

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**The Rahr West Art Museum Receives a \$5,400 grant to fund the Creative Expressions art therapy program**

Organization: Rahr-West Art Museum  
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The Rahr West Art Museum Charitable Foundation, Inc. has been awarded a three-year \$5,400 Helen Bader Foundation grant to continue the Creative Expressions art therapy program which stimulates the creative energy of older adults struggling with the challenges of aging.

“Creative Expressions is a unique program which promotes brain health for Alzheimer’s patients and the general population alike,” said Daniel Bader, Foundation President. “We are pleased to be able to offer support for this innovative program.”

Creative Expressions is a comprehensive art therapy program designed to promote creativity and personal expression, and encourage a sense of self-fulfillment, personal growth and accomplishment for seniors. The creative activities give individuals with reduced memory, speech and language or those who are just interested in keeping their minds alert, an opportunity to express themselves. Held the second Thursday of each month from 1:30-3:30 pm the program is free to the public. The activities are planned and guided by Stacia Dick Schuster, a certified art therapist. “I try to focus on activities building memory and personal identity. That’s something we lose as we age, our sense of identity,” states Stacia Dick Schuster, “We try to bring that out in the art we create.” The monthly program is hosted collaboratively with volunteers and staff assisting from the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Manitowoc County and the Rahr West Art Museum.

The Rahr West Art Museum was founded in 1941 and operates as a department of the City of Manitowoc. The museum’s art collection contains over 3000 works, including work by local artists as well as internationally acclaimed artists such as Georgia O’Keefe and Andrew Wyeth. The museum works to engage the public in dynamic learning opportunities in the visual arts and enrich life in the area by serving as a cultural resource.

The Helen Bader Foundation supports innovative projects and programs that advance the well-being of people and promote successful relationships with their families and communities. The Foundation strives to be a philanthropic leader in improving the quality of life of the diverse communities in which it works. With offices in Milwaukee and Jerusalem, the Foundation awards an average of \$12 million per year in grants, totaling more than \$152 million in grants since 1992.

Persons in need of special accommodations are invited to contact the museum in advance for assistance. Accommodations will be made as quickly as possible.

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