

FUNDING FOR ORGANIZATIONS

Ohio is home to more than 5,600 nonprofit organizations that provide public programs in the arts and culture. These organizations connect Ohio citizens of all ages, abilities and backgrounds with experiences in everything from theatre to dance, media to music, visual art to literature and all forms of folk and traditional art. As a key part of the state's economy, arts and cultural nonprofits provide nearly 28,500 jobs and contribute significant economic impact to the state. They also play a vital role in the state's education environment by enriching the school curriculum of 613 school districts through their programs and resources, and by extending creative learning opportunities for young people far beyond the school day.

The Ohio Arts Council (OAC) was created to fund and support quality arts experiences that build Ohio culturally, educationally and economically. In order to fulfill this mission, the OAC has developed grant programs and services to grow and maintain a healthy arts and cultural sector that serves Ohio citizens in all corners of the state.

One of the OAC's most far-reaching grant categories is [Sustainability](#), which provides general operating support to arts and cultural organizations that make an important contribution to the vitality of Ohio communities. The OAC has several other grant categories for organizations: [Arts Innovation](#) encourages experimentation in artistic forms, programming, partnerships and operations; [Arts Access](#) and the [Building Cultural Diversity Initiative](#) broaden opportunities for citizens to participate in the arts; and [Capacity Building](#) seeks to strengthen organizations' internal operations. [Artist Express](#), [Artist in Residence](#) and [Arts Partnership](#) serve arts education needs with a focus on lifelong learning. In addition to grants, the OAC provides a wide range of services and resources to help organizations achieve their missions and fulfill their role as vital partners in community life.

At a time of great change across Ohio, arts and cultural organizations are making crucial contributions to communities through the diversification of local economies, job creation, tourism, increased pride of place, the education of young and old, and renewed civic engagement. Public funding for the arts is accomplishing what no one of us can do alone. Together the programs and services of the OAC provide an essential foundation for the arts and culture in Ohio as we celebrate our past, explore the present, and dream of a better future.