

# MAC Mini-grants Available, Apply by June 1

**News Release**  
JACKSON, MISS. – May 11, 2021 – The Mississippi Arts Commission is now accepting applications for the agency’s Mini-grant program, which is offered several times a year to organizations and individual artists to assist with small-scale arts activities around the state. Applications are now open and the deadline to apply is Tuesday, June 1. In 2020, the agency expanded possible uses for Mini-grant funds to better to respond to the changing needs of artists and arts organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligible individual artists and organizations may apply for up to \$500 and \$1,000, respectively. Professional-level artists may apply through the Artist Mini-grant program for up to \$500 to create digital portfolios or gallery tours, host virtual demonstrations, support promotion and marketing efforts, pursue eligible professional development or purchase art supplies.

Mini-grants for organizations are designed to meet a wide variety of needs in Mississippi communities, schools and arts organizations, and they stimulate arts

# AG Fitch Joins 22 State Coalition Defending Babies with a Pre-Natal Down Syndrome Diagnosis

*Protecting the Down Syndrome community from being targeted for elimination solely because of disability*

“All children are created in the image of God, fearfully and wonderfully made for a purpose, and those in the disability community are a beacon of light, joy, and hope radiating throughout the world. A pre-natal Down Syndrome diagnosis should not be a death sentence. I will always fight to protect our children, especially those who cannot fight for themselves.” Lynn Fitch

Attorney General Lynn Fitch joined 21 states in filing an amicus brief at the Supreme Court of the United States in support of an Arkansas law that would prohibit abortions solely based on a pre-natal Down Syndrome diagnosis.

The brief was filed Thursday morning, May 13 in the case Leslie Rutledge v. Little Rock Planning Services.

projects in rural and underserved communities. Non-profit organizations or local government entities may apply for up to \$1,000 to hire MAC roster artists, create online workshops, host virtual gatherings or pursue other eligible organizational professional development.

Complete grant guidelines are available at [arts.ms.gov/grants](https://arts.ms.gov/grants). Please contact MAC at (601) 359-6030 if you have any questions.

“All children are created in the image of God, fearfully and wonderfully made for a purpose, and those in the disability community are a beacon of light, joy, and hope radiating throughout the world,” said Attorney General Lynn Fitch. “A pre-natal Down Syndrome diagnosis should not be a death sentence. I will always fight to protect our children, especially those who cannot fight for themselves.”

The brief states, “People with Down Syndrome add unique joy, beauty, and diversity to our society. Yet the abortion of children with Down Syndrome approaches genocidal levels, threatening

the Down Syndrome community with complete elimination. All States share Arkansas’ compelling interests in preventing the eradication of people with Down syndrome through the practice of eugenic abortion.”

The brief argues that Arkansas’ law advances at least eight compelling state interests:

- Protecting the entire class of persons with Down Syndrome from being targeted for elimination solely because of disability;
- Eradicating historical animus and bias against persons with Down Syndrome;
- Safeguarding the integrity of the medical profession

by preventing doctors from abandoning their traditional role as healers to become the killers of disabled populations;

- Drawing a clear boundary against additional eugenic practices targeted at disabled persons and others;
- Countering the stigma that eugenic abortion currently imposes on persons with disabilities;
- Ensuring that the existing Down Syndrome community does not become starved of resources for research and care for individuals with Down Syndrome;
- Protecting against the devaluation of all human life inherent in any decision to target a person for elimination based on an immutable characteristic; and
- Fostering the diversity of society and protecting society from the incalculable loss that would occur if people with Down Syndrome were eliminated.

The brief also makes the argument that Arkansas’ prohibition against Down Syndrome abortions is not per se invalid under Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey. Mississippi has a similar law that prohibits abortion sought on the basis of race, sex, or genetic abnormality, except in a medical emergency.

The brief recounts the disturbing history of mistreatment, neglect, and abuse of people with Down Syndrome in the past, and argues that when screening or diagnostic tests report the possibility of Down Syndrome, the counseling process is heavily tilted towards abortion, stating, “The counseling received by parents at that vulnerable moment heavily favors abortion. One survey found that, among women receiving genetic counseling, ‘83% reported they did not receive balanced counseling regarding the quality of life for children with disabilities.’”

In addition to Mississippi, state attorneys general from Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and West Virginia also joined the brief.

# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

## ACROSS

- 1) Computer scientist Turing
- 5) Shoot-'em-up sounds
- 10) Saclike growth
- 14) Battle the clock
- 15) Freeze over
- 16) Find repugnant
- 17) Stone of the screen
- 18) Like a committee chaired by actor Cooper?
- 20) Alcoholic appetite arouser
- 22) Slurred over
- 23) Comedian Philips
- 24) Lilt syllable
- 25) "Take your pick"
- 26) Literary category characterized by jealous characters?
- 32) Flatow of "Science Friday"
- 33) Riles up
- 34) Poetic foot
- 37) Accepted fact
- 39) With 53-Down, like some rural roads
- 40) Annual Oct. 24 observance
- 41) Take for a ride, so to speak
- 42) Brown ermines
- 44) "\_\_\_ & the Women" (Richard Gere movie)
- 45) Result of an auto mechanic's mishap?
- 48) Old TV ET
- 50) Out of practice? (Abbr.)
- 51) Page in history
- 52) Home of the NHL's Stars
- 54) Leave the launch pad
- 59) Grammy-winning rapper wearing his Swiss chard costume?
- 61) Put grill lines on
- 62) Baking spot
- 63) Zig and zag
- 64) Hill helper
- 65) Kid-lit detective \_\_\_ the Great
- 66) Goat-man deity
- 67) Nailed at a slant

## COLOR MIX

By Frank Longo

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18					19				
20				21					22					
			23					24			25			
26	27	28				29	30			31				
32				33						34		35	36	
37			38			39				40				
41					42					43		44		
		45		46							47			
48	49			50					51					
52			53				54	55				56	57	58
59						60					61			
62					63						64			
65					66						67			

## DOWN

- 1) Field of study
- 2) Aladdin's find
- 3) Nadir's opposite
- 4) Not so far
- 5) Country band Little \_\_\_
- 6) Trendy berry
- 7) Foam toy brand
- 8) Frat member, e.g.
- 9) Planet shapes, roughly
- 10) Starbucks tea offering
- 11) "Blah blah blah"
- 12) Dutch painter Jan
- 13) Victoria's Secret garment
- 19) \_\_\_ vital (life force)
- 21) "That is to say ..."
- 24) "Or else!" is one
- 26) Jobs, slangily
- 27) Bana of "Hanna"
- 28) Armada
- 29) Fielder's cry
- 30) Part of some carpentry joints
- 31) Diesel of Hollywood
- 35) Podcaster Maron
- 36) Computer memory unit
- 38) Outback avian
- 40) Podcast subscribers, say
- 42) Playground features, often
- 43) Where to put on a play
- 46) Uplifting lingerie
- 47) Bigwig with big bucks
- 48) Extra charge
- 49) Pupa-to-be
- 53) See 39-Across
- 54) Really tired
- 55) Impose, as a tax
- 56) Kasich's state
- 57) Lose sparkle
- 58) Pebbles Flintstone's dad
- 60) Tony winner \_\_\_ Arthur



**DEPUTY APPRAISER POSITION OPENING**

The Holmes County Tax Office is looking to hire a Deputy Appraiser. To qualify for this position you must be certified by the state. If interested, please submit a resume to:

**Holmes County Tax Assessor/Collector Office**  
**Linda Rollins**  
**Court Square**  
**Lexington, MS**  
**8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**  
**Monday thru Friday**

**Madison County Nursing Home**

The following positions are open at Madison County Nursing Home in Canton:

**LPNs or RNs**  
**CNAs**  
**RN Supervisor**  
**Day Shift M-F**  
**Also, starting new CNA class soon.**

*We offer competitive starting pay and a great benefit package including State Retirement.*

Please call (601) 855-5771 for more information.