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Faculty receive inaugural Minnesota Legacy Amendment grants

Summary: Larson, Kolaya, and Parker Aronson receive grant funding from the new Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

(March 6, 2010)-Three members of the University of Minnesota, Morris community received inaugural grants from the new Minnesota Legacy Amendment Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Voters approved the Minnesota Legacy Amendment in November 2008. The fund supports activities in the areas of Arts Access, Arts Education, and Arts and Cultural Heritage. Lake Region Arts Council (LRAC), headquartered in Fergus Falls, administers the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund grants process for the nine-county area of West Central Minnesota that includes Stevens County.

On behalf of the Spanish department, Associate Professor of Spanish Stacey Parker Aronson received \$3,150 for a Spanish film festival. English Teaching Specialist Chrissy Kolaya received \$5,983 to attend a writer's residency, conduct research, and write a novel. Associate Professor of Studio Arts Jess Larson received \$3,821 for a series of work exploring women's life choices.

Senator Bill Ingebrigtsen presented the recipients their awards in the Humanities Fine Arts Gallery. LRAC Executive Director Maxine Adams, Assistant Professor of Art History and Stevens County LRAC Board Member Jimmy Schryver, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean Cheryl Contant, Division of Humanities Chair Janet Schrunk Ericksen, and Connie Eidem, representing the Evansville Arts Coalition, which received \$23,400 to create a public access television series on regional artists and art organizations, also attended the presentation gathering.

Photo above from left: Larson, Schrunk Ericksen, Kolaya, Contant, Parker Aronson

Photo below: Adams, Parker Aronson, Ingibrigtsen, Larson, Kolaya, Eidem, and Schryver

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