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Monday, July 6, 2020

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2020-2021 ARTS MIDWEST TOURING FUND GRANTS ANNOUNCED

FUNDING WILL SUPPORT 155 ENGAGEMENTS ACROSS NINE STATES

MINNEAPOLIS, MN: Arts Midwest today announced the 2020-21 Touring Fund grants, which will support 155 organizations in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. The Touring Fund is a core program of Arts Midwest that connects people across the Midwest to dance, music, and theater performances. Midwestern presenting organizations can apply for grants ranging from \$500 to \$4,000 to offset the costs of bringing high-quality touring art to their communities.

As a Touring Fund recipient, each organization must present a professional artist or ensemble in a public performance and create a community activity that reaches an audience with limited access to the arts. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Arts Midwest is allowing these performances and community activities to take place virtually. In addition, certain Touring Fund guidelines have been temporarily changed for the 2020-21 cycle. For this year only, organizations will be allowed to work with visual artists in lieu of performing artists, and/or work with artists within their state. These changes aim to flexibly support organizations as they work through uncertainty.

"Arts Midwest is pleased to support the arts touring industry in our region through this fund, especially in a moment when traditional large, in-person gatherings are on pause," says Arts Midwest President & CEO Torrie Allen. "In response to the impact of COVID-19, we are offering up flexible options that aim to support the livelihood of artists and presenting organizations. Despite the challenges of this year, our commitment remains the same: to help Midwestern communities connect through creativity."

For a full list of the 155 grantees and their award amounts please visit the [Touring Fund website](#).

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Arts Midwest believes that creativity has the power to inspire and unite humanity. Based in Minneapolis, Arts Midwest grows, gathers, and invests in creative organizations and communities throughout the nine-state region of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. One of six nonprofit United States Regional Arts Organizations, Arts Midwest's history spans more than 30 years. For more information, visit artsmidwest.org.