A year of arts, history and cultural programming across 12 regional library systems.

- **Attendance**: 160,989
- **Partnerships**: 1,902
- **Programs**: 1,404
- **Libraries**: 365

Providing rich educational opportunities and lifelong learning.

- Creating connections between communities and the arts
- Bringing an array of programs to Minnesotans
- Expanding cultural awareness
- Developing a sense of history

A wide variety of activities engage people and preserve Minnesota’s heritage.

**Cultural Minnesota Book Awards**
**Once Upon A Reader**
**Digitization**
**History Day Performances**
**Creativity**
Northwest
Northern Gael, an Irish Trio with a member who was born in the area, did a musical and dance performance. The trio played many songs using multiple instruments and encouraged audience participation.

Kitchigami
Christina Baker Kline, author of the bestseller Orphan Train, drew in large crowds at four events in the region. She shared stories from the book and her research process in an informative and deeply moving program.

Arrowhead
Minnesota History Player Virginia Mae Hope presented an interactive history program about being a pilot during WWII. Students saw related historical artifacts and met a local woman veteran, bringing history to life.

Lake Agassiz
The Detroit Lakes Library led a bus trip to the Minnesota History Center to visit the Toys of the '50s, '60s and '70s exhibit. People enjoyed reminiscing and learning about all the programs the History Center offers.

Viking
Brought a touring exhibition of portraits and stories of Minnesota Holocaust Survivors to Fergus Falls. Coordinating programs included a reception, a book discussion and a documentary film showing.

Great River
GRRL offered a number of holiday concerts featuring harpist Andrea Stern, jazz pianist/vocalist Andrew Walesch and musician Paul Imholte. They provided relief from the hustle and bustle of the holiday season.

Pioneerland
Patrons took a bus trip to the University of MN, Morris to tour the University's Horticultural Gardens. They learned about flower and vegetable gardens, the importance of bees, land stewardship and enjoyed a picnic.

Plum Creek
Author Joel Karsten, who grew up near Worthington, talked about growing vegetables and flowers in straw bales. His Straw Bale Gardening program is helping to fuel the cultural trend of sustainable gardening.

Traverse des Sioux
The Grammy Award-winning Okee Dokee Brothers brought their nature-inspired music to a park on a Minnesota summer evening. Audience members of all ages sang and danced along with the songs.

East Central
Presented the program "What a Wonderful World," which focused on senior citizens and recalled the songs of their past. The intergenerational program drew a good crowd and people especially enjoyed the sing-along part of the program.

MELSA
Collaborated with the Loft Literary Center to expand participation in Poetry Out Loud, a national competition for high school students. Public activities included an open online course and a public celebration.

SELCO
SELCO's regional newspaper digitization project continued. SELCO newspapers are a key component of the Minnesota Digital Newspaper Hub, which makes historic newspapers freely accessible over the Internet.