

**Request for Economic Study Funding
Rapid City Arts Council
Barb Evenson, Director of Community Service
Legal & Finance 5/31/06**

The Rapid City Arts Council, at the request of the South Dakota Office of Tourism and State Development under its 2010 Initiative, has agreed to manage local administration, data collection and distribution of data in seven Black Hills counties including Pennington for a year long national survey on the arts & culture as a factor in economic development.

We are seeking support from local municipalities, counties, chambers of commerce and economic development organizations in raising \$15,000 to participate, manage and distribute the results for this study. We request that the City of Rapid City provide \$3000 to support this effort.

This groundbreaking national study uses econometric methodology to document the role played by the arts and cultural industries in local economies, and will provide a baseline for economic development planners in our region. The econometric model developed will provide more accurate estimates of FTEs, personal income, and revenues generated to city, county and state governments.

The resulting study will document in detail the role played by arts and cultural industries in strengthening and diversifying local economies which will be invaluable to city and state economic development planning efforts.