



NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 7/22/2026

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Vernon Filley Art Museum Receives \$10,600 Grant Award from Kansas Arts Commission

The Vernon Filley Art Museum is proud to announce a \$10,600 grant award from the Kansas Art Commission. The grant award will provide critical operating support to The Filley's 2026-2027 season of exhibitions, art classes, workshops and educational programming for local youth.

"The Filley is honored to receive this funding from the Kansas Arts Commission. We just wrapped up our second year of our Youth Summer Art Camp in partnership with the Pratt Recreation Department. Forty-five local children came each week for four Monday camp sessions to explore new art techniques and mediums. KAC funding helps make that program and many of our other community tours, workshops and exhibitions possible," said Brittany Novotny, Executive Director.



Caption: Summer Art Camp students from early elementary through 8th Grade enjoyed working with volunteer art instructors during the 4 week Filley Art Camp (in partnership with Pratt Rec Dept). Funded in part by KAC and PCC.

The Kansas Arts Commission awarded a total of \$750,000 to 91 arts organizations in Kansas. Grant funding opportunities included the Arts Everywhere, General Operating Support, and Public Art & Mural programs. Funding will support visual arts, performances, creative writing, murals, community and professional theater and arts education in communities across the state in 34 counties.

“We know the arts are vital to our rural community. They bring us together and build our shared local identity. These are challenging times. Like many arts organizations across Kansas, The Filley is rising to meet this moment through continued local economic partnerships, educational opportunities and community engagement. We are incredibly grateful to the Kansas Arts Commission for their continued leadership and advocacy,” said Emilie Steffen-Smith, Grants Coordinator. “We encourage everyone in our community to reach out to our State legislators and tell them how important arts funding is to Kansans.”



Earlier this month, the Filley celebrated the opening of two new exhibitions—*Terrain: Interpreting the Kansas Landscape*, 3D and 2D works by Kansas Artists Kat Dorcas and Lucie Eusey and *Masterpieces of the Skies: B-29 Superfortress Nose Art of Saipan*, presented in partnership with the Pratt B-29 Museum and the City of Pratt. The opening reception hosted 135 visitors. Families can check out these new exhibits for free now through August 2nd through the Sunflower Summer app. For more information about upcoming events, classes and exhibits, visit the museum’s website vernonfilleyartmuseum.org.



The full list of KAC grant recipients can be found on the [Kansas Department of Commerce website](http://KansasDepartmentofCommerce.org). ” Funding for the KAC grants comes from appropriations by the Kansas Legislature and federal support from the National Endowment of the Arts.

Caption: Photos from the July 18th opening reception of *Terrain* and *Masterpieces of the Skies*. These exhibitions are funded in part by the Kansas Arts Commission, which

receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

About the Vernon Filley Art Museum

*Founded in 2014, the Vernon Filley Art Museum is a nonprofit regional art museum located in Pratt, Kansas. The museum is dedicated to collecting, preserving, and exhibiting the work of Kansas and regional artists while inspiring creativity through exhibitions, educational programming, and community engagement. Each year, the museum welcomes nearly 9,000 visitors and provides arts education for more than 1,300 students through school tours, classroom outreach, summer art camps, workshops, and family programs like the monthly first friday lunch and learn lecture program. Museum admission is **\$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors, \$2 for youth, free for children ages 5 and under, and always free for museum members.** The Filley is committed to making the arts accessible to residents and visitors throughout south-central Kansas.*