



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Arts Grant Awarded to Lyngblomsten

Saint Paul, Minn. – Through Legacy Dollars (state funding), the Minnesota State Arts Board has awarded Lyngblomsten a Partners in Arts Participation Grant. This nearly \$33,000 grant will give Lyngblomsten the funding to introduce and integrate various fine arts — theatre, music, and museum trips, just to name a few, to inspire, educate, and nurture our Lyngblomsten community members.

Melanie Davis, the Director of Volunteer Services and Corporate Engagement for Lyngblomsten, heard about the grant through COMPAS Executive Director, Bob Olsen (they go to church together), who thought this would be a great opportunity for Lyngblomsten. Melanie explained, “They were looking for a new, fresh idea to get arts into the community to an underserved population, and Lyngblomsten seemed to fit the criteria for the grant perfectly. Through partnerships with COMPAS and Pat Samples, Coordinator for Minnesota Creative Arts and Aging Network, we held a series of dialogues with tenants, residents, staff, family, and friends to brainstorm the wants and needs regarding an arts program.”

The new program, called Artful Living at Lyngblomsten: Arts for Every Season of Life, will not only have a focus on resident and tenant participation, but will also involve family, friends, and intergenerational volunteers. The first season will focus on visual art.

The first activity will be trips to the Minneapolis Institute of Arts to see the “Collecting the New” exhibit July 29 and July 30. There will be a presentation before the trip to educate and familiarize participants with the exhibit, and then a bus will transport them to the

museum (100 people are expected to participate). The remaining seasons will be vocal music, storytelling, and theater.

If you are interested in the arts and want to serve on the Arts Leadership Group, or if you have any ideas or connections, please contact Melanie Davis at (651) 632-5356 or mdavis@lyngblomsten.org.

Established in 1906, Lyngblomsten is a Christian nonprofit organization that enhances the lives of older adults and their families in the Twin Cities area through supportive community-based services, senior housing, and healthcare. Its main campus is in St. Paul near Como Park Zoo. Visit us online at www.lyngblomsten.org.

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