



**ArtReach St. Croix**  
224 N. 4th Street,  
Stillwater, MN 55082  
651.439.1465  
[www.artreachstcroix.org](http://www.artreachstcroix.org)  
[www.ValleyReads.org](http://www.ValleyReads.org)

## **Deadline: December 5, 2014**

*ArtReach St. Croix's Big Read Committee looks forward to submissions which may be sent in hard copy to ArtReach St. Croix at 224 N 4th Street, Stillwater, MN 55082 or electronically to [info@artreachstcroix.org](mailto:info@artreachstcroix.org).*



# The Big Read

in the St. Croix Valley

## Call for Stories

ArtReach St. Croix has received a National Endowment for the Arts Big Read grant. As a regional arts agency serving the lower St. Croix Valley, ArtReach will work in collaboration with arts organizations and libraries throughout the six county region to provide a range of activities associated with the featured book for the 2015 Big Read: the Louise Erdrich novel, "Love Medicine."

As part of the Big Read activities, St. Croix Festival Theatre will be creating an original piece of theatre with the working theme "From the Back Door to the Kitchen Table." This bold idea is built upon the concept of A.R. Gurney's "The Dining Room" in conjunction with themes from Erdrich's "Love Medicine" and will tell a story inspired by residents of our local communities.

The exact format and content of the piece will be suggested by submissions from writers across the region, but will be informed by the working concept of a series of scenes set in a single room and beginning with a family member or friend bursting through the backdoor having just experienced a place-specific encounter with nature. Writers are invited to send any of the following original pieces of work to provide inspiration for this process:

- Short story
- One-act play
- Poem
- Song
- Visual arts (photograph of the piece)
- Blog
- Video
- Podcast

From these entries, the ideas and concepts contained in one or more of the submissions will be worked, or reworked, into the dramatic presentation. Submissions may also be incorporated into other exhibits and events that develop as planning for The Big Read evolves. No cash awards will be made for this program and submissions imply permission to use the material for inspiration in creating an original theatre experience. Artists and writers living and/or working in the St. Croix Valley in Minnesota or Wisconsin are especially encouraged to submit entries.