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Deb Cull, Creative 360  
[dcull@bcreative360.org](mailto:dcull@bcreative360.org), 989-513-6798 or 989-837-1885

## CREATIVE 360 RECEIVES MCACA Grant

**October 19, 2015, Midland, Mich.** – Creative 360 has been awarded a grant of \$15,000 from the State of Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The grant was awarded through the MCACA peer review process and was one of 559 applications to compete for MCACA fiscal year 2016 funding.

“We are grateful for the support the arts continue to receive from our state and federal government,” said Carol Rumba, Creative 360’s executive director. “Our legislators continue to vote for funding in support of facilities like ours that provide cultural and creative enrichment to Michigan’s communities.”

Organizations receiving a MCACA grant award are required to match those funds with other public and private dollars. Local support for Creative 360’s operations come from individual memberships, sponsorships and donations and from foundations like the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation, Midland Area Community Foundation, Dow Corning Foundation, Barstow Foundation, R. Gerstacker Foundation, Strosacker Foundation. Local businesses also support the non-profit with donations and sponsorships. Major funding comes from Dow Corning Corp., leuter Insurance Group, Wolverine Bank, and MidMichigan Health. Creative 360 receives significant volunteer support from the community. Some especially hard-working and generous volunteers include Ann Butzler, Elizabeth Bozelli, Dianna Cole, Bryan Dahl, Heather Deogracia, Midhi Jackson, Michael Morin, and Anne McGeehan-Woodard.

Founded in 1995 by Midland arts educators Cynthia Keefe and Linda Z. Smith, Creative 360 is a community based, non-profit organization dedicated to celebrating the creative process. Assisted by the generous support of local foundations, corporations and individuals, the non-profit seeks to create an environment for people of all ages and abilities to experience the creative process through ongoing class, events, art exhibits, concerts and outreach programs. Creative 360 is an environment where creativity flourishes and the benefits of creativity are realized.

The MCACA peer review process allows for each grant application to be competitively considered by a panel of in-state and out-of-state arts and culture professionals. This ensures the taxpayers, who support this project through legislative appropriations, and all other visitors or residents in Michigan will have access to the highest quality arts and cultural experiences.

### **About Creative 360**

Creative 360, formerly known as Creative Spirit Center, is a not-for-profit community arts and wellness organization founded in 1994. Its mission is to create an environment for people of all ages and abilities to experience the creative process through ongoing classes, art exhibits, events, concerts, speakers and outreach programs, with its goal to enhance the development of physical, mental and spiritual wellness through the arts and humanities. In 2013, Creative 360 expanded its offering to include Express Yourself Artshop, a program focused on those with physical, mental and intellectual challenges. Activities at Creative 360 are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, Midland Area Community Foundation and the Herbert H. and Grace A Dow Foundation.