBRATION	<p>The Rondo Days 2016 Celebration will provide insights into the fabric of the historically unique Rondo Community through many artistic disciplines during the annual Senior Dinner, Parade, Festival, Dance Team Competition and the Drill & Drum Team Invitational (new this year). The Rondo Days Celebration will take place beginning on Thursday, July 14th with the Senior Dinner, continue with a community Parade to the Festival on Saturday, July 16th at the Rondo Education Center Field & Parking lot and conclude at the Roy Wilkins Auditorium with the Drill & Drum Team Invitational. STAR dollars will be used for the payment of artist performance fees, stage/sound equipment, venue costs, permits, supplies, promotion & marketing materials.</p>
1:30 PM	Break		
1:37 PM	Rondo Community Land Trust / Selby Avenue Action Coalition	More Jazz on Selby	<p>Rondo Community Land Trust in conjunction with the Selby Avenue Action Coalition will present a series of three free, public jazz concerts called "More Jazz on Selby" (MJOS) in the spring, summer and fall of 2016. Supported in part by secured matching dollars from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and prospective dollars from MRAC "More Jazz on Selby" will leverage the energy of the Selby Avenue Jazz Fest (now in its 15th year!); and Walker West Music Academy's new 8 O'Clock Jump Jazz Series (a monthly 12-show series featuring internationally renowned, and Twin Cities jazz artists); ultimately supporting SAAC's goal of developing an African-American cultural district.</p>
1:45 PM	Zorongo Flamenco, Inc	Los Caprichos Performance and Cultural Event	<p>Zorongo Flamenco will present a remounting of its original dancework, LOS CAPRICHOS at Bedlam Theatre in St. Paul's Lowertown. The work premiered as a work-in-progress at the Cowles Center in Mpls in June 2015. The St. Paul production will be more fully realized, and reconfigured to fit the more intimate venue. The "Caprichos" are a series of etchings by 18th c. Spanish artist, Goya. Zorongo's work focuses on the etching "The Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters." A.D. Susana di Palma has choreographed the dancework and is also the featured dancer. Zorongo requests STAR funds for the project to cover the costs of rehearsals, 3 performances and 2 free public flamenco classes at the Union Depot taught by di Palma on the days of the performances.</p>
1:52 PM	Saint Paul Neighborhood Network (SPNN)	SPNN Creative Placemaking	<p>Providing media arts education and 21st century skill-building opportunities for underserved populations in St. Paul is at the heart of SPNN's mission. Today, SPNN seeks to elevate community media to the next level of technology usage, artistic expression, and public engagement. External pressures accelerated a facility move, altering from years to a matter of months. Now rehomed in St. Paul's Creative Enterprise Zone, a grant will support Phase Two of our Creative Campus Project. This will include creative placemaking with participants, new neighbors, and partners; and resulting capital costs. These activities will improve SPNN infrastructure, strengthen arts education, and build a more culturally vibrant City.</p>

2:00 PM	Saint Paul Public Library	Digitization	Cultural Star funds will be used to purchase scanning equipment and software, lease server space to host digitized collections, dedicate library staff to digitize collections, manage outsourcing of materials to be digitized and create metadata for digitized items, and outsource large collections or materials that are difficult to handle in-house. Priority items for 2016 are the Winter Carnival Scrapbooks, microfilm aperture cards, annual City Reports (Fire, Police, Parks, Public Works, Water, Schools, and crime statistics), maps, early city history, dual City Blue book (social directory of late 19th and early 20th centuries), and The Eye, a gossip sheet for early Saint Paul dating from 1889-1890.
2:07 PM	Sandbox Theatre	Queens	In May of 2016, Sandbox Theatre will create a new play, Queens, based on the life of an aging African-American boxer in the early 20th century, when boxing went from bare-knuckles to gloves. It will be created from scratch by an African-American cast and members of the Sandbox ensemble, led by Matthew Glover and Theo Langason. The show will run May 10-June 4 on Park Square Theatre's Andy Boss Thrust Stage. Queens is the story of a boxer preparing for his final fight. Born one generation from slavery, he grew up fighting for his place in the world of Jim Crow America. For him, it's not about the belt or the title; it's about one more fight, one more job. One more chance to say he was here, that his life mattered.
2:15 PM	Zeitgeist	Musical Equipment for Studio Z	Zeitgeist will purchase musical equipment for its performance space, Studio Z, to be used by Zeitgeist and the many other local musicians that perform in Studio Z. Studio Z is located on the second floor of the Northwestern Building in the heart of the Lowertown arts district and is home to most of Zeitgeist's performances as well as an ever-expanding calendar of other new music performances by other artists. Proposed equipment will include a drum set plus hardware, bass amplifier, guitar amplifier, 5 PA speakers, and 4 high-quality recording microphones. Purchase of this equipment will increase Zeitgeist's artistic and financial capacity and improve the listening experience for audiences.
2:22 PM	Skylark Opera	Ninth Annual Summer Festival, June 10-19, 2016	Skylark Opera requests \$20,000 to support its ninth annual Summer Opera Festival, June 10-19, 2016. This year, Skylark is expanding the festival to present 6 performances each of Cy Coleman's modern twist on the comic opera On the Twentieth Century and Oh, Coward!, showcasing brilliant composer/lyricist Noël Coward, both in the 320-seat E.M. Pearson Theatre at Concordia University. Productions will be: fully staged, cast with professional singers and actors almost all from the Twin Cities, and accompanied by professional musicians. The STAR grant will cover approximately 50% of the cast fees.
2:30 PM	Break		
2:37 PM	Sound Unseen LLC	Sound Unseen 17: Film & Music Festival	Sound Unseen 17, a four-day film, music and art festival will take place in the Cultural District of St. Paul, MN for the 4th year in a row from Nov. 10-13, 2016. The festival will showcase premieres of local, national, international independent films alongside special events such as live music and receptions with visiting filmmakers and artists in attendance. STAR dollars will be used towards festival expenses such as film and artist booking fees, visiting filmmakers/guests, marketing/program materials, supplies, etc.

2:45 PM	St. Catherine University	Oâ€™SHAUGHNESSY SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE	The Oâ€™Shaughnessy will undertake needed upgrades to its sound system, which is now outdated and does not serve all artist needs who perform at the venue. We will purchase a new sound board/mixer that is fully digital; add a second board that can be used onstage for smaller performances; and repurpose our current speaker system and reconfigure front of house sound to be larger with very little footprint. These upgrades will enable the Oâ€™Shaughnessy to better serve all its artists â€” from Elvis Costello to TU Dance â€” with up-to-date equipment, improve the experience for our audiences, and ensure that The Oâ€™Shaughnessy remains competitive with newer venues.
2:52 PM	The Rose Ensemble	Music and Masqueray	In honor of the 100th anniversary of the death of French architect Emmanuel Masqueray, The Rose Ensemble will present a program of early French music in Twin Cities churches designed by Masqueray, March 23-26, 2017. Two of the churches are located in St. Paul: the Cathedral of St. Paul and Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas. Each concert will be preceded by a program on the architectural design of the particular church and on the dynamic relationship between music and architecture. Additional free community programming includes presentations at the Central Library and Landmark Center. We seek Cultural STAR funding to support production costs.
3:00 PM	Urban Growlerâ€™ Brewing Company	UGBC's Cultural Event Center	Urban Growler Brewing Company (UGBC) is a growing Saint Paul brewery/taproom/restaurant, expanding our facility to include a multi-function event space serving a capacity of 100-120 people. We are partnering with Creative Enterprise Zone (a non-profit community driven organization) in order to achieve this project successfully. Part of our goal is to create a location to showcase our communityâ€™s arts and cultural vitality. A public address and projection system at a reasonable cost to area organizations is an important part of the new space. We are requesting a grant of \$19,303.05, matched with \$19,303.05 from UGBC. The total projected audio/visual equipment and installation cost is \$38,606.10.
3:07 PM	Urban Oasis	East Side Food Traditions as Performance Art: From Seed to Table	This project will illuminate and share the culturally rich food traditions of Saint Paulâ€™s East Side through participatory performance art along East 7th Street. Three â€œactsâ€ follow 10 food traditions from seed to table. Act 1 creates an Edible Streetscape composed of 10 community-designed planters, each featuring a different food tradition. In June, a community planting day will involve residents, local growers, nearby food retailers, and chefs. On August 6, Act 2 produces an outdoor community meal curated by chefs from the featured food traditions and ingredients from the planters and local growers of the same cultural background. In October, Act 3 engages participants in a Food Dialogue on topics that emerge from the first two "acts."
3:15 PM	Walker West Music Academy	Music Lives Here: Transforming the exterior of Walker West's new home on Selby Ave	The Music Lives Here initiative will transform the exterior of Walker West's new home at 760 Selby Avenue with a large-scale installation from visual artist Ta-coumba Aiken and new signage, lighting, and graphic elements designed by the Cuningham Group. The project will transform nearly 2,000 square feet of facade, literally transforming the streetscape of Selby Avenue. This project stands to significantly impact Walker West, and further the capacity of the corridor to draw new investments. STAR funds will support the capital costs of fabrication, installation, and construction.
3:22 PM	West End Festival Association	GermanFest	GermanFest is seeking cultural STAR money to further expand the festival by creating an interactive mural done in partnership with The Germanic American Institute of Minnesota (GAI) and well-known artist Richard Hubal. GermanFest's theme is modern art, the mural's theme is German immigration to St. Paul. Attendees of the event will be given the opportunity to artistically create a piece of canvas reflective of the mural's theme. Completed canvases will be added to the finished mural. STAR funds would be used for; art materials, artist fees, marketing to attract a larger more diverse audience to the festival. The interactive mural will attract many new attendees, impacting the vibrancy and vitality of the West End community of St. Paul.

3:30 PM	Break		
3:37 PM	Selby Ave JazzFest	2016 Selby Ave JazzFest	<p>Since 2002, on the second Saturday in September, the intersection of Selby and Milton has been the host to the Selby Ave JazzFest--a grass roots community celebration that features a free full-day of quality live jazz, tasty food, artist demonstrations, family activities and more. The Fest has earned a reputation as one of the Twin Cities most inclusive and welcoming community events, attracting as many as 15K guests.</p> <p>2016 marks JazzFest's (our 15th anniversary!) will take place on Sat., September 10th from 11 AM - 8 PM. We are seeking \$18,000 in Cultural STAR funding to assist in covering our performing artists expenses--national touring, international and two regional musical groups.</p>
3:45 PM	Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra	2016-17 Season of Liquid Music	<p>The Liquid Music Series, which the New York Times called "the best of classical," creates a space for innovative new projects and iconoclastic artists in unique presentation formats, and invites adventurous audiences to discover the new and fascinating within the flourishing landscape of contemporary chamber music. With performances at Amsterdam Bar & Hall, the Fitzgerald Theater, and the new Concert Hall at the Ordway, the series' 2016-17 season promises to generate new interest in Saint Paul as a culturally vibrant place to live, work, and visit. Support from the Cultural STAR program would allow the series to expand on the success of the past four seasons to explore new artistic collaborations and attract new and diverse audiences.</p>
3:52 PM	WRAP UP		
4:00 PM			