

REGIONAL PROFILE: REGION 7E, EAST CENTRAL ARTS COUNCIL

EAST CENTRAL MINNESOTA

Counties: Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine

Key Cities: Cambridge, Princeton, Onamia, Mora, Pine City, Sandstone, North Branch, and Taylors Falls

154,079	Region's 2004 population
3%	Region's percentage of state's population in 2004
90	Number of arts and culture organizations surveyed in this region
18%	Percent of this region's organizations that responded
12	Number of arts and culture events whose audiences were surveyed
525	Number of individual audience member surveys collected

Regional Highlights:

Region 7E stands out from the rest of the state in several ways. It is number one – leading even the Twin Cities metro area – in per capita spending by non-resident audience members (\$53.59, as opposed to the state average of \$36.89), and second in the state in the percent of audience survey members who reside outside the area (43.6%). This very lucky combination means that Region 7E is doing a great job in attracting audiences and dollars from outside the region. Region 7E is also exceeding the state per capita average in spending by residents (\$17.33 as opposed to the statewide average of \$16.16).

Participating Arts and Culture Organizations:

Anna Goose Botanical Sculpture Garden, Sandstone *
Audubon Center of the North Woods, Sandstone *
Braham Community Education * Braham Pie Day
Committee * Cambridge-Isanti Community Education,
Cambridge * Cambridge-Isanti Summer Youth Theater,
Cambridge * Central Minnesota Arts Board, Foley *
Chisago County Historical Society, Lindstrom * City of
Lindstrom Park Commission * Depot Studio, Isle * East
Central Arts Council, Mora * East Central Minnesota
Chorale, Cambridge * Franconia Sculpture Park, Shafer *
Kanabec County Historical Society, Mora * Milaca Area
Historical Society * Milaca Fine Arts Council * Mora
CAPP * North Branch High School * North West
Company Fur Post, Pine City * Pine City Arts Council *
Rum River Fine Arts Guild c/o Princeton Librar, Princeton
* St. Croix Valley Potters Tour, Harris *

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Study Partners

This project is a collaboration of the **Forum of Regional Arts Councils of Minnesota** (RAC Forum) and **Minnesota Citizens for the Arts** (MCA) www.mtn.org/mca, principle partners, with major funding provided by **The McKnight Foundation**. Additional partners include the **Twin Cities Performing Arts Research Coalition** (PARC) project funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts, and **Minnesota Arts Communicators**. Twelve studies were conducted statewide. The year-long study was managed by MCA, while each of the state's eleven regional arts councils coordinated audience surveys and will host the data release events in their own regions. **Americans for the Arts**, the study's national partner, created the economic models for the twelve studies, one for each region and one for the statewide study, and also provided secure web-based surveying tools.

The mission of the **East Central Arts Council** (ECAC) is to "improve the quality and quantity of the arts in Region 7E by facilitating the development of arts organizations and promoting the growth of individual artists." ECAC serves Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine Counties. ECAC is one of eleven regional arts councils in Minnesota who provide grants and services to nonprofit arts organizations and individual artists on a regional basis. Funding for these services is provided by the Minnesota State Legislature, The McKnight Foundation, and other private sources. Contact ECAC at 320-679-4065, extension 30, ecac@ecrdc.org or www.region7erdc.org.