

The RAAC Reporter

"Building and Strengthening Our Community Through the Arts"

Vol. 7 Issue 4

April 2026



The Rosemount Area Arts Council



The Second Act Players (SAP)

SAP was established in 2015 by the Rosemount Area Arts Council. It was created to give older adults, aged 50 and over, the opportunity to become involved in all aspects of the theater



arts, with or without previous experience. This project was initially funded with money from Minnesota's Art and Cultural Heritage Fund to provide theater classes to members. The SAP committee was fortunate to have two members with experience in the theater arts, Charlotte Kodner and Keith Reed. They taught some of the first classes, directed the first three skits, and are still going strong. Some of the original members have gone from playing in short skits to full productions thanks to the knowledge and skills gained through practice. Many found new joy and purpose in their retirement years.

Since 2015, the community has enjoyed the talents of countless actors and supporting positions while 2 yearly productions are performed for the public. The first performance consisted of 3 short one-act plays: *It's Your Move*; *If You Can't Beat'm*; and *At Half Time*. A few of the most popular full-length plays were: *Viagara Falls and the 70 Year old Virgin*, directed by Tony Sasso in 2022; *Mernie's Little Hoax*, directed again by Tony Sasso in 2024; and *Jack Benny's Not 39 Anymore*, directed by Peggy Root Kustritz in 2025. The annual *Christmas at the Steeple Center* has been quite popular thanks to the SAP actors playing those goofy elves.

SAP productions are only funded through ticket sales and donations. New SAP members are always welcome to join in on the fun.

Barley Jacks - Bluegrass Band

Friday, April 10, at 7 PM at the Steeple Center



The Barley Jacks perform original vocals and jaw-dropping instrumentals. Fiddle, guitar, bass, and drum meld the band's divergent backgrounds of blues and bluegrass, classical and Celtic, R & B and bebop, and inspire one another to create something entirely new.

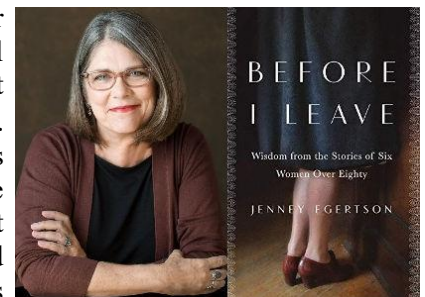
Tickets: Reserved Seats \$18, RAAC Members \$15.

Meet the Author: Robert Trail Library (Free event)

Thursday, April 16, 6:30-7:30 PM

Before I Leave - Jenney Egertson

Throughout her career, Jenney brought her love of connection and writing to high school classrooms, corporate America, and nonprofit clients as a communications consultant. Jenney's first book, *Before I Leave*, follows her journey from the moment her dream to be a writer re-emerged, through the fear she felt through middle age, to the sense of calm and acceptance she came to in her sixties. This award-winning book is to be shared across generations as women everywhere continue to reclaim their destinies and voices.



Spring Play (Second Act Players)

Friday, April 24 at 7 PM, and Saturday, April 25 at 2 PM & 7 PM, Steeple Center

This two-act comedy written and directed by Peggy Root Kustritz is about someone who has found a diamond in Minnesota and wants it to replace the agate as the state gemstone. An intrepid reporter is suspicious. What will she uncover as she travels to the Capitol and throughout the state? Come find out, have a bit of fun, and support local artists.

Tickets: Reserved Seats \$16, RAAC Members \$13 (group rates for 8 or more).



MINERAL MISCHIEF
IN MINNESOTA

Tickets

Online at RosemountArts.com/box-office or during Steeple Center Box Office hrs.: Mon. 10 AM-12 PM, Tues. 9-11 AM, Thurs. 1-3 PM.

Submit your photos for the ArtBlast Photo Contest!

Deadline: No later than 3:30 PM on Thursday, May 28

Photos can be dropped off at the RAAC Box Office in the lobby at the Steeple Center Mondays-Thursdays 8:30 AM-3:30 PM and Fridays 8:30 AM-12 noon. Photos and labeled flash drive should be in a bag. More information about contest rules and the entry form are found on the RAAC website at RosemountArts.com/photo-contest, or email RosemountArts@gmail.com for info.

Earth Day Poems and Visions

April: Celebrating National Poetry Month and Earth Day



Original poetry about our earthly beauty and artistic representations of nature have been shared by members of the community for everyone's reading and viewing pleasure. Find them on RAAC's website by clicking on "Poetry and Art."

Congratulations, March artists!



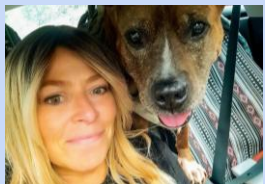
Left to right: Ann Loch, Jaci Staiger, Joe and Lynn Cicchese, Kelly Roche, Laurie Steehler, Brian Steehler, Jessica Rodenwald, Ron Hauser, Cecilia, Anne Marie, 1st gr. artist, and Donovan, 2nd gr. artist, st Joseph Sch.

On Display in April

In the Robert Trail Library:

Diamond Path Elementary artists will show their work until April 12, followed by *Red Pine Elementary* until May 3. The latter will be celebrated in a reception on Sat. April 18 from 1-2 PM. The public is welcome to attend.

In the Steeple Center:



Birgit Mac combines the art of story in driftwood, roots, bones and feathers to create a world made by time and tales. She uses embellishments and narratives to give her creations meaning and a life of their own. Meet the artist at a reception on Wed. April 8, 6:30-8 PM at the Steeple Center Gallery. Doors are open Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 AM-3:30 PM, and Fri. 8:30- noon to view her work through May.

Stats

RAAC 2026 membership: 223

March volunteer hrs.: 882 hrs. by 51 people

Year to date: 1780 hrs. by 58 people

Alligations - Rock'n Blues Band

Friday, May 8 at 7 PM at the Steeple Center

Alligations is a Minneapolis band celebrating blues music made famous by leading Chicago based blues record label Alligator Records, as well as classic blues from New Orleans, Texas, and Memphis. Enjoy sound from the 1950s to current. It is sure to move your feet, body, and soul!

Tickets: Reserved Seats \$18, RAAC Members \$15.



Quilt and Fiber Art Show Submissions for ArtBlast

Deadline: Friday, May 29



Artists who wish to have their fiber arts considered for display in this show should submit photos of up to 3 of their works by May 29. The show will take place during ArtBlast, Thursday, June 25 through Saturday, June 27, 2026, at the Steeple Center. Consult RAAC's website and click on the ArtBlast button for details or contact Jean Crewson at jccrewson@gmail.com.

Writing Workshop during ArtBlast: Telling Your Story

Saturday, June 27, 10 AM-12 PM at the Steeple Center

You know you have a story to tell, and it's worth telling...Get started in this class offered by Alida Winternheimer, winner of the 2025 Minnesota Author Project Adult Fiction Award among other awards.

Registration: \$20; RAAC members \$15; at rosemountarts.com/writing-class.

Join us

Coffee: Wednesdays at 8 AM at Lunds & Byerlys on Pilot Knob Rd in Apple Valley, across from Target South. Meet in the dining area by the East entrance.

Board Meeting: The next meeting is on Wednesday, April 8, at 7 PM at the Steeple Center. All members are invited to attend and give input on RAAC's future events. Others interested in the organization are also welcome.

Membership News

We'd love for new members to join us! Members can purchase two discounted tickets per individual membership or four discounted tickets per family membership. Volunteering for our events allows members to see them for free.

Four ways to become a member:

1. Mail a check to RAAC (address below)
2. Sign up on our website RosemountArts.com
3. Pay to "Rosemount Area Arts Council" through Venmo
4. Pay in person at our Box Office at the Steeple Center (see Tickets section above for days/hrs.)

Membership Levels are the Annual Dues

Full-time Student	\$15.00	Family/Household	\$35.00
Senior (50+)	\$15.00	Friend	\$100.00
Senior Family	\$25.00	Patron	\$250.00
Individual	\$25.00	Benefactor	\$500.00

RosemountArts.com

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