

## 2016 Round 2 Cultural STAR Interviews September 28, 2016

Time	Organization Name	Proposal Title	Summary
8:00 AM	Actors Theater of Minnesota	Late Night Shakespeare	Actors Theater (AT) requests \$25,000 to help fund the start-up of a new long-running show to replace AT's long-running hit, "Bye Bye Liver". AT proposes a partnership with Magnificent Bastard Productions to bring London's, Boston's and Austin's hit comedy, "Sh!t-Faced Shakespeare" to the Cabaret at Camp Bar in Downtown Saint Paul in 2017.
8:07 AM	African Economic Development Solutions	Little Africa Festival 2017	African Economic Development Solutions (AEDS), a nonprofit seeking to build wealth and improve quality of life among African immigrants in the Twin Cities metro, is requesting a Special Projects Grant of \$30,000 for our 2017 Little Africa Fest, an annual celebration of St. Paul's Little Africa Business & Cultural District and a creative placemaking initiative for connecting African immigrant business, art, culture, music, and food to mainstream markets. The goals of this festival are to build and diversify audiences for African immigrant artists and businesses and build social cohesion. We expect a total project cost of \$85,876.00 and matching funds of \$55,876.00. Our current year's operating budget is \$500,886.00.
8:15 AM	Alliance Française	Bastille Day 2017	Bastille Day will take place at Landmark Plaza in collaboration with Meritage on Sunday, July 9, 2017. Bastille Day is a French National Holiday celebrated with art vendors, cultural organizations, food, wine, and entertainment. French and Francophone musicians and dancers come perform for Bastille Day, offering a cultural and artistic event like no other in Saint Paul. With over 8 artist vendors, and 7 cultural organizations in 2016 Alliance Française will continue to expand the event to fit the communities desires. The Cultural STAR will help fund Bastille Day, making it a free event so more of the Saint Paul community can experience the diversity and art that surrounds French and Francophone cultures.
8:22 AM	Asian Media Access	Underpass TechPlus	AMA seeks \$45,000 to support this total \$90,000 Creative Place Making Project - Underpass TechPlus. The project includes a series of workshops and 2-day multimedia installation and community engagement through Technology at the underpass tunnels at East 2nd Street and Jackson, connecting to the Shepard Rd.  Artists will host a series of 4-6 workshops throughout St Paul focusing on immigration and refugee experience through visual story collection to be stylized further, and assemble these community creations with young artists, to create a series of animations as Digital Murals, and project them at the Underpass which symbolizes an unspeakable passage that now can be illustrated, and lead out to the communities for a brighter future.
8:30 AM	Bedlam Theatre	Bedlam Lowertown Music and Cabaret Scene	Bedlam Lowertown seeks funds to support music and cabaret programming and outreach to ensure showcasing of diverse musical and cultural performing artists while emphasizing accessibility to the St. Paul community. With support from tickets sales, event sponsors and Cultural Star funds, Bedlam will increase the number and range of acts utilizing the space, allowing us to take risks with new artists and financially support the booking of major acts, while maintaining consistent levels of quality, support, and promotion.

8:37 AM	Bringing the Frogs Back to Frogtown/Health Advocates	Bringing the Frogs Back to Frogtown	"Bringing the Frogs Back to Frogtown" is a year-old art and environmental restoration project, co-sponsored by Frogtown Green and the Hmongtown Marketplace. Frogtown Green is a resident-led, neighborhood-focused environmental initiative, founded in 2012. Hmongtown Marketplace is an immigrant-owned, 200-vendor indoor-outdoor market, operating in Frogtown since 2004. Our project promotes Hmongtown Marketplace as one of Frogtown's chief assets, linking art, music, performance and environmental science through hands-on, on-site activities coordinated by Frogtown Green. Our project is "bringing the frogs back" by providing arts and environmental experiences and public art in a unique venue; an urban immigrant market.
8:45 AM	Can Can Wonderland, SBC	Can Can Wonderland Theater Package	CCW located in the American Can Building at 755 Prior Ave in the Hamline Midway neighborhood and Creative Enterprise Zone is Minnesota's first arts based organization to incorporate as a Public Benefit Corporation with a social mission to be a economic engine for the arts.  CCW fancies itself a urban amusement park, centered by an 18 hole artist designed & built mini golf course, a boardwalk with vintage amusements, unique attractions, strolling performers, buskers & two performance stages. Our goal is to serve a target demographic of ages 8-80, all shapes, makes and colors.  STAR dollars will be directed at providing curtains, stages, lighting & sound for our two performance stages.  Construction is 60% complete we will open by Dec 2016
8:52 AM	Center for Irish Music	The Center for Irish Music: Handing Down the Tradition	After a decade of "handing down the tradition," the volunteer-driven Center for Irish Music is ready to make the transition toward a more sustainable administrative model for our thriving community music school. Cultural STAR support will assist the CIM's strategic plan to create a part-time salaried Managing Director position, enabling Executive Director Norah Rendell to focus on new programs, performance partnerships, and outreach efforts in St. Paul. Requested funding would account for 5 percent of CIM's projected FY16 budget, a grant we intend to match with \$15,000 in board designated funding, and \$10,000 in pending organizational funding from MRAC to provide for sustainable growth and greater community outreach.
<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>		
9:07 AM	Girl Friday Productions	Girl Friday Productions presents IDIOT'S DELIGHT	Girl Friday Productions (GFP) requests \$10,000 for Idiot's Delight, the rarely produced 1936 Pulitzer-winning play by Robert E. Sherwood. 17 performances of this romantic commentary on idealism, greed and the grim realities of war will run June 30-July 23, 2017 on the Boss Stage at Park Square Theatre. Eccentric characters are stranded together in a European mountaintop resort at the outbreak of war, including a munitions magnate, his mysterious Russian mistress, and an American entertainer with his showgirl companions. GFP brings its signature large ensemble cast to this dramatic comedy with musical accents, set in a world on the brink. A STAR grant will support increased artist stipends and production materials. \$72,705 total budget.

9:15 AM	COMPAS. Inc	Trout Brook Nature Sanctuary Mural	<p>With input from 7 community listening sessions, COMPAS artists designed a large-scale mosaic &amp; paint mural to transform the entrance to Trout Brook Nature Sanctuary in Saint Paul. City planners have approved the design.</p> <p>The utilitarian bridge underpass will blossom into a welcoming passageway and become an artistic destination that reflects the nature and city themes proposed by the community. Pillars will become fanciful trees with painted trunks and mosaic leaves, snowflakes, apples and small animals. The bridge abutments will become a painted cityscape.</p> <p>To ensure high quality, all surfaces will be primed before work starts and an anti-graffiti coating applied after work ends. STAR funding will help cover these implementation costs.</p>
9:22 AM	Festival of Nations	Cultural Experiences through Virtual Reality	<p>The International Institute requests \$15,000 to produce 3-5 virtual reality (VR), immersive cultural experiences for the 2017 Festival of Nations (FON) at the St. Paul RiverCentre. Our project will give FON visitors a glimpse into the cultures and traditions of immigrant families living in Minnesota to increase intercultural competence, empathy and understanding. Experiences may include exploring a Burmese temple, witnessing a traditional Somali family gathering or visiting a contemporary Mexican quinceañera. The FON will partner with MN artists Chuck Olsen of Visual VR, Inc. &amp; John Eickholt of General Motion to create the desired 360 degree, visual and auditory VR experiences.</p>
9:30 AM	Fitzgerald in Saint Paul	14th International Fitzgerald Conference & FitzFest	<p>Fitzgerald in Saint Paul (FISP) requests \$47,500 to fund the public programs (FitzFest) in conjunction with the 14th International Fitzgerald Society Conference, hosted downtown by FISP the last week of June, 2017. It will include numerous public events during the conference. The conference will bring close to 300 Fitzgerald international scholars and fans to the city, as well as thousands more for the public events. It will also garner significant regional, national and international attention. The total project cost is \$207,000, and FISP will match the \$47,500 STAR grant with other donations, earned income and substantial in-kind support. FISP's fiscal year 2017 operating budget is \$124,900.</p>
9:37 AM	Forecast Public Art	Making it Public: Public Art Across the City	<p>Forecast Public Art will present the 4th year of Making it Public, a capacity-building initiative supporting artists desiring to bring their creativity to the public sphere. Expanding upon the 2016 piloted Lowertown focus, next year we will include artists from across St Paul. In 2017, Forecast will deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a 5-part workshop series</li> <li>- up to 5 public art projects across the city of Saint Paul</li> <li>- strong media relations component to insure high visibility</li> </ul> <p>Qualified artists will create freely accessible new work at locations of their choosing, providing unique art experiences for residents and visitors, and new skills for St. Paul artists. Forecast requests \$13,350 of a \$26,700 budget from STAR; Forecast's current operating budget is \$922,946</p>

9:45 AM	Full Circle Theater Company	365 Days/365 Plays: A 2017 Remix	This project will be a main-stage production integrating 40 short plays selected from Suzan-Lori Parks' brilliant 2007 collection, 365 Days/365 Plays. It will be a "remix" in that we'll be selecting and re-viewing her plays through a 2017 lens. Parks is a prominent African American playwright (Pulitzer Prize and MacArthur Genius Award) and her plays offer an alternate vision of our society, culture and history. We'll present it at Penumbra Theater for 11 performances, and involve a diverse team of theater artists. The budget will be \$45,000 and we ask for a grant of \$10,000 to cover some artist expenses. This will be matched by our secured MRAC Arts Activities grant. Full Circle is a 501(c)(3) non-profit with a budget of \$60K for FY2017.
9:52 AM	History Theatre, Inc	Paper Dreams - Gateway to History	The proposed project seeks to expand our engagement programming and create multiple entry points to engage with THE PAPER DREAMS OF HARRY CHIN, a new play about immigration and acculturation by local playwright Jessica Huang. We will boldly welcome audiences into our space through large-scale photography of Chinese immigrants by celebrated photographer/community-based public artist Wing Young Huie, prominently displayed on the facade of our building. We will encourage further engagement through panel discussions and Chinese cooking demonstrations and will also build an ever-growing display of attendees with an interactive photo-booth that asks participants to contribute their image and their responses to questions about immigration.
<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>		
10:07 AM	Hmong 18 Council	Hmong Cultural Integration	Holding traditional Hmong funerals in accordance with established cultural practices has presented problems for Hmong people in the United States. Funerals are very expensive--at least \$25,000--and take several days. This has presented a hardship for families that can rarely afford these costs. The purpose of this project is to take the initial steps needed to help people adapt the funeral practices in a way that is more consistent with life in the United States. H18C will do so by holding a conference that includes the 18 community representatives who form the council as well as other Hmong people who play an influential role in the community.
10:15 AM	Hmong Cultural Center of Minnesota	Hmong Folk Arts in Minnesota Permanent Exhibit Project	This project will involve the implementation of a long-term exhibit open to the public on the folk arts heritage of Hmong Minnesotans at the Hmong Cultural Center's offices in the Little Mekong district on University Avenue in Saint Paul. The exhibit will teach visitors about important Hmong folk art forms including Hmong musical instruments, Hmong embroidery, orally recited wedding and funeral songs and Kwv Thiav (sung poetry) and the significance of these art forms within Hmong culture as well as their continued relevance to the lives of Hmong Minnesotans. The exhibit will teach through object displays, educational display panels and Ipads to allow visitors to see and hear examples of the respective Hmong folk art forms included.
10:22 AM	Hot Summer Jazz Festival	Shared backline	In collaboration with the Selby Jazz Festival & Walker West Music Academy, the Twin Cities Jazz Festival is seeking Cultural Star funds to purchase professional backline (drums, bass amp and keyboard) that can be used by the three organizations as needed. This jazz backline will also serve as a prospective resource for a variety of other organizations that support youth jazz education including PipJazz, the Dakota Foundation and the Mobile Jazz Project. The instruments will be kept and maintained at the jazz fest office. A small fee would be charged for upkeep, insurance and maintenance. Professional touring musicians do not travel with backline and require it for their performance. Festivals also need it to maintain schedules.

10:30 AM	Illusion Theater and School, Inc.	THURGOOD Project: Illusion Theater in St. Paul	Illusion is seeking \$22,500 for its production of THURGOOD, a compelling & enlightening one-man show by George Stevens, Jr., in downtown St. Paul during May/ June 2017. This powerful play - to be staged at The Lab in the Lowry - follows the life of Thurgood Marshall from his childhood in the back alleys of Baltimore to his position as Justice of the Supreme Court. Along the way, this larger-than-life figure became one of the key architects of the American Civil Rights Movement that included the landmark Brown v. Board of Education decision, as well as other key voting rights cases. THURGOOD is a fine example of what Illusion Theater does best - using theater to spark deep understanding and rich dialogue that can inspire meaningful action.
10:37 AM	Independent Filmmaker Project Minnesota	IFP MN Strategic Planning	IFP MN respectfully requests a \$15,000 St. Paul Cultural STAR Organizational Development grant to develop a three-year strategic plan, implement new branding, and set up and install Salesforce, a customer relationship management (CRM) software to track audiences, participants, students, alumni, and donors. These activities will strengthen our core so that we can respond to changes in the industry and reach new audiences. IFP MN will secure \$15,000 in matching funds - with 30% of the match being in-kind services from Union Park Marketing. These activities will cost a total of \$30,000. Our current operating budget is \$657,270.
10:45 AM	Irish Music & Dance Association	2017 St. Patrick's Day & Day of Irish Dance Celebrations	The IMDA will be offering two full days of Irish cultural activities at the Landmark Center on March 17 and 19, which will include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Local Irish music throughout each of the two days, on four stages.</li> <li>-Traditional Irish dancers from area dance schools and adult groups, performing high-spirited exhibition style Irish dance.</li> <li>-The Celtic Marketplace, featuring authentic Irish merchants, artisans and informational resources.</li> <li>-Informal, low-key, traditional Irish music along with tea and scones in our Irish Tea Room.</li> <li>-Children's crafts with an Irish theme, offered free of charge.</li> <li>-Children's Stage with special entertainment just for the "wee ones"</li> <li>-Seminars on Irish topics, including Irish music, language, history and literature</li> </ul>
10:52 AM	James J. Hill Reference Library	2016 Concerts: Martin Zellar and Mick Sterling	The JJHC will be hosting two concerts in December of 2016, "Martin Zellar does Neil!" and Mick Sterling presents "It's a Wonderful Night Saint Paul." As curators of the space, it is our responsibility as an organization to provide the public with unique offerings beyond our library services. The concerts are an opportunity to bring the community together, showcase our remarkable landmark building in the heart of downtown Saint Paul and engage audience members with our mission and resources - all while having fun and enjoying a great show.
11:00 AM	<b>BREAK</b>		
11:07 AM	Ka Joog	Fanka~Invisible Arts	Ka Joog's Invisible Art program is a youth arts learning and cultural presentation program. The program is a curriculum based art workshop where youth create, perform, and respond to each other's creative pieces through visual arts and performing arts. Invisible Arts incorporates improv, poetry, physical sculpture making, storytelling, workshop exercises, interactive activities, and music. Invisible Arts curriculum allows youth to engage in a creative process that allows for self-expression, builds self-confidence and teamwork, and enhances their well being. Ka Joog is seeking \$15,000, with matching funds obtained from foundations, government grants, individual donations, and corporate partners (see budget narrative).

11:15 AM	Katha Dance Theatre	Ritu - The Seasons	<p>Katha Dance Theatre will support master Kathak artist Rita Mustaphi in creation of a new work, titled Ritu - the Seasons. In 3 segments it will interpret ancient &amp; contemporary seasonal songs from Asian Indian culture, &amp; the final segment will interpret Minnesota's season by collaborative works with local choreographers, dancers &amp; musicians from our community!</p> <p>In one weekend there will be 3 public performances at Como Park in St. Paul. An ASL interpreter will be present to all the shows.</p> <p>In celebration of KDT's 30th anniversary season, in summer of 2017, it will partner with the City of St. Paul, Park and Recreation department, to present this concert FREE OF CHARGE, that will be accessible to all.</p>
11:22 AM	Keys 4/4 Kids, Inc.	Pianos on Parade	<p>Keys 4/4 Kids respectfully requests support of the Pianos on Parade (POP) program in St. Paul Public Schools. This grant amount helps pay for piano moving, art supplies, as well as piano tuning and maintenance for sixteen (16) acoustic pianos in St. Paul classrooms in grades 3-12. POP fills a critical gap in arts education opportunities for youth by inviting students to participate in a multidisciplinary, hands-on, team-building activity that transforms a piano into a work of art. Upon completion, pianos arrive at various outdoor locations to be played and enjoyed by the public.</p>
11:30 AM	Latino Economic Development Center	East Side Food Tour	<p>The East Side Food Tour is an opportunity for Twin Cities residents to visit the East Side and enjoy a culinary adventure with friends and family. The tour will promote a culinary and cultural experience, and not solely focus on the sale of food.</p> <p>The East Side Food Tour is also an opportunity to advance key business development goals and to test strategies for future business district marketing campaigns. The goals for this tour are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Promote business collaboration in marketing of a commercial district and business type</li> <li>-Promote the East Side as a destination for delicious food</li> <li>-Increase the marketing knowledge of local East Side entrepreneurs</li> <li>-Expose more Twin Cities residents to the diverse businesses on the East Side</li> </ul>
11:37 AM	Lyra	Lyra Baroque Orchestra - Season Concerts, Family Concerts & Outreach	<p>A STAR grant will provide support for musician fees, travel and administration for 1) three Lyra Baroque Orchestra Season concerts at Sundin Hall, St. Paul 2) three Lyra Baroque Orchestra Family Concerts at The Baroque Room in Lowertown; 3) three master classes at The Baroque Room in Lowertown; 4) one free Young People's Concert at Landmark Center, spring, 2017) Early Music Day, a collaboration with the St. Paul Conservatory of Music, Flying Forms and The Baroque Room, spring, 2017; and 6) marketing, administrative and staff time to support these programs. All concerts and educational activities will feature the highest caliber local, national, and international baroque experts as guest soloists, orchestra members, and instructors.</p>

11:45 AM	Minneapolis Pops Orchestra	Free Concert for St. Paul Seniors	The MPO requests project funding in the amount of \$6,316 for a free performance at Como Park Pavilion in July 2017. In addition to neighborhood residents, the audience will be composed of low-income and/or disabled seniors, transported from day centers and nursing facilities in the east metro area. Free Concerts for Seniors has been offered in Minneapolis since 1984, and serves 2800-3300 seniors each year. Our audience includes many St. Paul and east metro residents who are bused to Nicollet Island from their facilities. The MPO plans to serve them by expanding this series to include a coffee concert at Como Park Pavilion. Cultural Star funds will be used primarily for artistic costs.
11:52 AM	Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company	We Are the Levinsons	Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company (MJTC) seeks funding for "We Are the Levinsons," an unsolicited script submission to be produced in its world premiere. This new comedy tells the story of Rosie, a middle-aged New Yorker suddenly thrust into caring for her aging father in California when her mother dies unexpectedly. Navigating death, familial dysfunction, and senior delusions, the Levinsons and their caregiver Coco, a transwoman hoping to start her own family, portray contemporary life's challenges with compassion and humor. The project will include playwright/dramaturg work, a staged reading, and the production run April 17-May 24, 2017 in our theater home, Highland Park Community Center. Star funding will support artists' fees.
<b>12:00 PM</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>		
12:30 PM	Minnesota Landmarks	Summer Arts Discovery - Year 3	Summer Arts Discovery was launched in 2015 as a program initiative to experience the visual arts in Landmark Center: art within a "work of art." In its first year, it has attracted new audiences to Landmark Center and has enabled them to deeply experience the visual arts in unique and untraveled areas of the building. The initiative includes a summer-long visual arts exhibition, artists' workshops (which provide the public with an opportunity to see the artists in action), and an artist residency resulting in a permanent, new art installation for Landmark Center. It has served not only as a worthy summer cultural attraction for downtown Saint Paul, but has also allowed visitors to explore the building in ways they have not, heretofore.
12:37 PM	Minnesota Museum of American Art	"Shadowlands" Exhibition: Ken Gonzales-Day	To support "Shadowlands," an exhibition of works by Ken Gonzales-Day at the Minnesota Museum of American Art, which is located in Lowertown Saint Paul. This will be this L.A.-based photographer's first one-person exhibition in Minnesota. Under the umbrella of racialized violence, Gonzales-Day's photographs, archival material, and video explore the fine line between collective violence and collective resistance in America from 1850 to the present. New works by Gonzales-Day and public programming with Saint Paul's communities of color will make significant connections between historical and contemporary locations of racial violence in the Twin Cities and greater Minnesota. "Shadowlands" will be on view January 19-April 16, 2017.

12:45 PM	Minnesota Public Radio	Fitzgerald Theater - Audience Growth and Development	<p>Minnesota Public Radio and the Fitzgerald Theater respectfully requests \$30,000 to support artist fees throughout 2017 to attract larger and more diverse bookings and audiences. As The Fitz says farewell to our stalwart host, Garrison Keillor, it is a critical moment to redefine the theater to our community, and grow new audiences. While we are very excited to welcome Chris Thile, our new host of A Prairie Home Companion, we must develop additional new relationships with artists, agents, and audiences. A Cultural STAR grant will allow us to take some calculated programmatic risks while maintaining financial viability.</p> <p>Total project cost: \$180,000  Total amount of matching funds: \$150,000  FY17 MPR operating budget: \$95,300,000</p>
12:52 PM	Mixed Blood Theatre	Safe at Home	To partner with the St. Paul Saints to entice and mesmerize 4,500 people to Lowertown with the World premiere of a theatrical extravaganza, "Safe at Home", in the innards of CHS Field, employing 45 people, reinventing the art form and celebrating the coexistence of arts, sports, politics, cultures and entertainment.
1:00 PM	N/A	Positively Fourth Street	"Positively Fourth Street" is a series of 4, large scale, site specific, video projections on blank building walls along 4th Street in downtown St. Paul. These projection sites will greet and engage pedestrians, residents, shoppers, Green Line rail passengers, passersby, the public, and invited audiences. No screens are needed. Architecture is the screen. The projections are silent. The 4 different projection films will play in continuous loops during evening hours, for three weeks, seven days a week, November 2017. I am working closely with the 4th Street Market District group to involve the neighborhood, maximize impact, and engage new audiences. I am applying for Cultural STAR funds to pay for rental of 2 of the 4 projectors.
1:07 PM	One Voice Mixed Chorus	Pirates of Penzance at Raspberry Island	One Voice Mixed Chorus seeks support for an artistically ambitious, community based production of Pirates of Penzance on Raspberry Island during Twin Cities Pride week in June, 2017. It will further One Voice's goal of expanding its performing presence in St. Paul, as well as its mission, by using gender non-conforming characters to reframe this classic story in service of building understanding and celebration of the LGBTQ community. The production is in collaboration with Nautilus Music Theater, and will use Raspberry Island as well as the Mississippi River, Wabasha Street Bridge, and the Island's band shell to create a production that will cement St. Paul as a leader in outdoor artistic ventures.
1:15 PM	Ordway Center for the Performing Arts	International Children's Festival	<p>The Ordway's annual International Children's Festival transforms downtown St. Paul into a wonderland of puppet shows, music and dance performances, art activities and interactive theater. One of the nation's premiere children's festivals, in 2016 an estimated 71,433 schoolchildren and their families experienced performances by 611 artists.</p> <p>Though well supported by such sponsors as Flint Hills Resources and Wells Fargo, the Festival annually requires a significant investment from the Ordway. And so now, given our need to increase revenue and lower expenses, we gratefully request support from the Cultural STAR program to help make the Festival both more sustainable and accessible to all.</p>

1:22 PM	Ramsey County Historical Society	Television: Medium to the Mind – Preserving the Interviews of TELLSTAR NEWS	TELLSTAR NEWS, a nationally syndicated news and commentary television program, brought viewers alternative perspectives and information on critical issues facing the nation and the world; 112 half-hour interviews have been saved from its six years of production. Ramsey County Historical Society would like to conserve, preserve, and share these important stories with youth and adults within the Cultural District and Saint Paul Public Schools. Funding in the amount of \$12,430 from the Cultural STAR program will enable the conversion of all interview videos into a digital format, produce four 10-minute videos for classroom use, and make all of these resources available to the public on the RCHS website.
<b>1:30 PM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>		
1:37 PM	Saint Paul Civic Symphony	St. Paul Civic Symphony: Concerts at Landmark Center	The St. Paul Civic Symphony performs 3 concerts annually at Landmark Center, drawing audiences of all ages and backgrounds, both residents and visitors. The SPCS seeks funding to support its 2016-2017 season concerts, which are performed (by volunteer musicians) at no cost and with no ticketing, giving wide access to symphonic music. Music Director Jeffrey Stirling has planned concert themes: "Heaven on Earth - Symphonies of Mozart and Mahler" for its Oct. concert; "Hot and 'Cool" Classics", including Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue for its Jan. Winter Carnival Concert; and "In Flanders' Fields - Remembering World War I," including a Friends of MN Orch. Young Artist Competition Winner performing the Elgar Cello Concerto for its May concert.
1:45 PM	Saint Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation	Saint Paul Winter Carnival Ice Palace	The Saint Paul Winter Carnival is a cultural beacon that draws people into downtown Saint Paul every year for 10 days in January and February. We are respectfully requesting \$50,000 in support to fund the planning and implementation process of the 2018 Ice Palace attraction, which will coincide with the Super Bowl being held in Minneapolis. The Ice Palace project is estimated to cost \$5.4 million and will help drive more attendees into Saint Paul, while enhancing traditional Winter Carnival activities and raising awareness of the event. We are currently undergoing a robust sponsorship campaign to fund and support the structure, operations-related costs and project management for the Ice Palace, as well as the overall organizational budget.
1:52 PM	Saint Paul Public Library	Saint Paul Public Library collection materials	The Saint Paul Public Library will use funds to purchase and provide patrons across the City with access to a wide range of materials that will allow for information and exposure to culture and arts. We will purchase materials in multiple formats and appropriate for a variety of age groups including books, CDs, DVDs, databases and online access.
2:00 PM	Science Museum of Minnesota	Read Between the Lines	The Science of Minnesota's Science Live Theatre (SLT) requests \$24,758 to create and run a play that shares the scientific contributions of people who are traditionally under-represented in science: women and people of color. The project, titled "Read Between the Lines," will diversify SLT's repertoire, support St. Paul theater artists, and share stories that dispel the stereotype of scientists being white males in a lab coat. The show will reach 25,000 people over the one-year grant period. The project is aligned with the museum's strategic plan, specifically the goals of "welcoming audiences that represent the diversity of our community" and "providing enjoyable learning and social experiences for families, youth, and adults.

2:07 PM	Skylark Opera	Four performances, in English, of an immersive production of Peter Brook's The Tragedy of Carmen, February 11-18, 2017 at Midpointe Event Center, 651 Pascal St. N., St. Paul	Skylark Opera will present four performances of an immersive production of Peter Brook's The Tragedy of Carmen at Midpointe Event Center, 651 Pascal St. N., February 11-18, 2017. Dispensing with the "gypsy kitsch", The Tragedy of Carmen distills the raw emotion and unforgettable music of Bizet's classic opera into a 90-minute powerhouse of musical theatre. Staged at an arm's length from the audience in a simple bullring set, the opera keeps the famous music and focuses on the explosive relationships among the four main characters: Carmen, her lover Don Jose, Jose's fiancée Micaela, and the bullfighter Escamillo. Performances will be in English, with pre-show lectures and talkbacks. Skylark will apply the grant to cast/artistic staff fees
2:15 PM	Springboard for the Arts	C/Art Lowertown	Springboard for the Arts is requesting \$30,000 for a new pilot initiative in the Cultural District, C/Art: Lowertown, and support for associated technical and professional development resources for artists. The C/Art: Lowertown pilot will create three mobile platforms (think of hotdog carts) that can used to display art, act as performance spaces, and offer a unique visual attraction to audiences. In order to prepare artists to use these mobile carts, we will offer our Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists series, as well as specific trainings in customer engagement, and hire a project coordinator for the work. The startup investment in the mobile platforms will create a resource that artists can leverage to expand economic opportunity.
2:22 PM	St. Catherine University	ACCESSIBLE DOORS FOR THE O'â€™SHAUGHNESSY	There are 8 doors on the main floor of The O'Shaughnessy that need accessibility improvements. This project will retrofit these doors with hardware that makes them ADA compliant, including new electronic retraction door locks, magnetic door holders, and transfer hinges. The completed project will make it easier for all patrons to use the main floor doors.  This project is an important element in a multi-year plan that has already dramatically improved accessibility for The O'Shaughnessy's audiences and artists. To ensure that patrons are aware of the improvements, we communicate progress via The O'Shaughnessy website, social media and printed materials, and in the accessibility information provided to rental clients and community partners.
<b>2:30 PM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>		
2:37 PM	St. Paul Ballet	Ballet Tuesdays with Landmark Center	St. Paul Ballet (SPB) requests \$8,800 to support free public programs at Landmark Center in downtown St. Paul: 8 noontime "Ballet Tuesdays," October through May. The activities give people of all ages and abilities an opportunity to engage in cultural events in a casual, family-friendly setting. This community outreach generates interest in SPB classes and performances, builds audiences by introducing people unfamiliar with ballet to a new art form, and attracts more people downtown on Tuesdays. STAR funds will help pay for staging, adapting ballet performances to a non-traditional venue, and rehearsing; refurbishing and creating costumes; publicity to promote activities; and a Production Assistant to manage the new portable touring floor.
2:45 PM	St. Paul European Christmas Market	St. Paul European Christmas Market	The European Christmas Market (ECM) is based on the traditional open air Christkindlmarkts that spring up in Europe during the Advent season. Like its European counterparts in their towns' historic squares, ECM will be located at Union Depot's outdoor pavilion December 1-4, 8-11.

2:52 PM	SteppingStone Theatre Company	ROFL Comedy/Improv Festival	SteppingStone Theatre is requesting \$6,500 to present the first annual ROFL (Roll On the Floor Laughing) Fest, a teen and family-friendly comedy and improvisation festival, from April 17-23, 2017. Through participatory workshops, 5 performances for school groups, and 3 public performances, the festival will use humor and improvisational comedy to explore diversity in family life experiences, voices of young people of color, and humor as a parenting tool. The ROFL Fest will feature guest artists BlackOut, and Rated G, critically acclaimed improvisation groups well suited to the Festival's goal of engaging youth in important conversations through humor. The festival will attract over 2,000 participants in the first year.
3:00 PM	Sword Dance Publishing Co.	Swede Hollow Opera	On Dec 11, 1956 the City of Saint Paul evicted the residents of Swede Hollow and burned their homes to the ground. Their stories and those of earlier Swede Hollow residents became the subject of Ann Millikan's opera, SWEDE HOLLOW. The libretto is a poignant story that weaves back and forth through time following the lives of Swedish, Italian, and Mexican immigrants who made their home in Swede Hollow during its 100-year history. The fictionalized characters are based on historical research and interviews with former Swede Hollow residents. We commemorate the 60th anniversary of the burning of Swede Hollow with a new production and CD release. SWEDE HOLLOW Opera at East Side Freedom Library Nov 4-5, 2016. We request \$7500 of a \$15000 budget.
3:07 PM	The Film Society of Minneapolis St. Paul	Film Society Year-Round Expansion into St. Paul	As part of a larger initiative to bring independent international cinema to St. Paul venues, the Film Society of Minneapolis St. Paul is launching year-round programming in St. Paul. Activities will include a curated program of notable international and independent films, with an emphasis on Minnesota-made films, presented monthly at Metropolitan State University's Film Space as well as occasional programming at the McNally Smith College of Music. Cultural STAR funding will support program costs such as promotions and outreach activities, film fees, curatorial and theater staff, etc.
3:15 PM	The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library	Poetry in the Neighborhood	The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library requests \$25,000 to support Poetry in the Neighborhood. The Friends will work with writers, artist organizers and the Saint Paul Public Library to celebrate community through poetry in every neighborhood in the city. Through a series of community conversations, writing workshops, a writing contest to determine a neighborhood poem, and poetry readings, each neighborhood in Saint Paul will build capacity to connect with neighbors, and nurture and celebrate its artists from every walk of life. Funds from Cultural STAR will support the work of teaching artists, community arts outreach, showcase readings at the George Latimer Central Library and printed materials in English, Hmong, Karen and Spanish.
3:22 PM	The Minnesota China Friendship Garden Society (MCFGs) in partnership with the City of St. Paul Parks & Rec	St. Paul-Changsha China Friendship Garden	These funds launch a landmark cultural site in Phalen Regional Park: A China Garden featuring classical garden elements of St. Paul's Sister-City, Changsha, and the historic path of Minnesota Hmong who recognize Changsha as an ancestral home. This 5-year project includes Phase 1A in 2017 - two Sister-City gifts: a Changsha pavilion replica and a sculpture symbolizing Emperor Chi You of China, "Father of the Hmong People." We request \$35,000 towards the \$200,000 site preparation costs. It is anticipated in return, St. Paul will receive structures from Changsha valued at over \$150,000. This dream began 10 years ago, and is supported by the neighborhood, District Council, City, artists, legislators, and the Hmong and Chinese communities.
3:30 PM	<b>BREAK</b>		

3:37 PM	The Minnesota Opera	Experience Opera - Audience Engagement Initiative	Minnesota Opera proposes an audience engagement initiative to introduce new audiences to opera, build loyalty among existing patrons and promote the District as a destination. Cultural STAR supported activities will include a marketing and advertising campaign centered on Opera access programs (Taste of Opera and Tempo) as well as a new season preview event designed to sustain engagement. This comprehensive approach to building audiences will bring new patrons to St. Paul and keep them coming back. The project will run Jan. 1, 2017 - Sept. 30, 2018. Access programs will be ongoing throughout the season; the preview will be held annually in September. All are tied to Opera mainstage productions at the Ordway and engage district businesses.
3:45 PM	The Rose Ensemble	Director of Development Hire	The Rose Ensemble (TRE) seeks to hire a Director of Development (DD) .75 FTE at least three-quarters time in the spring of 2017 to plan and implement strategic fundraising activities, stimulate donor loyalty, and increase TRE's visibility in the community. This person will join and be supported by a dedicated office staff working to further the mission and outreach of St. Paul's only professional choir. With the Board of Directors, the DD will serve as an ambassador to the community, to build and diversify TRE's audience by increasing awareness of this rich cultural resource. Support from the Cultural STAR will help leverage additional financial support needed to fund this position.
3:52 PM	The Schubert Club	Schubert Club Mix	Schubert Club Mix will have 5 performances during the 2016-2017 season, including 3 concerts in downtown St. Paul at the new TPT Street Space. Schubert Club Mix (now in its fourth year) is our concert series in non-traditional venues designed to attract music lovers for whom the rituals and formality normally associated with classical music can be a deterrent. Performers on the 2016-2017 series at TPT include violinist Tim Fain with multi-media elements, and American pianist and host of NPR's From the Top, Christopher O'Riley (2 performances at 6 and 8:30 pm). Informal seating, refreshments, and technology will be enjoyed during the evening. Funding from Cultural STAR will help support these two artist performance fees and travel expenses.
4:00 PM	Theatre Pro Rata	Bridget Carpenter's "Up: The Man in the Flying Chair" at Park Square's Andy Boss Thrust Stage	Theatre Pro Rata (TPR) is requesting \$10,000 to support its production of Up: The Man in the Flying Chair by Bridget Carpenter at Park Square Theatre in May-June 2017. TPR was selected as a Producing Partner with Park Square Theatre as it celebrates the initial seasons of its Andy Boss Thrust Stage in downtown St. Paul. The funds will be used by TPR to hire the majority of the production's artists, including two well-known actors who will broaden the audience base for the production. One actor in the production will be an Actor's Equity (the professional actors union) member, which would normally be outside of the budget for a company the size of TPR.
4:07 PM	Theatre Unbound, Inc.	Marketing Strategy to Increase Audience and Organizational Capacity	Theatre Unbound (TU) is pursuing two compelling opportunities in our 2016-17 season. 1) After a 3-season absence from St. Paul, all 2016-17 shows are at the iconic SteppingStone Theatre. 2) In order to leverage our new venue, we received a June 2016 MRAC Management Consulting grant, hiring the St. Paul Ainsley Shea firm to write a Marketing Strategy with recommendations to take full advantage of our consistent location in at a high-profile venue in St. Paul. Clear, consistent marketing messages about our unique cultural contribution as The Women's Theatre will help us get the word out efficiently, making best use of valuable staff and volunteer time. Cultural STAR money will pay for staff time in carrying out Ainsley Shea's recommendations.

4:15 PM	Time Track Productions	Invisible	Time Track Productions seeks funding to create and present "Invisible", an evening length movement/theater/media work that explores the narratives and perspectives of women navigating the aging process. The work integrates a performing company of six core women, with an additional group of five elder women, luminary performers from our community. "Invisible" will premiere as part of the Women Of Substance series at O'Shaughnessy Auditorium in September 2017. Dates will be finalized this September, 2016.
4:22 PM	TU Dance	Year 1 of TU Dance 3-year Ordway Center partnership	TU Dance seeks support for the 1st of a 3-year presenting partnership with the Ordway Center to help build diverse audiences at the Ordway. Funds will support a dance concert featuring TU Dance works by 3-4 choreographers, including a new commission. The Ordway will present 1 public performance for a projected audience of 1,900 on April 29, 2017, and 3 educational matinee performances for 3,300 youth in grades 4-12 at the Ordway on April 27 and 28, 2017. TU Dance will also conduct 3 open, public company showings ahead of the concert, and will participate in Ordway Extra and post-show talkback events. Aside from 2 of the 3 company showings held at TU Dance Center in St. Paul, all activities will take place at the Ordway.
<b>4:30 PM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>		
4:37 PM	Twin Cities Public Television (TPT)	ART IS	Twin Cities PBS (TPT) proposes to launch "ART IS," a new project to gather great artists and great art, and showcase them in the TPT Street Space in Lowertown, St. Paul. ART IS will include a series of four events in which exceptional artists of color from St. Paul will each "curate" the work of three emerging artists of their choice. TPT will collaborate with each cluster of artists (lead + curated artists) to create a unique arts-centered experience that will showcase the artists' work before a live audience in TPT's Street Space. The goal of the series is to celebrate St. Paul's diverse artists, engage culturally/racially diverse communities and help establish Street Space (and Lowertown as a whole) as a hub for cutting-edge art.
4:45 PM	Walker West Music Academy - fiscal sponsor	Solomon's Sessions 2.0	Solomon and Aja parham will lead a year-long weekly jazz session at bedlam Lowertown. Starting in May of 2015, Wednesday nights will become a standing night of the best jazz music in the region. Music lovers will come to enjoy a night of top flight musicians and whatever surprises they put together; musicians will bring their instruments awaiting the right time to sit in and play, even students will have the opportunity to test their mettle with some of the best professional players in town. The project as a whole is designed to build a stronger community among musicians and audiences in a kind of club house defined by their shared love of music.
4:52 PM	Wonderlust Productions	Capitol Play Project	We will stage a community-driven new play with music and dance about and at the State Capitol. The play will use stories shared by a cross-section of people who work at the Capitol, including staffers, tour guides, security guards, and others from different cultural, racial, age, and gender backgrounds. Performed for a large general audience by a mix of Capitol workers and pro artists over a few weeks, the show will dramatize the place and people who keep the wheels of state government turning, while offering capitol workers an opportunity to share their dreams and challenges. Wonderlust seeks \$25,000 in STAR funding to cap an \$81,000 total project budget and help leverage a \$35,000 match grant we received from the Knight Arts Challenge.