

STATE SENATOR • RAYMOND E. BASHAM • 8TH DISTRICT

Basham Press Release

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Senator Basham Announces \$18,500 in Downriver Arts Grants *Taylor, Riverview Communities Receive Cultural Funding*

TAYLOR— Sen. Ray Basham (D-Taylor) is pleased to announce that the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs has awarded two grants to the Downriver area: \$10,600 to the Downriver Council for the Arts in Taylor, and \$7,900 to the Southern Great Lakes Symphony in Riverview.

The Downriver Council for the Arts grant will help with marketing and promotional efforts, staff development, artist mentoring, lectures and workshops, gallery maintenance, and collaboration with other Downriver organizations. The grant to the Southern Great Lakes Symphony will fund the presentation of four concerts, including a movie-themed concert and a youth concert.

“Arts and culture define the personality of a community, help drive our local economies and improve the quality of life for those who live there,” said Sen. Basham. “I appreciate that MCACA recognizes the value of the arts to the Downriver area, and would like to thank them for their contributions to keeping the culture alive.”

MCACA awarded more than \$7.7 million in the form of 259 arts and cultural grants in 50 counties. All grant applications were evaluated through a process of peer review. Panels, consisting of arts and cultural professionals from throughout the state, evaluated and judged each application based on published review criteria. This process resulted in recommendations for funding consideration to the council. Projects funded by MCACA must be completed within fiscal year 2008, which began October 1, 2007 and ends September 30, 2008.

A complete list of grant recipients can be found at www.michigan.gov/arts.

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