



NEWS RELEASE

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Iron Range Resources announces 2009 Culture and Tourism Grant Awards

Iron Range Resources today announced \$150,000 in Culture and Tourism grants to be awarded for projects to be undertaken in 2009. The grants program is designed to stimulate tourism activities within the Taconite Assistance Area, encourage visitor spending and enrich the quality of life through experiences in culture, arts and recreation. The grants also support community efforts to expand capacity and cultivate existing resources.

“Iron Range Resources is pleased to partner with these community and civic organizations in supporting local cultural and tourism initiatives,” said Commissioner Sandy Layman. “Each of these high quality projects enhances our region’s rich cultural opportunities and contributes to making northeastern Minnesota a great place to live and visit.”

Of 33 applications, 22 received grant awards. The \$150,000 in grants leveraged about \$2.2 million in total project investment.

Organization	Grant Award
Northern Lights Music Festival, Inc. – To support production of the children’s opera, “Hansel and Gretel”	\$10,000
Boundary Waters Blues Festival – To support the 9 th annual music event	\$10,000
Club Mesabi, Inc – To enhance historical and cultural messages along the Mesabi Trail during the bicycle tour	\$2,702
North House Folk School – To assist a cultural education capital improvement plan	\$10,000
Range Artists Association, Inc. – To support the Mines & Pines Art Festival	\$3,000
Tower-Soudan Historical Society – To help restore a historical train	\$10,000
Laurentian Arts and Culture Alliance – To support the Range of the Arts celebration	\$6,275
St. Louis County Agricultural Fair Association – To acquire a sound system to help expand use of fairground facilities and host the Minnesota Trappers Association 50 th Anniversary.	\$4,500
Cotton Civic Club – To help market the Minnesota Old Time Fiddle Championship and Festival	\$5,000
Ely Winter Festival – To expand marketing of the celebration	\$5,000
Finland Minnesota Historical Society - To assist in capital improvements at the Finland Minnesota Heritage Site.	\$10,000
Gunflint Trail Historical Society – To construct and install museum exhibits	\$10,000

Grand Marais Arts, Inc. – For capital improvements at historic Art Colony building	\$10,000
Kabetogama Lake Association & Tourism Bureau – To support Land of the Lady Slipper Arts & Crafts Festival.	\$2,500
Northern Itasca Joint Powers Board – To complete interpretive and information displays at Edge of the Wilderness Discovery Center	\$10,000
Greyhound Bus Museum – To expand exhibit area and exhibits	\$10,000
Vermilion Community College Foundation –To update Vermilion Community College’s Fine Arts Theater lighting and sound systems	\$9,790
Jaques Art Center – To support an arts celebration	\$3,000
North Shore Scenic Drive Council – To help construct a welcome sign at Grand Portage State Park	\$8,000
Biwabik Area Civic Association – To replace Weihnachtsfest Christmas lighting in Biwabik Park	\$2,500
Two Harbors Welcome Center – To implement a capital campaign for a new welcome and interpretive center	\$5,000
Greenway Heritage Preservation Committee – To install bronze plaques on City of Coleraine’s historical sites walking tour	\$2,733
Total	\$150,000

Grant guidelines and additional information can be found at www.ironrangerresources.org

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