

## Guest Commentary

### Why I Write

By Joan Hough

I can't begin to understand how authors can write a novel and transport its readers to another time and place. I've often wondered if the story becomes so real it cannot give rest to the writer until it is delivered onto the paper. Very much like giving birth!

The process starts as a tiny seed in the mind and grows and grows until it becomes a life and energy all on its own. I only know that I have always had to write. Dreams, joys, misunderstandings, memories. Anything that was important to me in any way found its way on paper. Sad times when written down lose their sharpness. Hurts are put in proper perspective. The embarrassing moments turn funny and I laugh at myself.

I write to find my inner path, my balance in life. I write to kindle that joy deep inside that only writing can bring. I gave no thought to my writing; I simply wrote, read it, and then disregarded it. The writing had served its purpose. It never occurred to me that anyone might want to read what I had written. It was a private part of me, my very core, something I needed to do like breathing and eating. Did I think of myself as a writer? Never!

Then a sadness came into our lives. My father was dying

of bone cancer. He doctored at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Fargo and in Minneapolis. My mother, dad, and I spent many hours on the road and waiting in different waiting rooms. Waiting for this doctor or that doctor. Waiting for a test result or the next treatment plan. I could have cried in sadness, but unbeknownst to me, I had a lifetime of training that took over and I began to write as we waited.

I wrote stories of growing up in a large family. I wrote about places we had lived. I wrote about what we saw in the hospital waiting rooms. I wrote to pass the time, to bear the pain, to remain cheerful and happy in dad's eyes. I shared what I had written only to find it caused tears and joy to my father and mother. They said, "Joan, you should do something with your writings."

Now people ask, "Are you a writer?" The question is taking root in my heart and I realize if I am a writer, it is not of my own design. I was created this way with a fire within that can only be fed with paper and pen.

Yes, that makes me a writer.

*Joan is a fourth generation resident of Clearwater County, mother of five, and grandmother of 14. She lives in Bagley,*

## Give the Gift of Art

This holiday season, consider adding original local art to your gift list. Nothing says you care more than taking the time to pick out that one-of-a-kind piece of art that will bring character and joy to someone's home or heart!

There are great places to buy CDs featuring local musicians, books by local authors, as well as a variety of visual arts by area artists. In the Bemidji area alone, there are numerous retailers of the "arts." Here are just a few:

- ▲ Overbeek Electronics
- ▲ FlyByNight ArtSpace (Headwaters School of Music and the Arts)
- ▲ Mostly Minnesota Gift Shop (Bemidji Community Arts Center)
- ▲ Gallery North
- ▲ Snowgoose Gifts
- ▲ The Old Schoolhouse

If you feel uncomfortable trying to march a loved one's artistic taste, ask for a gift certificate. For a young person, consider art supplies to fan the creative flames that burn inside the hearts of all children young and old.

Happy holidays!



## Region 2 Arts Council Announces Grant Awards

**Bemidji State University Music Department** - \$2,980 to present and continue an annual concert series featuring the best professional classical music artists.

**Bemidji Symphony Orchestra** - \$1,735 for the production of a children's concert and family concert featuring the award-winning tone poem of "On the Day You Were Born," written by Minnesota author Debra Frasier, and Minnesota composer Steve Heitzeg.

**Lake of the Woods School** - \$1,400 for a matinee performance of The Guthrie on Tour's "The Stuff of Dreams," an educational, interactive production that explores the art of theater.

**Bemidji Community Arts Council** - \$2,400 to apply the recommendations proposed by Forecast Public Artworks Consultant, Jack Becker, for improving the Bemidji Sculpture Walk.

**Kelliher School District #36** - \$1,430 for art car artist Jan Elftmann to assist high school students in creating an art car and elementary students in creating "mini" art cars.

**Pequana Playhouse** - \$2,000 for Pequana Playhouse's production of "Fiddler On The Roof" presented spring 2003 at LOW High School.

**White Earth Land Recovery Project** - \$3,000 to gather assorted literary submissions from area youth and publish them in a paperback book to distribute for the use of other youth in the region as well as those who work with women of color.

*NORTHERN ARTS NEWS* is a free publication of the Region 2 Arts Council, published 10 times per year, with a current distribution of over 1,600.

Funded by a grant from the McKnight Foundation, *Northern Arts News* provides news and information to artists in Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahnomen counties of north central Minnesota.

### We welcome:

- topics of story ideas;
- guest commentary topic ideas;
- invitations to other artists;
- collaboration and registration notifications.

To submit information and/or to be added to our mailing list, contact the R2AC office:

**Call:** 751-5447 or 1-800-275-5447

**FAX** 218-751-2777

**Email:** r2arts@paulbunyan.net

**Web site:** www.r2arts.org

*Northern Arts News*  
Region 2 Arts Council  
426 Bemidji Avenue  
Bemidji, MN 56601

### Fiscal Year 2003 Board of Directors

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Permission to reprint *Northern Arts News* items is granted (excluding Guest Commentary) so long as Northern Arts News is credited as the source.

GUEST COMMENTARY inquiries are invited at any time. Submit your topic idea to Terri Widman by telephone, FAX, or email. Selected works must be previously unpublished and fit within the space allotment. Compensation for a selected work is \$60.

Due to the advanced print deadlines of this publication, we suggest that you call to confirm dates, times, and other pertinent information about events and opportunities listed here.

## December Showcase

**Artist:**  
**Jane Freeman**

(See page 4)

"Monarch Butterfly"  
21" x 36"



## An Art Opening So Big, Everyone in Minnesota is Invited!

Join in celebrating the launch of Minnesota's most comprehensive gateway to the arts, [mnaartists.org](http://mnaartists.org). With the click of a mouse, you can travel across the state and across artistic disciplines, searching out the art you like from the communities we all live in.

Join the party during the 24-hour Internet webcast starting at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 5.

From painters to poets, designers to directors, and beyond. Connect with artists, see new work, and enjoy the full range of art from right here. Visit [mnaartists.org](http://mnaartists.org) and see for yourself!

**[mnaartists.org](http://mnaartists.org)**

*A project of the McKnight Foundation  
& Walker Art Center*

## Art Facts

*(from the Minnesota Citizens for the Arts Web site)*

The arts are a greater contributor to the health of the U.S. economy than one might imagine. Every year, not-for-profit arts organizations generate \$37 billion in their communities, more than \$25 billion in personal income, \$790 million in local taxes, \$1.2 billion in state taxes, and \$3.4 billion in federal taxes.

- The arts account for 6% of the U.S. Gross National Product. The construction industry, in comparison, account for 4.8%
- The arts employ 2.7 % of the American work force! or 3.2 million individuals. Agriculture employs 2.6%.

## Region 2 Arts Council Offers Grants

R2AC has several upcoming grant deadlines for eligible artists and arts organizations in the five county area:

**McKnight Grants to Arts Organizations** **January 15**  
For 501(c)(3) arts organizations who need funding assistance for events or for small capital items.

**Individual Artists Grants** **February 5**  
For artists who need funding assistance with producing art, travel, workshop fees, mentoring, etc.

**Arts Project Grants** **March 19**  
To help organizations create or produce arts events such as workshops, plays, exhibits, or performances.

**Anishinabe Arts Initiative** **March 19**  
Grants awarded to individuals or organizations for projects that address AA1's mission of supporting, maintaining, and promoting traditional and contemporary Native American art.

## Call for Applicants Regional Artists and Arts Organization Source Book

R2AC will award a contract to an individual or an organization to produce a directory that will contain a listing of all the individual artists in the region, the art and cultural organizations, art galleries, musical groups, and arts-related businesses.

Requirements include sending letters and writing news releases to gather up-to-date information, inputting the data, proofing, design, and lay-out, calling advertisers, and printing 1,000 copies. R2AC will set the criteria of the project, modeling the format of a directory that was produced in another state.

Stop by the R2AC office to see the directory or call for an application and copy of the Source Book Criteria: 218-751-5447, 1-800-275-5447, or e-mail: [r2arts@paulbunyan.net](mailto:r2arts@paulbunyan.net).

### Producer of Art Exhibition

R2AC is seeking a group or organization in the five-county region (Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, Mahanomen) to produce an art exhibition to celebrate the diversity and quality of the many talented visual artists in our region. Participants in the art show will be visual artists from the five Region 2 counties as well as the surrounding Native American counties. R2AC budget will cover all expenses associated with the show, including cash awards to artists and wages for staff.

**Application deadline for both projects is  
December 18, 2002**

## OPPORTUNITIES

**Dec. 6 Deadline Writers wanted for "Voices for the City."** Essay contest is open to those who revere some aspect of city living. Contest is open to writers of all ages. Essays can be about any size Minnesota city or town or city life in general; 400 words. For information, contact Bill Droessler at 651-312-1000 or [bdroessler@1000fom.org](mailto:bdroessler@1000fom.org)

**Dec. 6 Deadline The Loft** offers the Minnesota Writers Career Initiative Program to help advanced writers develop a plan to enter the next phase of their careers. Up to four winners receive grants of up to \$8,000, honoraria up to \$1,500, and a consultants expertise to help guide the project. For guidelines, visit [www.loft.org](http://www.loft.org) or call 612-215-2575.

**Dec. 6-8 Compleat Scholar Weekend Retreat**, Twin Cities. "Kinship-Writing About Associations, Boundaries, and Barriers," with poet Deborah Keenan. \$400 fee includes room, meals, materials. Call the Compleat Scholar Program at 612-625-7777 or email: [snelson1@cce.uffin.edu](mailto:snelson1@cce.uffin.edu).

**Dec. 7 Deadline The Humanities Commission** offers its 20th annual Letters About Literature contest for students in grades four through 12 who may enter by writing a letter to an author, living or dead, whose work has changed the student's view of the world or self. In addition to an awards ceremony, winners receive cash prizes and books. The contest has three levels of competition, each with its own specific theme, including levels 7th and 8th grade students, and 9th through 12th grade students. For complete guidelines and an entry form, visit [www.minnesotahumanities.org](http://www.minnesotahumanities.org). Or write Letters about Literature, PO Box 609, Dallas, PA 18612.

**Dec. 15 Deadline Chicago Literary Awards** offer \$1,000 prize awards for fiction, poetry, plus publication. Guidelines at [www.anotherchicagogomag.com](http://www.anotherchicagogomag.com) or send SASE to Chicago Literary Awards, "Another Chicago Magazine," Left Field Press, 3709 N. Kenmore, Chicago, IL 60613-2905.

**Dec. 15 Deadline Water-Stone** seeks poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction for its fall 2003 issue.

### Wanted:

#### A serious sculpture artist

Gary O'Connor, one of the MacRostie Art Center's facility artists, would like to hire an assistant or apprentice to work with him at the MAC and in his studio in Crosby, Minn.

During a sculpture class, learn to build equipment, assist bronze casting and welding.

After learning experience has been completed, depending on skill level, you may earn up to \$12 per hour.

Contact Gary O'Connor at 218-326-2697.

Submit, with SASE, up to five poems, 20 pages total, or up to 5,000 words of prose. Send to: Water-Stone, GLS Program, Hamline University, 1536 Hewitt Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104-1284.

**Dec. 31 Deadline Money for Women/Barbara Deming Memorial Fund, Inc.** gives small grants to feminist writers. Send SASE for application and guidelines to: Money for Women Fund, Box 630125, Bronx, NY 10463.

### About the Showcase Artist

#### Jane Freeman

*"Life is so full of chaos. As an artist, I hope to show the peaceful side of life, the beauty that surrounds us everyday."*

#### "Ancient Shadows" 12" / 16"



**Dec. 31 Deadline Natural Bridge, literary magazine** from the University of Missouri-St.Louis, seeks poetry, fiction, personal essays, and poetry translations for an issue guest-edited by Jeff Friedman. Submit to "Natural Bridge," Dept. of English, UM-St. Louis, 8001 Natural Bridge Rd. St. Louis, MO 63121. Simultaneous submissions okay; no electronic submissions. For more information, visit [www.umsl.edu/~natural](http://www.umsl.edu/~natural)

**Jan. 6 Deadline McKnight Artist Fellowships.** Four fellowship of \$25,000 each will be awarded to solo musicians or ensembles. For information, call 621-321-0100 ext. 310; [www.macphail.org](http://www.macphail.org).

**Jan.15 Deadline Artslink Projects 2003** provides support to artists and arts organizations to work with their counterparts in 27 countries. Applications will be accepted from individual artists, curators, and nonprofit arts organizations working in visual, design, or media arts. For further information, contact 212-643-1985 ext. 22 or [www.cicp.org](http://www.cicp.org).

**Jan. 20 Deadline Submit poetry, prose, spoken word** for the third issue of "ache magazine" on the theme of "I." Include a cover sheet (or information in the text of the email), with name and contact information, titles of pieces, the genre you would like to submit, and a short (50 word) bio. Email:

### Call for Art:

The Bemidji Community Art Center is looking for art collectors or dealers who would like to sell off some of their collections at an auction to be held in February 2003. Works of high quality in all media will be auctioned off on Friday, February 21, 2003 at the Bemidji Town and Country Club.

Contact Suzi Rhae at (218) 444-7570 at the BCAC for more information,

[submissions@achemagazine.com](mailto:submissions@achemagazine.com) or send them to: ache, Attn: Submission, PO Box 50065, Minneapolis, MN 55405. For information, visit [www.achemagazine.com](http://www.achemagazine.com).

**Jan. 31 Deadline Mini-Grants for Schools** for VSA Arts of Minnesota to help bring in outside artists to work with students in special education programming. Eighteen \$500 grants are available. Contact Kristi Gaudette at VSAarts MN, 528 Hennepin Ave. #305, Minneapolis, MN 55403. Call 800-801-3883 or [mn.vsarts.org](http://mn.vsarts.org).



**Feb. 1 Deadline Call for entries for Bemidji Sculpture Walk.** \$200 honorarium awarded to each exhibitor. \$200 cash award for People's Choice Award winner. For information, contact Suzi Rhae at [bcac@paulbunyan.net](mailto:bcac@paulbunyan.net), or download off Web at: [www.bcacmn.org/artcall/bswinfo.html](http://www.bcacmn.org/artcall/bswinfo.html)

**Young Playrights Festival** competition for aspiring dramatists. Winners have plays read by professional actors in New York. For details, [www.youngplaywrights.org](http://www.youngplaywrights.org).

**Northern Clay Center** offers grants, fellowships, workshops, and exhibits. For information, contact: Northern Clay Center, 2424 Franklin Ave. E, Minneapolis, MN 55406; Call: 612-339-8007 or check web site: [www.northernclaycenter.org](http://www.northernclaycenter.org).

## ON THE WEB

Following are Web sites you may find of interest:

**Minnesota Crafts Council**  
[www.roncraft.org](http://www.roncraft.org)

**Minnesota Ethnic Resources:**  
[www.iimn.org](http://www.iimn.org)

**Minnesota Festivals & Events Assoc.:**  
[www.mfea.net](http://www.mfea.net)

**Minnesota Watercolor Society**  
[mardi4011@aol.com](mailto:mardi4011@aol.com)

**School Art Programs** Publication directed toward promotion of educationally sound visual art programs in k-12. Price is \$10. Contact National Art Education Assoc. 1916 Association Drive, Reston, VA 20191-1590. Call 703-860-8000.

**Dance Today** is a new organization created to engage, educate, and inspire people about the art of dance and the role dance can play in communities. To get involved, contact: Dance Today, 528 Hennepin Ave. #510, Minneapolis, MN; 612-340-1900 or [www.dancetoday.org](http://www.dancetoday.org).

**Openings for Art Teachers** in select-ed states. National Art Education Association: [www.naea-reston.org](http://www.naea-reston.org).

**Minnesota Literature** wants essays that express opinions on literary issues and questions, profiles interest-ing events or personalities. Essays should be written from firsthand experience or knowledge of seminal events, programs, personalities, etc. Length up to 900 words, payment \$50. Mail to 1387 Berkeley Ave. St. Paul 55105; email : [mnlit@attbi.com](mailto:mnlit@attbi.com). (Note: this is anew email address for Minnesota Literature.)

## Calendar of Events

### December

**Dec. 1 A White Christmas With Lorie Line** on Lakeland Public Television, 9 p.m. Repeated Dec. 2, at 2 p.m., Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. & 11 p.m.

**Dec. 6 Northwoods Folk Collective First Friday Coffeehouse**, 7:30 p.m. at the Headwaters School of Music and the Arts, 519 Minnesota Ave., Bemidji; 218-444-5606.

**Dec. 6 & 7 Fargo's Finest Arts & Crafts Expo.** Civic Auditorium. Fri. 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For information, contact Marquee Productions at 701-232-2689.

**Dec. 6-8 Concordia Christmas Concerts.** Memorial Auditorium, Concordia College, 901 8th St. S, Moorhead, MN. For information, call 218-299-4366.

**Dec. 6-8,12-14 Madrigal Dinners** at Beaux Arts Ballroom at Bemidji State University. 7 p.m. Call 218-755-3406.

**Dec. 7 Paul Bunyan Playhouse**, Bemidji, presents Steve Saari and Judy Lunseth in concert. 7:30 p.m. Call: Paul Bunyan Playhouse, 218-444-8591.

**Dec. 10 "Jingle Jazz" Band** Christmas Concert, Bemidji State University, Thompson Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. Call 218-755-3406.

**Dec. 12 Schoolcraft Learning Center Concert** (tentative). Call: Paul Bunyan Playhouse, 218-444-8591.

**Dec. 13 & 14, "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,"** 7:30 p.m. at the Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Bemidji. This is a benefit production for the Paul Bunyan Playhouse. Call 218-444-8591.



### Artist Updates from the Arts Marketing Program:

#### *Regional Brochure, Volume II Underway*

The Region 2 Arts Marketing Program is planning an all-new regional visual arts brochure, to be published in the fall of 2003. If you haven't seen the first brochure, (produced in 2000-2001) take a look-it is beautiful, compelling and full of information. It features 45 artists, each with a work sample, an artist's statement, and contact information. In addition, it maps the region, and sites for viewing and buying art.

The brochure will be newly designed and feature 40-50 visual artists from Mahanomen, Lake of the Woods, Beltrami, Hubbard, and Clearwater Counties. Artists to appear in the new brochure will be selected by a jury process in the spring of 2003. There will be a \$20.00 entry fee, as in other juried exhibitions. Three thousand copies of the brochure will be produced and distributed widely over a 2-3 year period. It is the equivalent of a "visual arts business card" for the region and provides fabulous visibility for artists. Call the office of the Region 2 Arts Council at 751-5447, or 800-275-5447 for application packet or stop by the office.

#### *Artists! Be Ready for Revolving County Artist Slide Shoots*

Artists, of Clearwater and Mahanomen Counties, it's your turn again! You will have first chance at scheduling art photography services in a convenient location within your county, from a professional art photographer. The slide shoots will be Saturday, Feb. 15, 2003 for Clearwater County, and Saturday, March 29, 2003 for Mahanomen County. Residents of these counties have prior-ity at reserving slide shoot appointments. All unscheduled times will be opened to any interested Region 2 artist, two weeks prior to the art shoot date. Scheduling will begin in January 2003!

Remember, good slides are a must for successful grant applications, and for getting your work represented in a variety of formats, including Minnesota Artists Online. Document your work professionally! The Region 2 Arts Marketing Program will help. Call the office of the R2AC at 751-5447, or 800-275-5447 after Jan. 1, 2003 to schedule your slide shoot appointment.

## Calendar *continued*

**Dec. 15 Brass Ensemble & Varsity Singers** Christmas concert at Bemidji State University Main Theatre. 3 p.m. Call 755-3406.

**Dec. 15 Michael Johnson** (tentative) at the Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Bemidji. Call 218-444-8591.

**Dec. 14-15 Book Art Festival.** The Minnesota Center for Book Arts is hosting a Book Art Festival. The two-day event is dedicated to the promotion and sale of artists' work and appreciation of books as an embodiment of artistic expression. At Minnesota Center for Book Arts, 1011 Washington Ave. S., Suite 100, Minneapolis, MN 55415. Call 612-215-2520. Check: [www.mnbookarts.org](http://www.mnbookarts.org)

**Through Dec. 19 "Connected Elements,"** an exhibition by graduating senior Candyce Fitzloff-Westfield, features prints and jewelry in the Talley Gallery, Education Arts Bldg. #212 Bemidji State University. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Dec. 21 & 22 Northwinds Crossing** at Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Bemidji, 7:30 p.m. Call 218-444-8591.

**Through Dec. 21 Studio Glass** from Collection of Don and Carol Wiiken, and New Glass Works, 1996-2000 by Joel Philip Myers at Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota-Duluth.

**Dec. 23 The Beltrami County Historical Society** closes the *museum* for exhibit transition until March. The *History Center* reopens Jan. 5 and *gift shop, research and administration* opens **Jan. 6.**

**Dec. 27-30 Northern Light Opera "Amahl and the Night Visitors,"** by John Carlo Menotti. Performances at 7:30 p.m. each night *except* Dec. 29, performance at 3 p.m. only. At Calvary Lutheran Church, 112 South Park (U.S. 71), Park Rapids. Call 218-732-7096 for information.

**Through Dec. 29 "Color and Contrast,"** raku pottery by Bradley J. Bachmeier. Rourke Art Gallery, 523 S. Fourth St., Moorhead, MN. Call 218-236-8861.

## JANUARY

**Jan. 10-12, 16-19 Snoopy:** a musical by and for children at Bangsberg Hall on the Bemidji State University campus. For times, call 218-751-9194 after Jan. 2. Tickets at the door, Comer Drug, Ken K. Thompson Jewelry, and Bemidji Mall.

**Jan. 10-12 Chain Reaction Festival,** Cass Lake. Winter Carnival atmosphere with art and craft fair. Call Dan Evans, 800-356-8615.

### Take note!

*Send your "Noteworthy" successes to R2AC, 426 Bemidji Ave. NW, Bemidji, MN 56601; ATTN: "Northern Arts News."*

*Or email:*

*r2arts@paulbunyan.net.*

*Deadline for events, opportunities, and other submissions for the January issue of "Northern Arts News" is December 9.*

## Minnesota State Arts Board Grant Opportunities

Folk Arts Sponsorships	<b>December 2</b>
Folk Arts Apprenticeships	<b>December 2</b>
Career Opportunity-all day disciplines	<b>February 3</b>
Folk Artists Directory	<b>February 3</b>
Video Documentation for choreographers, dancers, actors, directors, conductors performance artists, lighting designers, and storytellers	<b>February 17</b>
Cultural Collaborations, all disciplines	<b>February 17</b>
Arts in Education Roster of Artists previously listed in roster	<b>March 1</b>
new to roster	<b>April 1</b>
Series Presenter Support	<b>March 3</b>
Arts Across Minnesota Host Communities	<b>March 3</b>
Arts in Education Organizational Support	<b>March 3</b>
Arts in Education School Support	<b>April 1</b>

*For grants information, contact the Minnesota State Arts Board at 800-8MN-ARTS or visit [www.arts.state.mn.us](http://www.arts.state.mn.us)*



**Region II Arts & Humanities Council**  
**DBA: Region 2 Arts Council**  
**426 Bemidji Ave.**  
**Bemidji, MN 56601**

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Funded by a grant from the McKnight Foundation, Northern Arts News provides news and information to artists in Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods and Mahnommen counties of north central Minnesota.

## Noteworthy

**Greg Bernard**, Bemidji, was published in the November issue of "Minnesota Monthly." His short story, *Fish Story*, was one of two winners for this year's Tamarack Award. The award is an annual prize for excellence in short fiction sponsored by "Minnesota Monthly."

**The McKnight Foundation** awarded 19 grants for the arts totaling \$1,670,000 in its third-quarter 2002 grantmaking. Founded in 1953 and endowed by William L. and Maude L. McKnight, the Foundation granted about \$91 million in 1991. For more information on its grant programs, visit [www.mcknight.org](http://www.mcknight.org).

Graphic artist **Jauneth Skinner's** work was included in *Elements*, a portfolio published by the Northern Printmaker's Alliance. The first exhibit for this portfolio was at the Ripple River Gallery (Aitken, Minnesota). A selection from her journal was recently published in *RawNervz*, an international literary magazine (Aylmer, Canada). One of Skinner's etchings was acquired by Kennarahaskoli Islands University Print Collection, Stakkahlío, (Reykjavik, Iceland).

## Arts Funding in Other States

*Information provided by Minnesota Citizens for the Arts*

It is predicted that we have one or two more years of state budget cutting across the country before the economy improves. It is expected that most states will be cutting their budgets again next year, with revenues still down and expenses, such as health care, still going up. It is also expected that many states will raise taxes to solve their budget problems, in addition to making more cuts.

Compared to other states who made cuts in arts funding, Minnesota's 4 percent cut in 2002 was among the smallest. The states suffering the highest percentage in arts cuts, including deleted line items, were:

Massachusetts	61.9%
California	50.7%
Arkansas	47.8%
Colorado	38.6%
Missouri	36.7%
Tennessee	23.2%
Iowa	21.2%
New Jersey	18.1 %
Connecticut	17.2%
Utah	14.1%
Idaho	12.9%

Many are saying the Minnesota's budget deficit next session will be at or above \$3 billion. We will have to work hard to ensure these kinds of cuts don't happen in Minnesota.