



“The earth was full of life and there were dandelions growing out the window, thick as thieves, already seeded, fat as big yellow plungers. She let my hand go. I got up. “I’ll go out and dig a few dandelions,” I told her.

“Outside the sun was hot and heavy as a hand on my back. I felt it flow down my arms, out my fingers, arrowing through the ends of the fork into the earth. With every root I prized up there was return, as if I was kin to its secret lesson. The touch got stronger as I worked through the grassy afternoon. Uncurling from me like a seed out of the blackness where I was lost, the touch spread. The spiked leaves full of bitter mother’s milk. A buried root. A nuisance people dig up and throw in the sun to wither. A globe of frail seeds that’s indestructible.”

--an excerpt from
“Love Medicine by Louise Erdrich



The Big Read

in the St. Croix Valley

Call for Artists

As part of The Big Read in the St. Croix Valley, ArtReach St. Croix will be presenting the exhibition **Spirit, Heart, Home** at its gallery in Stillwater as well as in select public buildings in the St. Croix Valley. The exhibition will be on view April 2-May 9, 2015.

In the novel “Love Medicine” by Louise Erdrich, themes of love, heritage, nature and going home circle around the two central families. For this exhibition, we are seeking artwork that expresses these themes. Artists may submit artwork that responds to each of these themes individually or as they interact with each other in relation to their own experiences.

Artists are encouraged to read “Love Medicine.” Copies of the book are available at ArtReach St. Croix (224 N. 4th Street, Stillwater, MN) as part of The Big Read in the St. Croix Valley. A reader’s guide, teachers guide and audio guide are also available.

All forms of creative work are encouraged. All media, subjects and styles are welcome including—but not limited to—painting, fibers, printmaking, sculpture, glass, pottery, jewelry, mixed media and photography. All applications will be reviewed by the Visual Arts Committee of ArtReach St. Croix to ensure an appropriate mix of work for the exhibition.

Artists living and/or working in the St. Croix Valley of Minnesota and Wisconsin between Hastings and Prescott, and St. Croix Falls and Taylors Falls including the cities of Stillwater, Afton, Marine on St. Croix, River Falls, Hudson and New Richmond are especially encouraged to submit applications. Artists are encouraged to submit images of up to three pieces

All artwork submissions must be accompanied by a completed submission form that includes a 100 word maximum statement about how the artwork relates to the theme **Spirit, Heart, Home**. Forms are available at ArtReach gallery or online at www.artreachstcroix.org/opportunities.

Submission Deadline: February 14, 2015

Artwork Drop-off: March 30, 2015, 10am-4pm

Exhibition On View: April 2-May 9, 2015

Opening Reception: April 2, 2015, 6-8pm

Questions? Contact Syndie at syndie@artreachstcroix.org or at 651.439.1465.