United Arts Fund Initiatives:

West-East

Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC)

Portland, OR

http://www.racc.org/

Work for Art raised a grand total $912,213 last year – our best campaign ever! Thanks to the generosity of more than 2,000 donors, 75 companies, and everyone who participated in our first annual [Battle of the Bands](http://workforart.org/battle-of-the-bands/) event, Work for Art will be able to distribute larger investments (and a full 100% of the proceeds!) to 100 local arts and culture organizations this fall.

Our 11th annual campaign kicks off this month, chaired by Kregg Arntson, director of corporate social responsibility for Portland General Electric and executive director of the PGE Foundation. Although Work for Art is primarily a workplace giving program, anyone can participate and enjoy the benefits of making a single gift that supports 100 arts and culture organizations in our community. Online at [workforart.org](http://workforart.org/).

Art of Leadership, established by BCA in 2003, prepares business professionals to serve on the boards of arts and culture organizations. A series of six half-day workshops are led by internationally acclaimed arts consultant George Thorn and other expert speakers. The program also provides opportunities for an internship to observe an arts board, and a “speed dating” event to meet with boards seeking new members.

Registration for the 2016-17 series is now open! The first workshop is slated for October 5, then on future Wednesdays — November 9, December 7, January 4, February 1, and March 1. The $800 tuition fee includes all six workshops, five lunches, and an afternoon graduation reception. For more information visit [racc.org/artofleadership](https://www.racc.org/resources/art-of-leadership/). Deadline to apply: 9/26/16.

Coming next spring, RACC will unveil new, advanced-level Art of Leadership workshops specifically designed for current board members to do a deeper dive on board engagement and fundraising issues. Stay tuned!

The Arts Breakfast of Champions is scheduled to return to the Portland Art Museum on February 8, 2017. This annual event brings together elected officials, business leaders, and members of the arts community to celebrate and support culture, creativity and innovation in our community. Tickets for the event will be available in November.

Arts Fund

Seattle, WA

http://www.artsfund.org/

The ArtsFund Associates program is a volunteer corps of business professionals committed to supporting ArtsFund through peer-to-peer fundraising. Led and driven by passionate volunteers, ArtsFund Associates act as ambassadors for ArtsFund on the ground level while engaging with like-minded community members. Associates are empowered to fundraise on behalf of the organization contributing to ArtsFund’s Campaign 201–which allows ArtsFund to support the sector through grantmaking, leadership and advocacy.

ArtsFund keeps an eye to the future by helping to train a new generation of leaders for arts organizations. Through its Associates program and Board Leadership Training program, ArtsFund is helping to provide future and current board members with the skills needed to help arts organizations be successful financially and artistically. Nothing helps a nonprofit organization succeed like a well-trained and effective board of directors. Understanding this,

ArtsFund provides the cultural sector a platform for sharing of resources, practices and perspective to expand its collective capacity to serve our overall community.  Partnering with local, regional and national practitioners and thought leaders, ArtsFund’s convenings programs foster discussion and provide tools and training opportunities in direct response to the needs identified by regional arts organizations.

With The Boeing Company, ArtsFund created this program in 1991 to help direct State funds to strong nonprofit arts capital projects all around Washington. Soon after its creation, the legislature assigned administration of the program to the State office of Community Trade and Economic Development. Legislators found the program so effective that they cloned it for other program areas. ArtsFund works with the State to fund arts capital projects around Washington, and has secured over $89 million for more than 200 capital projects throughout Washington State. ArtsFund serves on the program’s advisory board and leads the effort to ensure legislative appropriations.

power2give/PugetSound was a **regional arts crowdfunding platform** presented by ArtsFund from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2016. In a three-year span, ArtsFund’s power2give platform **generated $1,224,849** in support of **228 projects** from **100 multidisciplinary arts and cultural organizations** throughout the Central Puget Sound. Over **4,700 donations** were made by more than 3,600 individuals. The most frequent gifts made were $100 and $50.  On average, **40%** of the donors were **first time donors** to the organization whose project they were supporting, with some projects reaching up to 60% new donors.  All dollars donated to projects on the site were matched by ArtsFund’s matching funds, with ArtsFund providing a total of **$548,824 matching dollars**.

Launched in late 2009, the Cultural Resource Collective currently comprises 30 Puget Sound area arts and cultural organizations. These participating organizations collaborate to manage their patron data in a secure, private central database managed by TRG Arts, via local facilitation by ArtsFund.

The Allied Arts Fund

Rapid City, SD

http://www.alliedartsrc.org

March for the Arts: Come join us to kick-off March for the Arts in Rapid City. March for the Arts aims to build awareness for the Rapid City Arts Community and raise funds for Allied Arts Member Organizations. The event will include our March for the Arts giveaway and a performance by arts organizations. The fabulous Central High School Drum Line will again lead the March for the Arts Kick-off at Main Street Square on Tuesday, February 12, at 11:45 a.m. The Cobbler Drum Line, under the direction of Mr. Tobias Rath, will be joined by an enthusiastic crowd of arts supporters. The "march" around Main Street Square is the first event of the 2013 Allied Arts Fund's 43rd fund raising season. A short performance by the Cobbler Drum Line on the Main Street Square Stage will be followed by introduction of volunteers from the eleven member arts organizations. Join us as we march with our Presidents and raise awareness for the Arts in our community.

Rush for the Arts: Come see the Rush hockey game and support the arts. There will be a silent auction for a custom painted hockey stick autographed by the Rush team. Proceeds go to the Allied Arts Fund.

Eat for the Arts: Dine at participating restaurants and a percentage of proceeds will go to the Allied Arts Fund. Help us close our March for the Arts fundraising campaign with a bang!

Deadwood Experience: Are you looking for a unique "Branson" like experience? Join us for our "Deadwood" experience with Judy Collins at Deadwood Mountain Grand. Round-trip Chartered Coach, Dinner at the The Deadwood Social Club and tickets to the show! Plus a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Allied Arts Fund Member Arts Agencies!

Make Music Black Hills: Make Music is based on France’s “Fête de la Musique,” a national musical holiday inaugurated in 1982. Ever since, the event has become an international phenomenon, currently celebrated on the same day in more than 700 cities around the world. 2016 was our first Make Music Black Hills and it was a huge success with 5 Venues and over 30 Artists!

Arts Appreciation Night with the Rush (Hockey): Join the Allied Arts Fund at the Rush game for a "Princess and the Beast" night celebrating the Arts! Purchase your AAF ticket through the Rush and a portion of the proceeds will help to support the Arts in our Community!

Allied Arts

Oklahoma City, OK

http://alliedartsokc.com

Capital Campaign: Special initiatives in 2015 included a reception to recognize and re-engage past board and campaign leaders, a corporate match that doubled donations made in the month of May, and a strategic and comprehensive marketing effort to draw awareness to the last weeks of the of the fundraising campaign.

Allocations: The bulk of campaign proceeds is directed to Allied Arts’ 26 member agencies through the allocations grant program. Allocations are determined by two factors: 90% from a set formula related to agency contributed, income; and 10% from committee review of each agency’s publicly filed financial disclosures, narrative documentation and live presentations.

Educational Outreach: provides funding to help expand the scope and reach of existing youth arts projects, as well as to support the launch of new projects. The purpose of the program is to ensure that Oklahoma K-12 schoolchildren, particularly undeserved and at-risk youth, receive arts education in their classrooms, afterschool sites and community centers.

Capacity Building: The Allied Arts Capacity Building program assists nonprofit arts and cultural organizations in building organizational capability to better serve their constituencies and fulfill their missions.

power2give: power2give launched in central OK in 2014 as a unique way for donors to contribute to specific arts projects. In 2015, Allied Arts awarded $25K in support of 20 projects posted on the crowdfunding site. Allied Arts served as the administrator of the local site, reviewing the eligibility of cultural nonprofits to participate in the program, processing financial transactions and promoting the platform as a whole to the general public.

OPUS: On October 24, 2014, Allied Arts transformed the Oklahoma City Golf & Country Club into the iconic Hotel ZaZa for OPUS VIII: Party ZaZa. Approximately 630 people attended the event with net proceeds totally $326K.

ARTini: On March 27, 2015, Catalyst, the Allied Arts young professionals group, held the 12th annual ARTini at the Oklahoma City Farmers Public Market. Event Chair Claire Rumelle led a committee which broke records in ticket, raffle and art sales, resulting in $65K raised for central OK’s arts landscape through the event. Approx. 800 guests experienced the ARTini in Wonderland theme through original martinis created by participating restaurants and artwork from established and emerging artists.

Chip in for the Arts: Art lovers and golf enthusiasts alike convened on May 11, 2015, at Oklahoma City Golf & Country Club to “Chip in for the Arts.” Chaired by David Neff, the annual tournament raised more than $50K through sponsorships, golf team registrations and raffle sales.

Allied Arts Council of St. Joseph

St. Joseph, MO

http://www.stjoearts.org

Traffic Box Project: The City of St. Joseph and the Allied Arts Council invite artists to apply for the 6th traffic box public art project. The goal is to create and paint art on traffic signal boxes in the downtown area and turn St. Joseph street corners into pieces of art.

Art for Life: an artists' outreach program for senior citizens and disadvantaged youth. Since the Allied Arts Council exists to "bring arts and people together," a natural outgrowth is the "Art for Life" program. Currently, the Council works with the YWCA to bring artist outreach programs to their clients.

Trails West!: Trails West!® is an outdoor arts festival, hosted by the Allied Arts Council, celebrating the unique cultural heritage of St. Joseph, Mo. The festival features fine arts, folk arts, culinary arts, music, dance, and theatre. The 2017 festival will be held August 18-21 at Civic Center Park.

Sculpture Walk: The Sculpture Walk is a program of the Allied Arts Council that introduces contemporary outdoor public art and sculptures to our community. The Walk is a year-long exhibit of national, juried, outdoor sculptures displayed in Downtown St. Joseph and includes an eclectic mix of 17 sculptures from artists nationwide. The sculptures are owned by the artists and loaned to the Allied Arts Council for one year. Visitors are invited to vote for their favorite sculpture each year to determine the recipient of the People's Choice Award. Brochures are available at various downtown businesses. To submit your vote, simply tear off the voting panel and bring it to the Allied Arts Council office, or drop it through the mail slot at 118 S. 8th St., St. Joseph, MO.

Artists in the Schools: Artists in the Schools, a program of the Allied Arts Council, offers cultural enrichment to students in grades pre-K-12 in public and parochial schools in the St. Joseph area.

The program provides cultural enrichment for students as they have the experience of watching the creative process in action.  They discover artists as real people who possess talents that they, too, can acquire.

Artscape: Summer Arts Camp held at Missouri Western State University

Beer Walk for the Arts: In May, patrons toured six Museum Hill homes, enjoying beer, food and local music at each location

Mayor’s Awards for the Arts

ArtsKC

Kansas City, MO

http://artskc.org

Now Showing: Now Showing is a program designed to foster partnerships between individual artists and businesses by providing opportunities for metro-area artists to display their work in the conference rooms, lobbies, and office spaces of local companies.  The partnership benefits the artist who is exposed to a potential new audience, as well as the company who is exposed to new elements of creativity and inspiration.

ArtsKC Grantmaking: ArtsKC Grants are investments in people, programs, and projects that make the arts more accessible, that sustain a vibrant arts community, and that recognize excellence, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the arts

ArttsKCgo.com:  ArtsKCGo.com is a central repository of arts and cultural events, directories, and resources offered across the five-county region of the Kansas City metropolitan area.

Arts Organization Executive Directors Roundtables: ArtsKC hosts bi-monthly roundtables which provide learning and networking opportunities for leadership in the arts community.  The Large Arts Organizations Executive Directors Roundtable and Small-to-Mid Sized Arts Organizations Executive Directors Roundtable are broken up into these two groups based on annual budget size.  Further requirements for participation include; being an arts nonprofit and being an established part of the Kansas City arts community.  Members attend bi-monthly meetings during the lunch hour on the first Wednesday of every month, where they discuss the overall health of the arts community, possible partnerships, and long-term goals for the city as a whole.

The ArtsKC Gallery: The purpose of the ArtsKC gallery is to enrich the Crossroads Art District by providing the opportunity to view and engage with work by local Kansas City artists at all stages of their artistic career. The partnership between artist, the public, and the business sector is an essential relationship. Each exhibit further advances ArtsKC’s mission of unleashing the power of the arts by promoting a rich, diverse, and stimulating cultural environment in which enriches the lives of the City’s residents, visitors and employees.

Artist INC: a program run in partnership with Charlotte Street Foundation and the UMKC Innovation Center, takes some of the mystery and fear out of the business end of a fine arts practice.  This program focuses on coaching artists in business skills such as marketing, finance, grant writing, etc. Artist INC is taught by artists for artists and is appropriate for generative artists of all disciplines.  Visual artists, musicians, film makers, dancers, performers, and writers come together for intensive work on the components of a viable and sustainable arts practice. The first Artist INC workshop launched in 2009 and has been completed by over 350 fine artists in the Kansas City area. The Artist INC Online workshop was introduced in 2011 to meet the needs of those artists unable to attend the traditional workshop due to constraints of geography or schedule.

Inspiration Breakfast: The 8th Annual Inspiration Breakfast will be an opportunity to learn how ArtsKC’s missions and programs unleash the power of the arts for the benefit of the Kansas City region. This event is not open to the public.

The Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge

Baton Rouge, LA

http://artsbr.org/

Creative Relief: The Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge has established the Creative Relief Fund which provides financial assistance **throughout the 11-parish region it serves**, through grants to artists in times of need.  This fund addresses human services issues that directly impact the health and welfare of artists, covers a wide range of personal emergencies, and supports professional recovery, including temporary employment opportunities.

An Artsplosion! Spring Break Camp: An Artsplosion! Kids Camp is a unique camp that will introduce your child to a variety of art disciplines through facilitated lessons, constructive play, field trips, and audience participation. Each session will utilize the creative process to promote critical thinking skills and introduce the students to new concepts through art-making, while working collaboratively with professional artists in poetry, dance, theatre, visual and media arts!

Creative Aging Symposium: This free, day-long workshop, inspired by the life and work of watercolor artist Byron Levy, explores creative tools for healthy aging. Specially designed interactive sessions in creative writing, music, and visual arts.

Dance Experience: Dance Experience NYC provides exceptional dance training and education opportunities for all levels of dancers.

Sounding Support: Baton Rouge Music Studios is partnering with Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge to create opportunities for the community to write/paint/draw their feelings and memories about the flood on a musical instrument canvas.

Arts Education Week: In celebration of this week, the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge would like to hear from the students and teachers in our community regarding the importance and impact of arts education and art creation in our schools. Responses will be utilized as part of the Arts Council’s Arts in Education Week social media campaign and will be shared with potential donors.

Arts Education: The Arts Council facilitates enriching learning experiences through artist residencies, professional development, and field trip opportunities.

Poetry Out Loud: Poetry Out Loud is a national, high school poetry recitation competition developed by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. The program is free and encourages students to learn about great poetry through memorization and recitation. Participation helps students master public speaking skills, build self- confidence, and learn about their literary heritage. The program increases student engagement in literature classes, provides non-academic scholarship opportunities, for students, and creates statewide cultural connections for schools.

Arts Council Radio Show: Tune in for interviews with local artists and art leaders discussing creative endeavors in our community. Produced in the studios of iHeart Media, Mina Estrada hosts local art makers and organization for an informative half-hour show to discuss art and culture in our region.

**Art Routes: mission is to provide opportunities  for travelers to deepen their understanding of the world through the arts and to generate innovative and creative ideas for the local community.  A portion of the proceeds collected from these coordinated trips will go toward the Derek Gordon Fund which provides travel scholarships for student artists.**

**Arts Market:** The Baton Rouge Arts Market is an open air market held on the first Saturday of each month (excluding January and April) in conjunction with the weekly Red Stick Farmer’s Market.

**Common Ground:** monthly series for artists, artist organizations and community leaders designed to foster dialogue about cultural programming, develop collaborative ideas, and provide professional development opportunities for creative professionals.

**Ebb & Flow Festival:** The Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge introduces the Ebb & Flow Festival, celebrating our region’s connection to the Mississippi River. The Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, along with a growing number of artists, creatives, engineers, and architects are creating a new festival for Baton Rouge. The Ebb and Flow Festival, to take place April 1 and 2, 2017 is one that will invite innovation, intrigue, and inspiration to visitors through unique artistic offerings, makerspaces, and culinary delights.

Regional Arts Summit 2017: On June 27, 2017, the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge will host an Arts Summit open to all individual artists, arts organizations, and board members across the 11-parish region that we serve. The Arts Council’s goal in hosting this summit is to gather information on the needs of its population served in order to frame services and funding initiatives in the coming years. At this Summit, attendees are invited to participate in facilitated discussions where artists, arts leaders and board members can discuss their needs and expectations.

River City Jazz Masters: River City Jazz Masters is an annual series presented by the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge featuring some of the finest jazz artists performing on international stages. Established in 2007 in collaboration with the River City Jazz Coalition, River City Jazz Masters is an annual series presented by the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge featuring some of the finest jazz artists performing on national and international stages. In addition to the performances, the series has a deep commitment to educational programs K-12 and college students with outreach engagement activities, and free school performance for students of all ages and abilities.

Sunday in the Park: Sunday in the Park is a series of free outdoor concerts held each Fall and Spring in Downtown Baton Rouge at the Riverfront Plaza Levee Stage. This series provides an excellent opportunity to celebrate community and enjoy music from across Louisiana in a fun, family-friendly environment.

The Jazz Listening Room: The Jazz Listening Room is a series of cabaret style jazz concerts presented in the Hartley/Vey Studio Theatre at the Shaw Center for the Arts by the Arts Council and the River City Jazz Coalition. These excellent jazz performances feature nationally and internationally known acts in an intimate setting.

Arts Memphis

Memphis, TN

http://www.artsmemphis.org/

Clarkson Society: The Clarkson Society is a special group of donors who value the arts and their impact across our community. The Society is named for Andrew Clarkson, a philanthropist who shares ArtsMemphis’ vision of artistic excellence through sound investment and knowledgeable oversight. Members of the Clarkson Society – make $5,000 annual gift or include ArtsMemphis in their planned giving at any level through bequests, trust, etc., OR have donated a cumulative $100,000\_ to Arts Memphis.

ArtsCard: Give the gift of the arts to Memphis and yourself! All donors to ArtsMemphis receive an ArtsCard, which gives discounts to variety of venues all over Memphis. Have fun experiencing all that the Memphis arts community has to offer. We asked our supporters how they use their ArtsCards and found that they use them regularly to attend performances and exhibitions of a diverse group of arts organizations across the city.

Community Supported Art (CSA): it's an exciting new model of art support and distribution for artists that jumpstarts their relationships with local collectors and patrons.  Much like agriculture CSAs, it relies on "share" purchases by a community of stakeholders, each of whom receives value in return for their investment.  But instead of receiving kale or cauliflower, art CSAs provide shareholders with locally sourced, fair-pay works of art!

Hustle: Professional Development for Artists: professional development for artists is a free program organized by ArtsMemphis, UrbanArt Commission, and Crosstown Arts. The series will provide visual artists with information, resources and opportunities to support them in the development of their professional careers. Workshop topics will range from positive studio practices to pricing work and navigating gallery representation.

Open Crit: Crosstown Arts’ Open Crit series, organized in partnership with ArtsMemphis ArtsAccelerator, is a monthly critique event where visual artists are invited to bring new and/or in-progress studio work for critical feedback and group discussion particular to each artist’s practice. A dedicated facilitator with experience in a group critique setting guides the discussion for each critique event, which will include up to 4 artists’ work, with 15-25 minutes devoted to the work of each.

The Arts Interviews: created by True Story Pictures to celebrate older regional artists and educate the community about their life stories, creative work, and contributions to Memphis, the Mid-South and the art world.  Each artist DVD includes an in-depth life story interview, a slide show of the artist’s work, and a teacher’s guide that can be used for a wide range of grade levels from elementary to post-graduate.

Arts & Education Council of Greater St. Louis

St. Louis, MO

http://www.keeparthappening.org/

Catalyst Innovation Lab: a space for to gather, collaborate, learn and exchange ideas on creativity for more arts and cultural innovation. It is a space inspired by the arts and driven by a community in transition. Housed within the Centene Center for the Arts, the 1,900-square-foot Lab is made possible by lead support from the Centene Charitable Foundation and design support from HOK.

stARTup Competition: The Arts and Education Council – in partnership with the PNC Foundation – are challenging individuals and organizations to “Change the World, through the Arts, in St. Louis!” This stARTup Competition seeks to identify robust, innovative, fresh approaches to addressing challenge(s) or need(s) in the St. Louis region through the arts. The stARTup Competition’s mission is to foster great ideas for emerging arts programs that address or meet a community challenge or need.   To help foster new, innovative arts activities in our community, the Arts and Education Council has partnered with the PNC Foundation to support organizations or individuals with their ideas.

Makers of St. Louis: Inspired by the Arts and Education Council’s 2015 campaign video, “The Makers,” and modeled loosely on the popular “Humans of New York” photo blog, Makers of St. Louis highlights the creativity that is inseparable from the identity of our city. St. Louis has a tangible passion for the arts, and this series focuses on the people behind the performances, exhibitions and shows that shape the artistic spirit of our community.

Arts Leadership Management Academy (ALMA): The Arts and Education Council's Arts Leadership and Management Academy (ALMA) aims to enhance St. Louis arts and cultural organizations through participation in a strengths-based approach to capacity building and leadership. The focus is on providing training and support for arts and cultural organizations through a series of affordable management workshops that increase skill level and effectiveness. Additionally, the Academy is home to the Executive Director’s Roundtable, a professionally-led program targeted to executive directors of arts and cultural organizations. The focus of the roundtable program is to support executive directors with peer exchanges and resource sharing through professionally-facilitated peer learning. Research has proven this “peer learning cluster” is a low-cost method of offering training and technical assistance to nonprofits that could not afford the full services of a capacity building consultant.

Arts Marketers: Every other month, a group of arts marketing professionals meet at the Centene Center for the Arts for the Arts Marketers meeting.  This gathering focuses on marketing problems faced by a wide range of organizations and provides actionable solutions in a collaborative environment.  This group is free and open to any person working in any marketing capacity at arts and nonprofit organizations. In addition to Arts Marketers meetings, the Arts and Education Council offers marketing support to grantees: Online Marketing, Event Promotion, Professional Support

St. Louis Arts Awards: Celebrating its 27th year, the St. Louis Arts Awards is the area’s preeminent event honoring the artists, educators, philanthropists, corporate citizens and arts organizations that make our region so vibrant. It is an elegant evening of cocktails and dinner, an awards presentation and awe-inspiring performances - all packed into just four hours.

United Fund for the Arts and Humanities

LaCrosse, WI

http://www.ufah.org

Annual Campaign: Every year during the annual campaign, UFAH solicits over 400 businesses and members of the community to raise funds for eleven member organizations.

Campaign Kickoff: Visit and meet UFAH Campaign Chairs. Eat, drink and support eleven arts and humanities organizations! Java Vino is generously giving ten percent of all sales.

Spring for the Arts Ball: “Spring for the Arts” Ball. The first Arts Ball was held in May 1984. The purpose of the event was to acknowledge the work done by the solicitors who made the contacts with the donors in the first UFA fund drive. Plans for the event were laid at the UFA Board Meeting on 15 July 1983. At that meeting it was decided to honor both the solicitors, also known as the “Stars of the Arts,” and the many donors who had participated in the initial campaign. The event, which was held on the top floor of the newly constructed First Bank building, took place on Saturday and Sunday, May 5 and 6. A tea was held on Saturday afternoon followed by a black-tie ball that evening. Music for the ball was provided by the Greg Balfany Band.

United Performing Arts Fund

Milwaukee, WI

http://upaf.org

2017 Campaign: **The Campaign will launch on Monday, March 6** with special performances from five of our UPAF Member Groups covering music, dance and performance that spans the decades since UPAF’s incentive in 1967. The UPAF Ride for the Arts, sponsored again generously by Miller Lite, will be held on Sunday, June 4 with the start and finish at the south gate of the Summerfest grounds. This is a great family-friendly outing where riders collect pledges to make an every greater impact on our area’s cultural assets. Some exciting changes have been made to the event including youth pricing to make sure the Ride is more affordable for families and the 5-mile family route!

Dancing on the Green:  Whether you are an avid golfer, a business networking golfer or just looking for a way to support a charitable cause, the Dancing on the Green golf outing is a day that you don’t want to miss! Come represent your company and enjoy a day of golf, prizes and networking!

UPAF Ride for the Arts: The UPAF Ride for the Arts, Sponsored by Miller Lite, is more than just a ride – it’s an opportunity for friends, families and coworkers to have fun and support our region’s world class [performing arts organizations](http://upaf.org/what-is-upaf/member-groups/). Pledge: (1) Gather pledges for your Ride (registration fees only help to cover the cost of the event), (2) All pledges will help UPAF cross the finish line and achieve a record-setting 50th Anniversary Campaign, (3) Johnson Financial Group will match pledges up to $25,000 , (4) Pledge raising awards for top individual and team pledge raisers (the Chris Kegel award for top teams) (5) Pledge prizes include a Trek bike, a Saris Bones bike rack, Miller Lite rolling cooler and two tickets to Summerfest, a commemorative UPAF Ride jersey, a UPAF SMART CARD and more!

SmART Card: As a UPAF donor of $100 or more, you’ll receive the UPAF SMARTCARD, allowing you “buy one, get one FREE” tickets\* to one performance for each of the 15 UPAF Member Groups listed below. If you've donated $300 or more to this year's campaign, you receive an additional “buy one, get one free” ticket offer at each Member Group a total of 30 performances! Additional SMART CARD benefits include: discounts at popular area restaurants and businesses. exclusive discount ticket offers to Member Group performances, the UPAF SMART CARD Performance Guide, sponsored by The Marcus Corporation, a subscription to *Arts Beat*, our e-newsletter that is packed with performance information and performing arts news

More and more values are continually added to the SMART CARD, so log in today to start planning your next night out with UPAF!

Arts Build

Chattanooga, TN

http://www.alliedartschattanooga.org/

Holmberg Arts Institute: The Holmberg Arts Leadership Institute is designed for those who share a passion for advancing the arts in our community. Offered each fall, the four-month program develops leadership skills necessary to prepare the participants for prominent roles within arts organizations. The Holmberg Institute educates participants about the mission and goals of ArtsBuild and Chattanooga arts organizations; explores current issues facing the arts community; and strengthens individual talents and skills needed to serve as volunteers, board members and fund raisers. The Holmberg Institute provides many opportunities for networking as the participants receive a unique behind-the-scenes view of the arts. Launched in 2005, The Holmberg Arts Leadership Institute is offered annually by ArtsBuild in memory of long-time board member and arts advocate A. William Holmberg, Jr. A maximum of 30 people have the opportunity to participate in the program each year. Criteria for selection of participants will include level of interest in the arts, background, relevant experience, and degree of commitment to volunteer for service with arts and cultural institutions.

Imagine!: ArtsBuild’s Imagine! Initiative strives to provide arts experiences for all public elementary school students in Hamilton County. Through the Imagine! initiative, all Kindergarten students can attend the Creative Discovery Museum, first grade students can attend a Chattanooga Theatre Centre Youth Theatre production, second grade students can attend Chattanooga Ballet’s production of The Nutcracker, third graders can attend the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera’s Young People’s concert and fourth graders attend the Southern Lit Alliance’s Drama for Youth theatre presentation. ArtsBuild provides the tickets for students and teachers to attend the performances as well as transportation to and from the events, in addition to curriculum support material (set to State standards).

Kennedy Center Partners in Education: ArtsBuild and the Hamilton County Department of Education collaborate as one of 100 school system and arts organization teams across the country participating in the Partners in Education program through the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. Through this program, ArtsBuild provides professional development workshops for teachers that focus on arts integration strategies in the classroom. All ArtsBuild professional development workshops have been provided at no cost to the teachers or HCDE. Workshops are led by nationally recognized arts education leaders. The workshops provide engaging instruction concepts that connect art to literacy. The workshops provided by ArtsBuild have been rated as excellent and highly effective by over 90 percent of the participants. Twenty-six area teachers have participated in a nationally recognized research project funded by the Kennedy Center. The projects studied the effectiveness of teacher study-groups to support the implementation of arts instruction in the classroom. The findings were released in a national publication of the Kennedy Center.

ReGenerate: ReGenerate is an arts leadership program for high school students in Hamilton County, TN. Students participating in ReGenerate represent public and private schools. Through ReGenerate students learn about our thriving arts community, explore career and avocation opportunities in the arts, fundraise for arts equipment and supplies for elementary and middle schools, and advocate for quality arts education for all students in our community.

ReGenerate was founded in August 2013 by Ralston Hartness and Thomas West, both students at McCallie School, to sustain their philanthropic project to support arts education, *Let Beauty Awaken*. The *Let Beauty Awaken* project raised more than $14,000 through the development of a CD featuring local young music talent, solicitation letters and a Causeway campaign.

Cultural Plan: This cultural plan for Chattanooga and Hamilton County is built around community priorities identified by local citizens. It is a series of carefully chosen action steps designed to make the community a better place to live, work, and visit. The plan is based on the broadest possible definition of arts and culture that encompassed the community’s customs, beliefs, and traditions. It includes the fine arts but steps beyond them to such creative expressions as traditional, ethnic, and folk art, music, and crafts; the history and heritage of the city and region; landmarks, parks, and natural attractions; and the built environment. The decision to build the plan around broad community aspirations was influenced in part by the manner in which positive change happens in Chattanooga – it is, as the local saying goes, “the Chattanooga way.” Resources must be deployed strategically and effectively. Partnerships must be pursued. Efficiency of program delivery and administration is essential. Most importantly, this plan is designed to include everyone, not just those who are traditional arts consumers and supporters. “The arts,” as we say in Chattanooga, “are for all.”

Fund for the Arts

Louisville, KY

http://fundforthearts.com/

ArtsMatch: At Fund for the Arts, we believe in the transformative power of the arts. By investing in strategic initiatives that drive impact in the areas of health, education, economic development, and quality of place, Fund for the Arts is working to make Greater Louisville an even better place to live, work, and visit.

ArtsMatch, a pilot initiative of the Fund for the Arts, expands the capacity of Cultural Providers (i.e., artists, cultural groups, organizations) to create special arts-based projects to reach new audiences and invest in innovation. ArtsMatch utilizes a crowdfunding platform to match donors to projects that are of interest to them. Fund for the Arts maximizes support for the projects by matching the dollars raised.

5X5: The goal of the Fund for the Arts 5×5 Program is to provide elementary school students with a continuum of arts experiences, at least five (5) arts and culture experiences by the completion of grade five (5). The 5×5 program engages students in performances, workshops and residencies offered by the Fund for the Arts arts in education partner organizations. All programs offered are connected to Kentucky Core Content and are designed to enhance what students are already learning in the classroom.
TAG: PNC/Fund for the Arts Teacher Arts Grants (TAG) provides teachers with resources to supplement classroom instruction with curriculum-based arts experiences.

School’s Out = Art’s In: School’s Out = Art’s In! provides a positive, engaging, and safe environment for youth in socio-economically-stressed zip codes outside school hours, while also providing youth with arts-rich educational experiences.

Community centers provide a variety of programs for neighborhood children throughout the year; however, few have the funds to engage students in professionally-led arts programs and camps. Through School’s Out = Art’s In, Fund for the Arts provides grants to community centers to work with arts organizations to develop out-of-school time programming that fits their students’ needs and interests.

Arts for Kosair Kids: Arts for Kosair Kids® delivers the healing, transforming, inspiring power of the arts to support the health and well-being of special needs youth in our community. Launched in the fall of 2015, Arts for Kosair Kids® has engaged more than 360 youth on a weekly basis in arts residencies at six community-based organizations in Louisville. Through performances and exhibits, participating youth have showcased their talents and achievements to more than 1,300 community members. Research shows that arts-rich experiences have great impact on student academic and social and functional development. Students from low-socioeconomic backgrounds, English language learners, and students with special needs realize particularly strong benefits through arts education.

Delta Dental Making Smiles Happen: Arts in Education Initiative: At Fund for the Arts, we believe in the transformative power of the arts. By investing in strategic initiatives that drive impact in the areas of health, education, economic development, and quality of place, Fund for the Arts is working to improve the quality of life for all. Participating in the arts can improve an individual’s overall health and wellness. When it comes to improving oral health, the arts can play a role. Two key determinants of health are a lack of oral health information and an individual’s level of education. The Delta Dental Making Smiles Happen® Arts in Education Initiative addresses both of these determinants by reaching thousands of students across the Commonwealth, increasing access to the arts and oral health education. The arts are a critical component of the overall education experience, enhancing student academic achievement and development. Research shows that a student involved in the arts is four times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement, and students with high arts participation and low socioeconomic status have a 4% high school dropout rate – five times lower than that of their low-socioeconomic peers not involved in the arts. Each of the programs offered through the initiative is connected to the Commonwealth of Kentucky’s Common Core State Standards and are led by a professional arts educator

Anthem Healthy Living Through the Arts: Fund for the Arts and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Kentucky first partnered in 2014 to bring transformative arts experiences to students throughout the school year. Anthem Healthy Living Through the Arts leverages the power of the arts to cultivate healthy habits in student’s lives in some of Greater Louisville’s most at-risk neighborhoods.

After School Urban Arts Collaborative: Initiated through the Alfred P. Gerriets Hope Initiative, the Urban Arts Collaborative is a grant and shared service program developed to support grass roots arts organizations providing arts training primarily to at-risk youth. The Urban Arts Collaborative is designed to build capacity and sustainability through monetary and non-monetary support for arts organizations serving the target population. The objectives of the Urban Arts Collaborative include: Higher rates of participating youth graduating high school, Higher rates of participating youth attending college or achieving job placement, Higher rates of participating youth reading at grade level, Higher self-confidence and optimism for their own future and Increased organizational capacity of participating organizations.

Cultural Pass: The Cultural Pass provides free access to many of Greater Louisville’s arts and cultural institutions for children, ages 0-21, of Metro Louisville.

Louisville Arts Link/Art Card: Donors to the Fund for the Arts of $52+ per year receive an Arts Card that provides discounts to select performances/exhibits or merchandise. Download the Louisville Arts Link powered by Republic Bank from the App or Google Play Store to access your digital Arts Card

Awards in Arts: Louisville’s Awards in the Arts was established to celebrate the extraordinary arts community in the Greater Louisville region and the arts tremendous contribution to our unique cultural landscape and quality of place. But most of all, Louisville’s Awards in the Arts were established to celebrate the artists themselves, their talent and passion, to create, produce and present transformative and inspiring works of arts, in and for our community.

The Annual Arts Showcase & Campaign Kickoff: The Arts Showcase and Campaign Kickoff is an annual celebration of the vibrant performing arts groups in Louisville, KY. Thrilling hundreds of people annually, the show also marks the beginning of the annual Fund for the Arts campaign.

The Yum! Family Series: provides family-friendly programming through a partnership with Fund for the Arts and local arts organizations. Through this partnership, kids and families are able to experience arts programs at a greatly reduced cost, particularly those families at an economic disadvantage. The Yum! Family Series also provides field trips and after-school programs for local students.

NeXt: NeXt is a nationally recognized program dedicated to preparing the next generation of emerging professionals for volunteer leadership roles within the arts community. Participants will embark on an immersive, 10-month journey experiencing all aspects of cultural engagement.

FUN for the Arts: Fund for the Arts has teamed up with The Comfy Cow to showcase Greater Louisville’s arts summer camps.

Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne

Fort Wayne, IN

http://www.artsunited.org

Taste of the Arts: Taste of the Arts Festival celebrates and supports the rich diversity of arts and cultural experiences in our vibrant community. The festival is open to all, providing access to art without cost. Join us at the 2017 Taste of the Arts festival to get a taste of Fort Wayne art, culture, food, drinks and more! The festival takes place on Friday, August 25 from 5-10 PM and Saturday, August 26 from 11 AM-7 PM on the downtown Arts Campus (300 E Main Street).

Beat Beethoven: Race to complete this 4 mile stretch in the time Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony takes to finish! The race begins August 26, 2017 at 8:30 AM before the Taste of the Arts festival.

Artlink Art Market: Join Artlink Contemporary Art Gallery for The Art Market on Saturday, August 26, 2017 from 11 AM -7 PM during the Taste of the Arts Festival. The Art Market is a curated marketplace featuring the best in contemporary craft and handmade goods. Our market strives to bring the highest quality handmade goods to the people of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Creative Sector Connects 2020: Greater Fort Wayne is on the move. Arts United, together with our partners and stakeholders, has launched *Creative Sector Connects 2020*, a collaborative planning initiative that will continue the strategic development of the creative sector to ensure a vibrant, attractive and sustainable community. Given Arts United’s effective delivery of financial, human and capital resources to the creative sector, and our strong relationships with local and regional leaders, Arts United is uniquely positioned to lead a planning effort that will align the creative sector with plans for economic and community development. The Arts United Board of Directors has assembled a strategic planning task force. The members of the task force have adopted the following goals for the process: inclusivity, transparency, clarity, alignment, and metrics. Our planning process began in December 2014 and will conclude in October 2015.

Culture Works

Dayton, OH

http://cultureworks.org

Passport to the Arts: The Culture Works Passport to the Arts Membership is provided to Culture Works supporters who donate $85 or more to Culture Works. Passport Membership provides Buy One – Get One FREE tickets to a variety of arts and cultural events around the Dayton Region, as well as admission, restaurant, and retail discounts.

Annual Campaign: The annual Campaign for the Arts provides critical general operating support for Culture Works grantee organizations, and it also provides an opportunity to engage new audiences with the arts! Through the Focus on the Arts program, Culture Works presented 37 free performances at Workplace Giving sites and other nontraditional venues in 2015–2016.

Arts & Economic Prosperity 5 (AEP5): In 2015, Americans for the Arts invited Culture Works to participate in Arts & Economic Prosperity 5 (AEP5)—the largest and most comprehensive economic impact study of the nonprofit arts industry ever conducted. This national study will provide clear evidence of the importance of arts and culture to economic development and sustainability. AEP5 marks the first time that the Dayton Region has been included in a national arts research study in over 20 years. As the Dayton Region study partner, Culture Works is working with local cultural nonprofits to survey audiences and collect organizational financial data. Dozens of Dayton Region arts and cultural nonprofits have joined the data collection efforts, which will continue through the end of 2016. Study findings will include the number of full-time equivalent jobs supported by the nonprofit arts industry, the amount of resident household income generated by the industry, and the amount of government revenue generated by the industry at the national, state, and local levels. Findings will be released in June of 2017.

ArtsWave:

Cincinnati, OH

http://www.theartswave.org

Blueprint for Collective Action for the Arts Sector: Introduced in 2015, the Blueprint for Collective Action provides a focus for ArtsWave's community investments and strategic initiatives for the next 10 years. The Blueprint aims to leverage the power of the arts to help build a vibrant economy and more connected community in the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Metro Region. It does this by setting out five goals for the arts sector built upon the unique resources and skill the sector provides and working within the broader needs of the entire community. We believe the arts can: Put Cincinnati on the map. Deepen roots in our region. Bridge cultural divides. Enliven neighborhoods. Fuel creativity and learning. ArtsWave will intentionally encourage arts programming that supports these goals.

The Arts Ripple Effect: At ArtsWave, we believe that the arts are more than just nice.  We believe that the arts are essential for a thriving community. Our landmark research study, [The Arts Ripple Effect](https://www.artswave.org/impact/resources-on-arts-impact/research-reports), showed that most people agree: the ripple effects from a lively arts environment make our region an amazing place to live. We believe that we can see and measure the impact of the arts as local arts organizations create economic vitality, vibrant neighborhoods, and a more connected community. Therefore, we are committed to funding organizations and initiatives that create impact, foster innovation, and drive community engagement.

CincyArtsGuide: Designed to increase all kinds of community participation in the arts, Cincy Arts Guide provides detailed listings on performances, exhibitions, classes, fundraisers and other arts events from organizations, venues and artists across the region.

Artsoloplis:  platform developed by Silicon Valley Creates, San Jose’s local arts council, CincyArtsGuide makes it easy to find arts events by date, geography, interest, and other criteria.

Research Reports: At ArtsWave, we believe that the arts contribute significantly to the quality of life in our community. In 2008, we released the Arts Ripple Effect, a research report that revealed key shared beliefs about the impact of the arts in our community. In 2010, we committed to an expanded mission and new grant-making policy that aligned with these shared beliefs. In 2011, we began working with Greater Cincinnati’s arts organizations and local and national resources to gather data that demonstrated the impact of the arts. Portrait 2012: Arts Engagement in Greater Cincinnati is the first fruits of these new efforts in arts research, commissioned in partnership with Agenda 360, the region’s strategic plan.

ArtsPass: ArtsPass is a perk program for ArtsWave donors at the $75 level or above. With ArtsPass, members can claim buy one, get one free deals and deep discounts to more than 100 participating arts and culture organizations, restaurants, shops, and the Cincinnati Reds! Plus, stay up-to-date on upcoming events and deals with our bi-monthly ArtsPass e-newsletter. **Under 40? Opt in for CincYPerks**. Get all the benefits of the ArtsPass, plus exclusive deals and invitations to some of Cincinnati’s hottest events. 

The Arts & Culture Alliance of Greater Knoxville

Knoxville, TN

http://www.knoxalliance.com/

Culture Cash $10.00 Gift Certificates: The Ultimate in Gift-Giving! Culture Cash may be spent just like cash and is an ideal gift, allowing the recipient the freedom to discover a diverse selection of Greater Knoxville’s arts and culture organizations, products, and events while simultaneously encouraging attendance and supporting these organizations. It is the perfect way to build civic pride and encourage greater enjoyment of and appreciation for the many historic, artistic, and cultural attractions of Knoxville! Culture Cash is distributed in $10 “bills” or increments and lists all of the participating organizations at which it may be redeemed at face value with no handling fees or other charges. Culture Cash may be used for admission to an attraction, toward class tuitions, or toward purchases in museum gift shops.

Dinner on the Bridge: The highly successful Dinner on the Bridge returns for an encore in beautiful downtown Knoxville on the Gay Street Bridge. Spend an evening over the river and under the stars! 100% of the net proceeds will go into the Arts & Heritage Fund, which supports local arts and heritage organizations that preserve, promote, and present Greater Knoxville’s own unique *joie de vivre* (joy of life).

Penny4Arts: Penny4Arts gives every child in Knox and surrounding counties an opportunity to attend arts and culture events/activities at the maximum cost of ONE PENNY (or FREE) when accompanied by an adult during the academic school year.

Professional Development Seminars

Publicity Guide: The Arts & Culture Alliance is pleased to offer a Publicity Guide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date listing of media resources in the Greater Knoxville, Chattanooga, Tri-cities, Nashville, and Asheville areas. This resource is available for businesses, organizations, and individuals who wish to promote their news and events to area journalists and media outlets.

Arts in the Airport: The Arts & Culture Alliance of Greater Knoxville and the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority (McGhee Tyson Airport) present a semi-annual exhibition entitled “Arts in the Airport”. This juried exhibition was developed to allow regional artists to compete and display work in the most visited site in the area. The selected art features contemporary 2- and 3-dimensional artwork and is exhibited in the secured area behind McGhee Tyson Airport’s security gate checkpoint for six months at a time. Approximately 35-40 works comprise each exhibition. Work is normally available for viewing only by visitors flying in or out of the airport.  Otherwise, artists and their guests may view the exhibition during the opening reception and by appointment with the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority.

Exhibit at the Emporium: The Arts & Culture Alliance manages the exhibitions at the Emporium. There are four gallery spaces and a display case programmed with new artwork each month. While the Alliance accepts proposals on an ongoing basis from anyone within and outside of the community, exhibition fees are offered at a discount to Arts & Culture Alliance members. There is no fee to submit a proposal, which should include images and a description of the work to be shown (if possible) or images of past work; whether the artist has enough works to fill the gallery as a solo exhibition; whether the artist has suggestions as to complementary artists; etc. The Alliance retains 25% commission on sale of artwork (20% for cash/check sales). Exhibitions open on the First Friday of each month and remain on display until the last Friday of the month (approximately four weeks in duration). The Arts & Culture Alliance hosts an opening reception as part of First Friday downtown from 5:00-9:00 PM for all exhibitions, and more than 1,500 people typically visit the Emporium that evening! We also welcome numerous visitors throughout the month for private events, receptions, fundraisers, etc.

Knoxville Photo: The Arts & Culture Alliance’s annual Knoxville Photo was developed in 2013 to provide a forum for artists to compete on a national scale and display their work. Approximately 40-50 photographic works from both emerging and established artists are selected by a juror for exhibition in the gallery of the beautifully-restored Emporium Center at 100 S. Gay Street, Knoxville’s downtown arts anchor location.
Mayors’ Office Exhibition: Our city and county mayors have once again asked the Arts & Culture Alliance to display the artwork of our INDIVIDUAL members on the sixth floor of the City County Building in downtown Knoxville. We would be honored to include your work if possible and hope you will be interested in participating!

National Juried Exhibition: The Arts & Culture Alliance’s annual National Juried Exhibition was developed in 2006 to provide a forum for artists to compete on a national scale and display their work. Approximately 40-50 fine art works encompassing all styles and genres from both emerging and established artists are selected by a juror for exhibition in the gallery of the beautifully-restored Emporium Center at 100 S. Gay Street, Knoxville’s downtown arts anchor location.

The Arts Partnership of Greater Spartanburg

Spartanburg, SC

http://www.chapmanculturalcenter.org

Reaching Every Student: We have three top priorities in the work we do: being good stewards of our facility, providing for our Partners, and making the cultural arts available to children, primarily accomplished through our award-winning and long-standing Arts Education program. In effect, Chapman Cultural Center touches every student in the county by providing a variety of programs that will give them access to the arts. These programs include Muse Machine, artists’ residencies, a student art gallery, and scholarships.

Advantage\_Arts & Science: The Arts Partnership’s Advantage: Arts and Science program reaches a broad cross-section of the nearly 46,000 K-12 students enrolled in public schools in Spartanburg County, as well as hundreds of others enrolled in private schools and special programs such as the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind. It is a multi-faceted educational outreach, both onstage and in the classroom.

Muse Machine Program: Through the Muse Machine program, schools receive three professional performances onsite during the year — one each of music, theatre, and dance. These informal performances acquaint students with a particular genre or art form by professional artists who also discuss not only the art form and presentation but what it is like to be a practicing professional artist. The Muse Machine program serves 49 schools in all seven Spartanburg County districts (including 25 Title I schools), as well as one Title I elementary school in neighboring Cherokee County. In addition to in-school performances, the Muse Machine Program provides teachers with professional development opportunities through an annual Summer Institute for Teachers that offers graduate credit in the latest STEAM and arts integration techniques.

Artist Residencies: With partial support from the South Carolina Arts Commission, Chapman Cultural Center sponsors one-week professional artist residencies that provide in-depth student learning opportunities directly tied to South Carolina state learning standards in either arts or academic subjects. Teaching artists and classroom teachers work together to develop lesson plans that involve students in hands-on activities, as well as post-residency assessments of the impact on student learning. The goal is the same: to provide experiential learning opportunities that support statewide learning priorities. Residencies involve a range of art forms — including performing arts, visual arts, and creative writing.

AEP5: AEP5 demonstrates that the arts provide both cultural and economic benefits. No longer do community leaders need to feel that a choice must be made between arts funding and economic development. Arts & Economic Prosperity 5 proves that they can choose both. Nationally as well as locally, the arts mean business.

Northside Community Development: In coordination with the HUD Choice Neighborhood Master Plan for Northside, the City of Spartanburg, in association with Hub Culture, Inc., received a National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Our Town design grant to “support an arts and cultural plan for Northside, a 400-acre neighborhood undergoing redevelopment.” In tandem with the larger community master plan team, the Public Art Collaborative participated in design charrettes in January 2014, directed and facilitated a cultural arts discussion with Northside and Spartanburg residents, and in February 2014, affirmed proposals with community leadership and project planners. Each organization offered important perspectives and ideas to the arts planning process.

Northside Artlets: were the brainchild of the Voyagers, who wanted public art in their neighborhood that would help them show off the prolific talents of the Northside residents. They wanted places to play music, stage plays and poetry readings, sing, dance, and just simply be creative with their families and neighbors.

Creativity Mill: Creativity Mill will be a dynamic arts incubator in Arcadia, SC, bringing together a diverse constituency to learn about and make art, discover each other's cultures, and build a vibrant and economically sustainable community in Spartanburg County.  The 110+ year-old Mayfair Mill, which was shuttered in 2001 after the decline of the regional textile industry, is undergoing an $8 million repurposing and renovation into high-end loft apartments by commercial developer Pace Burt. Burt's plan for this new mixed-use property includes creating a dedicated space for arts-based learning, creativity, and community-building, for which he has designated 15,000 square feet.  Burt has turned to Chapman Cultural Center, to develop the space and manage its programming.

Culture Counts: In 2014, we held a number of public meetings across the county to locate and identify all the artists, public art works, performance and exhibition spaces, galleries, museums, and other culturally significant people, places, and things in the county. The resulting inventory helped earn us our Cultural Arts District status, winning us state-wide recognition as an arts destination. Moving forward, Culture Counts is a living project meant to be regularly updated and expanded as more artists, galleries, festivals, and cultural assets locate in Spartanburg County.

1Spark!: The 1Spark! festival began in 2014, and takes place between the campuses of Chapman Cultural Center and The George (home of the George Dean Johnson, Jr. College of Business and Economics at USC Upstate) — the literal crossroads of creativity and innovation — on the Saturday before Labor Day each fall. A single spark of inspiration is all it takes to produce a masterpiece of art or an innovative business. Spartanburg is full of these sparks, shining bright with creativity and entrepreneurial spirit, so Chapman Cultural Center created 1Spark! to highlight these brilliant aspects of our community and to foster creative collaboration. It showcases Spartanburg's makers — visual artists, performers, entrepreneurs, inventors, and others — with entertainment and demonstrations.

Spartanburg Soaring: In spring 2014, Chapman Cultural Center launched a community-wide initiative called Spartanburg Soaring! to encourage creativity, promote healthy outdoor activity, and to build civic pride. Using kites as a common theme, Spartanburg Soaring! engaged cultural curiosity and promoted active play through activities and events all across the city. The kite festival takes place in and around the Chapman Cultural Center each spring, when hundreds of colorful kites fill the skies above Spartanburg. In addition to the professional kite flyers who wow the crowds with amazing aerial maneuvers, and the members of the Spartanburg Soaring! Kite Club, there is live music, great food trucks, and an art market. Kids can make and decorate their own kites, purchase a kite from the CCC, or bring a kite from home. The festival is free and open to all, including the many international kite flyers who have come from Europe, Asia, Canada, and across the United States to join the fun.

HubBub: In 2004 a group of Spartanburg creatives came together to create HUB-BUB.COM, an online forum focused on the exchange of ideas on topics ranging from local food to politics, from public art to film and music. Through guerrilla marketing throughout Spartanburg, thousands were led to this new platform to engage with their neighbors in brand new ways. This same pop-up approach guided HUB-BUB’s first events—The Soapbox Series at the Nu-Way, the Hub-atomic Bandstand concert in an empty parking lot, and the HUB-BUB Halloween prom. Ours was a community of artists, innovators, and the off-beat who thirsted for challenging art and creative, fun events. Our mission to “create community through dynamic arts and ideas” allowed our work to transcend the barriers of the traditional arts non-profit to become a home for the edgy, the weird, and the new.

Fund for the Arts

Charleston, WV

http://fundfortheartswv.org

Festivall: Fund for the Arts and Spilman Thomas & Battle present the best summer party in Charleston! Join your friends on Saturday, June 24, 2017 from 2:00pm – 10:00pm on the lawn at the University of Charleston for a full day of a variety of renowned jazz musicians, superb regional wines, and phenomenal food!

ArtsBridge!

Parkersburg, WV

http://www.artsbridgeonline.org/

Summer Music Series in the Park: weekly music based on different genre specific sponsors: country, variety rock, rockabilly, 60s music, 60s through current, classic rock, jazz, bluegrass, rock band with a brass section, gospel, acoustic classics, high school big band, marching band

Very Spectacular Arts Festival!: On March 21, 2017, the 19th annual “VSA Festival” was held at WVU-Parkersburg and gave area special needs students a day filled with a variety of hands-on arts projects, demonstrations and musical performances.

Artsbridge Fund Drive: The Artsbridge Fund Drive provides the majority of its revenue, augmented by state, federal and local grants and corporate donations. Funds raised are distributed to programs, artists and organizations comprising our arts and cultural community. Here are some programs that the Artsbridge Fund Drive supports: Arts Services/Arts Education

ArtsinStark

Canton, OH

https://www.artsinstark.com/

SmArts: The focus of SmArts is to “Supercharge” learning for students by finding meaning and making connections across academics through the Arts. The SmArts program encourages k-12 classroom teachers in all disciplines to integrate the Arts into daily learning to increase academic achievement through residencies with SmArts teaching artists. Teachers identify which curricular subject needs “Supercharging” and which discipline they want their students to explore. The classroom teacher and teaching artist collaborate to design a residency that combines Ohio’s New Learning Standards in academics with the arts to achieve project outcomes and academic needs.

20/20 Vision: Highlights – when 20/20 Vision is completed they will have: Three blocks of historic buildings in downtown Louisville fully-occupied with cultural spaces offices and specialty retail. Arts and academics integrated in the majority of our schools systems with test scores ‘going through the roof’. More than 75,000 tourists coming to experience the ‘The Main Crossing’ project in Alliance. The historic ‘Market Street’ project in downtown Minerva with 95% filled with cultural spaces, offices and shops. ‘The Eleven’ – a monumental series of public art works celebrating the eleven greatest moments in professional football. A county-wide Public Art Program with more than 250 new pieces of public art. The ‘town center’ in Jackson transformed into an ongoing celebration of Jackson history. The ‘Do the Loop’ marketing partnership between Hall of Fame, McKinley Museum, First Ladies, Classic Car, and the Cultural Center/Arts District attracting 150,000 visitors a year. Stark County artists recognized for their public art commissions in cities across the nation. More than 50,000 visitors experiencing the attractions of the QuARTer art and retail project in downtown Massillon. And, finally, a Stark County that is recognized nationally as one of the 10 most innovative places in America.

Annual Arts Campaign

Erie Arts & Culture

Erie, PA

http://www.artserie.org/

Cultural Loop: The Cultural Loop is a free trolley service that operates every 15 minutes on Saturday evenings from 5:00pm to midnight, along a dedicated route set apart from EMTA's regularly scheduled lines. The service provides door to door transportation to and from great businesses and arts, cultural and sporting events in downtown Erie. Park and ride from the Erie Intermodal Transportation Center or Liberty Park.  If you're visiting the Erie area, the Cultural Loop picks up at the Sheraton Bayfront Hotel! The route services French Street from the Bayfront to 14th, and makes stops directly in front of venues such as the Erie Insurance Arena, Warner Theatre, Erie Playhouse,  Renaissance Centre (where Dramashop and Radius Gallery are located), and the Performing Artists Collective Alliance (PACA). A partnership between EMTA, the Erie Downtown Partnership, Erie Events, and Erie Arts & Culture, the Cultural Loop offers tourists, boaters, and residents a convenient way to participate in extraordinary experiences right here in downtown Erie!

Poetry Out Loud: Poetry Out Loud (POL) is a national recitation contest for high school students sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. Poetry Out Loud starts with a competition at the classroom level. One winner from every participating school district or community group advances to their regional contest, that winner proceeds to the Pennsylvania State Competition in Harrisburg, and with practice and luck, to the National Finals in Washington D.C. Erie Arts & Culture is the POL host for the Northwest Pennsylvania region. High schools and community organizations from Erie, Crawford, Warren, Mercer, Venango and Lawrence counties are invited to participate in this free event. The contest also offers prizes and the opportunity for travel and networking with peers from near and far.

Fall For Arts & Culture: For more than three decades, the Arts & Culture Appreciation Awards have celebrated businesses and individuals for their contributions in creating a vibrant community through their work. Awards recognize those who have been vital volunteers, leaders, artists, or those who’ve made outstanding contributions to arts education.

Arts & Culture Appreciation Awards Nominations: Leadership Award – The Leadership Award recognizs a business, government, or foundation that has exhibited long term support for arts and culture, OR whose works has had a significant impact on the region’s arts/cultural landscape OR has demonstrated a successful collaboration between an arts and cultural organization and business. Applause Award – The Applause Award recognizes a dedicated individual or group whose outstanding volunteerism and contributions, either currently or in the past, have supported arts and culture in our community. Imagine Award – The Imagine Award recognizes an educator, instructor, or individual whose efforts have made an outstanding contribution to the enhancement of arts and culture education by consistently inspiring and encouraging excellence in their students or an education affiliate.

Bruce Morton Wright Artist of the Year Award – The Artist of the Year Award recognizes an individual artist of any media who has had significant impact on the arts and culture landscape through personal commitment and leadership. This honor was instituted as a means to acknowledge a local artist for his or her contributions to the community and/or for providing a mentoring role in helping other artists.

Erie County Cultural Plan: Artists as well as arts and culture organizations are essential to the health and vitality of the Erie region. Arts and cultural activities help us express our identity, build understanding and unite our community, making this a great place to live and an ideal destination for visitors. Arts and cultural institutions and programs promote educational engagement and achievement, health and well-being, creativity and innovation, appreciation for our history, architectural beauty, folk culture and other important life skills and values. A vibrant arts and cultural sector is a key ingredient in business and employee attraction and retention and an asset in attracting students to our schools and universities. In 2010, Erie County’s Cultural Plan was completed, outlining strategies for strengthening our cultural resources and identifying priorities for leveraging arts and culture as tools for building prosperity, vitality, creativity and community. In 2015, the Destination Erie Regional Master Plan endorsed implementation of the cultural plan as the top priority for strengthening the region through the advancement of arts and culture. Through these efforts residents passionate about arts and culture have helped to shape a shared vision for the arts and cultural sector to guide us on the road ahead. Erie County residents want to live in a region where: Flagship Niagara Crew - Erie Arts & CultureArts, culture and heritage are celebrated for their contributions to our community and regional identity, vitality and prosperity. Arts, cultural and heritage activities are accessible to all. They celebrate and promote change and understanding of the Erie Region’s past and present, as well as its rich cultural diversity. Hubs of cultural vitality exist in downtown Erie and in communities throughout the region, linked through robust communications and collaborations, to each other, and to schools and other community institutions. Information about arts, cultural and heritage activities is widely available through easily accessible web, media and social networking sources. All youth have access to arts, cultural and heritage learning opportunities because they are integrated into Pre K-12 core curriculum and are available in community settings. College and university arts training programs are sustained and strengthened. The Erie Region retains and becomes a “magnet” for young, talented creative individuals, because of its cultural opportunities, support and quality of life. Artists and creators are successful entrepreneurs whose work and presence is valued and sustained in our region. Arts, cultural and heritage organizations build sustainability through growing participation in their activities, strong public and private financial support and the commitment and capacity of board and staff. The Erie region has fostered its international ties through artistic and cultural exchanges that enrich the region and reflect the presence of immigrants and global business relationships. To achieve this vision, Erie Arts & Culture works as a backbone organization, encouraging collaborations and aligned activities, building public will and participation, mobilizing resources, advancing public policy and measuring the health and impact of the sector. Contact us to share your ideas or to highlight your organization’s successes in helping to implement the Erie County Cultural Plan.

**Measuring Impact:** Erie Arts & Culture works with local partners like Erie Vital Signs and national organizations including Americans for the Arts to measure the health and impact of the arts and cultural sector and compare it with other regions across the United States. Together, we are collecting and analyzing data using the Urban Institute’s definition of cultural vitality as "a community's evidence of creating, disseminating, validating, and supporting arts and culture as a dimension of everyday life." Three main factors contributing to our cultural vitality are: The presence of opportunities for cultural participation. Participation of residents and visitors in cultural opportunities. Support to the local arts and cultural sector through financial gifts and volunteerism.

**United Arts of Central Florida**

**Maitland, FL**

**http://unitedarts.cc/**

**Orlando Arts Magazine:** Orlando Arts Magazine is a bi-monthly magazine and is produced in partnership with Visit Orlando. The magazine covers Central Florida arts and cultural happenings, featuring a cultural calendar primarily highlighting events in our four-county region. The magazine currently enjoys a pass-on rate of 75,000 with 54 distribution partnerships.

**Arts for All Day:** Join us for the day and fully immerse yourself in a variety of arts and cultural experiences available to us in Central Florida! Ranging from Shakespeare to modern dance, you’ll have the opportunity to see more than 60 local artists and organizations in action… all in one location. United Arts is presenting Arts for ALL Day on February 4, 2017 at Loch Haven Cultural Park in Orlando, FL. This is a celebration to kick off the 2017 collaborative Campaign for the Arts. Space is limited, so register now, on the form below, to get your FREE entry wristband and learn more about your local arts community.

**ArtsCard:** What is the United ArtsCard? The United ArtsCard (or ArtsCard) is a donor benefit for those giving an annual donation of $100 or more. It gives donors a discount on ticket prices for one event at each participating organization. Some organizations offer a 15% discount while others offer a buy-one-ticket-get-one-FREE deal. See a sample of the United ArtsCard below for the full listing of discounts. Is the ArtsCard a membership card for United Arts, and does it get me FREE admission to events/classes? The ArtsCard is not a membership card for United Arts. The ArtsCard provides a buy-one-get-one discount at some organizations, but not simply FREE admission. When does the card expire? The expiration date is printed on the front of the card and varies depending on date of gift. ArtsCards with no expiration date will expire on May 1, 2018. How many times may I use the United ArtsCard? The United ArtsCard can be used once at each participating organization. Can the United ArtsCard be used to purchase tickets online? Some organizations have this capability. Please check with the organization prior to making your purchase.

**Arts & Sciences Council of Charlotte/Mecklenburg**

**Charlotte, NC**

**http://www.artsandscience.org/**

**Cultural Leadership Training:** ASC’s Cultural Leadership Training (CLT) Program is designed to identify emerging leaders and help them develop into productive volunteers and board candidates for cultural organizations across our community. During a nine-month period, participants gain a deeper understanding of the cultural community through classroom educational sessions, cultural events and programs, and placement with a Mecklenburg County cultural organization as either a one-year apprentice or as a full-term board member at the conclusion of the program

**Connect with Culture Day:** Explore diverse arts, science and history experiences across Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

**ArtPop:** This program is made possible by generous donations of space from the OOH (Out of Home) advertising industry. Local billboard companies partner with local arts groups to create the ArtPop program. Work is juried, voted on and promoted in the market on available billboard space to a limited number of artists who are chosen for the program. ASC is excited to partner with Adams Outdoor Advertising to offer this program in Charlotte!

Vinyl will be used from program inception for one year. Vinyl could be potentially anywhere in the Adams Outdoor Charlotte coverage area. There are no guarantees on locations, as they could be anywhere for any length of time, and vinyls will rotate across available locations in the market on a space available basis.

**Public Art:** Landmark moments shape our lives. Landmark art shapes our city. Charlotte is rich in diversity, but it is through public art programs that Charlotte becomes established in its identity. Public art is our opportunity to write many narratives into one overarching story of this place we call home. Since 1995, ASC has managed the public art programs for the city and county. The Public Art Commission is responsible for the community-based artist selection and design review process for each public artwork. The commission is an appointed board of volunteer citizens from the arts, education and business sectors. In 2003, Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners and the Charlotte City Council adopted ordinances that appropriate 1 percent of eligible capital improvement project funds for public art. The ordinance helps ensure that artworks enhance our public spaces and become an integral part of urban and economic development efforts.

**Community Supported Art:** You may have heard a thing or two about Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). It’s a popular way for consumers to buy seasonal food right from their local farms. Well ASC has put a spin on CSA and you don’t want to miss out. Visual and craft artists from the Charlotte region are seasonally invited to participate in ASC’s Community Supported Art (CSA) program, an exciting model of art support and distribution that establishes lasting relationships between collectors and patrons. How does it work? Nine carefully selected artists receive a commission of $2,000 to create 50 works of art. This work is then sold in the form of 50 “shares” to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg community. A “share” will consist of one piece from each of the nine artists and will be delivered in 3 monthly allocations. These are exclusive events for shareholders only that enable artists and their patrons to meet and connect. ASC’s Community Supported Art Program is an adaptation of the successful Community Supported Art program in Minneapolis/St. Paul which was created by mnartists.org and Springboard for the Arts. ASC’s model is supported in part by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

**Culture Blocks:** Sometimes, listening really is the best plan of action, and so Culture Blocks came to be. Dedicated to building stronger relationships with specific neighborhoods, Culture Blocks helps vibrant programming meet people exactly where they are: in the recreation center, at the library, and beyond.

**ASC Honors:** ASC is pleased to recognize exceptionally creative, innovative, and inquisitive individuals and teachers whose lifetime achievements in arts, science or history have distinguished them and have enriched the lives of the citizens of Charlotte-Mecklenburg and this region. ASC Honors celebrates lifetime achievements of Charlotte-Mecklenburg residents in the visual, design or performing arts, history, literature or science. Each honoree receives a $5,000 award and a bronze medallion designed by NC artist Joanna Gollberg. The Selection Panels, comprised of past ASC Honorees, ASC Board and community members, review the nominees, their career achievements, writings, inventions and the breadth of their creative work and recommend recipients.

**Cato Excellence in Teaching Awards:**  ASC is seeking nominations of exceptionally creative teachers who have distinguished themselves in teaching the Arts, Sciences or History or who have demonstrated creative infusion of the Arts, Sciences or History into the core curriculum for the 2017 Cato Excellence in Teaching Awards. Six $1,500 awards will be presented annually through the support of ASC’s Cato Excellence in Teaching Endowment. Both Finalists and Recipients will be recognized in Spring 2017. Teachers, principals, school administrators, parents or students may nominate teachers for consideration.

**Cato Lifetime Achievement in Teaching Award:** The Cato Lifetime Achievement in Teaching Awards recognize exceptionally creative teachers who have a distinguished career teaching the arts, sciences or history or who have demonstrated creative infusion of the arts, sciences or history into the core curriculum. Three $5,000 awards will be presented every three years through the support of ASC’s Cato Excellence in Teaching Endowment. The 2015-2016 ASC Honors were presented during a special ceremony in April 2016.

**Workshops & Training:** ASC intentionally designs workshops and training opportunities that foster the health and community of Charlotte-Mecklenburg cultural organizations and individuals. Creativity is a muscle worth stretching, so jump on board. Organization-focused programs typically have an emphasis on leadership development, marketing/audience development, resource development, and overall organization sustainability. Programs geared towards creative individuals generally develop the necessary skills for self-sustaining arts careers. If you’re in need of business savvy, don’t be shy. ASC also hosts a number of workshops and other training opportunities that target specific areas of organizational development, like board structure or staffing. These opportunities are for professionals in any field at any level.

**Studio 345:** Studio 345 is a free, creative, out-of-school youth development program that uses Digital Photography, Digital Media Arts, and Multimedia Design to educate and inspire students to stay in school, graduate, and pursue goals beyond high school. Providing unique experiences for high school students in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Studio 345 fosters a sense of belonging and interconnectedness. Taught and mentored by professional working artists, students gain invaluable experiences enabling them to become creative risk-takers and craftsmen while growing emotionally, intellectually, and artistically.

**North Carolina Wolf Trap:** North Carolina Wolf Trap, a Program of ASC, is a regional site for the acclaimed Wolf Trap Early Learning Through the Arts Program. The program brings performing artists into Pre-Kindergarten classes for a seven-week residency. North Carolina Wolf Trap partners with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) to bring the program to Bright Beginnings classes within CMS and More-at-Four classes in Mecklenburg County. Working in partnership with CMS and the Wolf Trap Institute, North Carolina Wolf Trap incorporates the arts into the Bright Beginnings Pre-K program, and connects with the OWL literacy-based curriculum used by CMS. Wolf Trap is also aligned with the Common Core State Standards for Pre-K as developed by the CMS Pre-K Department. Through active engagement and collaboration with teaching artists in music, drama, and creative movement, early childhood professionals gain a hands-on understanding of the connection between developmentally appropriate performing arts experiences and the acceleration of children’s learning. During the residencies, teaching artists visit each classroom twice weekly and collaborate with the Pre-K teacher to guide children in arts experiences that support the learning of key academic and developmental concepts.

**Cultural Field Trip:** In 2009, budget cuts forced CMS to suspend grade-level field trips. As part of the Blueprint for Charlotte-Mecklenburg’s Cultural Education Partnership, ASC was tasked with providing opportunities for CMS K-12 students to participate in Cultural Partner education programs, both in-and out-of-school. Together, CMS, ASC, and ASC Cultural Partners are working to build a series of cohesive, curriculum-appropriate field trips relevant to Grades K-12 that engage students in real-word experiences and provide the opportunity to investigate and apply basic knowledge gained in the classroom. CMS Curriculum & Instructional Specialists are offering teachers leadership opportunities to help develop learning tools for these field trips. CMS is also managing all school logistics and allocating student time for participation. ASC is funding the program costs as well as transportation. Cultural Partners are working side-by-side with CMS teacher teams to ensure appropriate curriculum connections. In 2015-2016, ASC funded the following grade-level field trips within CMS: 3rd graders will visit one of six local historic sites to experience local American history. The sites are: Historic Rosedale, President James K. Polk State Historic Site, Latta Plantation, Mint Hill Historic Society, The Charlotte Museum of History (Hezekiah Alexander House), and Rural Hill Plantation. 5th graders will attend Endless Possibilities – a performance by the Charlotte Symphony, Charlotte Ballet, and Opera Carolina in the Belk Theatre at the North Carolina Blumenthal Performing Arts Center. This program is supported by a generous donation from Howard Levine. 7th graders will visit two of the three museums of the Levine Center for the Arts: the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture, the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art, and The Mint Museum Uptown. This field trip is supported by a generous donation from The Leon Levine Foundation.

**Studio 345 Summer Program:** The Studio 345 Summer Program allows for rising 8th – 12th grade students in Charlotte-Mecklenburg to gain relevant arts-infused knowledge from our team of professional teaching artists and community partners. Unlike our academic year program, the Summer Program is a series of six week artistic projects that are being created for organizations throughout the community. Students will get hands-on experience while also being exposed to all aspects of project management – from planning and research to production and execution of the project.

**Studio 345 Journeys Program:** Studio 345 Journeys, a program of ASC, is designed to engage, educate and empower high school youth through a variety of hands-on experiences. We believe that providing youth the opportunity to explore their natural environment, they are better able to understand and appreciate the world around them. Through exposure to an interconnected network of natural resources, we teach students about the importance of preserving our environment and inspire them to become advocates for environmental stewardship. The Studio 345 Journeys program is a three-phase experience that includes local hikes and educational sessions, a trip to Acadia National Park in Maine and opportunities for students to advocate within their communities. The program is free of cost to students in exchange for a fully refundable deposit of $150 and their commitment to all aspects the program. High School students in Mecklenburg County are encouraged to apply.

**Union County Community Arts Council**

**Monroe, NC**

**http://unionarts.org/**

**ArtPop:** ArtPop’s mission is to promote local artists work and make art accessible to communities through available media space.

**Breakfast for the Arts:** Artwork, dance, and music come to life at the annual Breakfast for the Arts each spring. This breakfast is one of the council’s largest fundraisers of the year. More than 250 supporters and 50 performers are part of this arts showcase each year, featuring students throughout Union County, a variety of artists and arts organizations and abundant talent from around the region.

**CHS Women’s & Children’s Center:** The Union County Community Arts Council’s mission to lead, cultivate, and promote arts as an essential component of community life and education was put into practice as Carolinas Healthcare System Union Women and Children’s Center invited the council to assist in the curation of artwork to be on permanent display in the hospital. Carolinas Healthcare System prides itself on being part of the community and had a strong desire to create a place in Union County where families would feel at home during their time at the Women and Children’s Center. The showcased artwork comes from artists all over Union County, including pieces from UCPS students.

**Dr. Martin Luther King Junior Birthday Celebration:** In celebration of Black History Month, the Union County Community Arts Council works to promote and encourage the heritage of the black community in Union County. Under the leadership of the MLK Jr. Committee, the council presents a musical event in January of each year. Past entertainers include Gabriel Bello, African Spirituals: Freedom Prayers, “Let’s Celebrate” Dance and Drum and The Healing Force.

**Pre-School Experience:** At UCCAC, we believe that introducing children to the arts at an early age ignites their imagination and enhances all aspects of their lives, especially education.

Our Preschool Experience program introduces preschoolers to unique performances that entertain and educate. This year we are pleased to bring you Goldilocks and the Three Bears performed by Children’s Theatre of Charlotte.

**Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers:** Union County Community Arts Council is partnering with Wingate University once again to bring independent film to Union County. The Southern Circuit Tour brings the best of independent film to communities across the South telling stories that captivate and inspire. Audiences have seen over 300 films and have engaged filmmakers in post-screening discussions in more than 100 communities across the Southern United States. The tour takes the audience away from their televisions and computers to connect them with independent filmmakers. Southern Circuit transforms watching independent films from a solitary experience into a communal one.

**Union County Student Artist Showcase:** The Union County Community Arts Council hosts the Student Artist Showcase, a juried show, in the spring of each year highlighting the artistic talent that is cultivated throughout Union County Public Schools. Each year, art teachers throughout the county select the top artists from each class, in turn, those artists display their artwork for the judges in hopes of the top prize. The Student Artist Showcase is a free community event that highlights the council’s art and education initiatives that serve over 56,000 UCPS students each year.

**Mr. Popper’s Penguins:** Performed by Children’s Theatre of Charlotte, Mr. Popper’s Penguins is an adventure filled 1930s-inspired musical based on the classic book of the same name. Mr. Popper’s Penguins takes place in the town of Stillwater, at the end of September 1937, Mr. Popper lives a sensible life as a house painter. He often wishes he had seen the world before settling down – particularly the North and South Poles. As a busy summer season of work ends, Mr. Popper heads home to Mrs. Popper and prepares to spend his off-season reading about the Arctic regions. He even writes to his favorite explorer, Adm. Drake. But he doesn’t expect the answer Adm. Drake sends: a special delivery. With the arrival of a penguin, Cart. Cook, life at the Popper’s will never be the same! Children will enjoy watching Mr. Popper’s hopes and dreams come to life through a series of unexpected and exciting changes.

**Allan Wolf:** Allan Wolf is an award winning author, poet and musician that will engage students and get them excited about poetry. Considered one of the founding fathers of the

National Poetry Slam movement, Allan Wolf has hundreds of poems committed to memory and transforms them into toe-tapping tunes. His young adult novel in verse, THE WATCH THAT ENDS THE NIGHT, was recently listed in Booklists Top 50 Best Young Audience Books of All Times as well as the North Carolina Battle of the Books. Immersed in Verse: Diving Into Poetry is the general name of Allan’s spoken word, poetry performance presentation for older audiences. Allan plays some music and recites poetry like a storyteller. Wolf is aware that most audiences contain future (or practicing) poets, so he makes a point of speaking about the joys of writing and living the poet’s life.

**Welcome to Zakland**: Zakland is a world filled with music and imagination where anything is possible if you try hard and believe in yourself! Focused on confidence building, reading and listening and imagination, Zakland is fast-paced and FUN! Zak Morgan’s live performances are filled with musical stories, laughter and warmth as he encourages children to learn through reading skills, facts included in the songs, imagination and believing in themselves. Students will use their voices and body movements to join in the fun. Morgan’s educational concerts offer two study guides with activities for music education and arts integration with life science facts, literary devices, reading skills and confidence building. All concerts teach basic music lessons including simple rhythmic, melodic and chordal patterns.

**Flight School the Musical**: It’s the first day of Flight School, where they teach birds to fly. Penguin has the soul of an eagle and is ready to live on the wind. But he wasn’t built to soar,

as the other birds constantly remind him. Penguin’s spirit won’t be grounded. With some friends of a feather, and a little help on the technical parts, Penguin follows his dreams to flip, flap, fly! Flight School The Musical is based on the book Flight School from best-selling author Lita Judge.

**The Arts Council of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County**

**Winston-Salem, NC**

**http://intothearts.org/**

**Workplace Giving:** The Arts Council receives almost half of their annual support from donations from individual members of the community, with most giving through their workplace. Workplace giving is a great way for a company’s leadership and employees to become more engaged with the arts and culture in the community while they work together to achieve a fundraising goal.

**Art Nouveau Winston-Salem:** As a new generation starts building their lives in 21st century Winston-Salem, it is more important than ever that we engage younger leaders in the art community – as well as in business, education, government, technology, and medicine – in building a strong community among them centered on the arts. Our bottom line is that we will need young people’s participation in arts and culture today, if we are to realize Winston-Salem and Forsyth County’s full potential tomorrow. Mission of Art Nouveau Winston-Salem: By building awareness of cultural opportunities and encouraging participation, ANWS strives to cultivate a community of young people with a commitment to supporting the future of arts and artists in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County.

**Creative Conversations:** Each month, The Arts Council in partnership with the Triad Podcast Network will bring you a new podcast featuring area leaders and industry experts. From stories of our own past and present to inspiration from other communities, the conversations will focus on building community through the arts. In addition, the Creative Conversations Network will be invited to join in the conversation through a quarterly speaker series where we’ll hear inspiration from national leaders and start a dialogue about how we can put the lessons learned to work for our community.

**Renaissance Society/1949 Society**: The Renaissance Society was created to recognize the exceptional generosity of our donors and to deepen their engagement with the diverse cultural opportunities their generosity supports. In 2011, The Arts Council introduced a new division of The Renaissance Society called The 1949 Society, which pays homage to the year in which The Arts Council was formed and the beginning of the arts council movement across the nation. As a member, you join hundreds of individuals throughout our community in support and celebration of the arts.

High Point Arts Council

High Point, NC

http://highpointarts.org/

**Day in the Park:** Day in the Park returns to the Piedmont for its 47th festival with fun-filled, family-oriented entertainment, crafts, food and much more on Saturday, September 16. Nestled in the beautiful High Point City Lake Park, the festival is presented by the High Point Arts Council in cooperation with the High Point Parks & Recreation Department. This year, Day in the Park will also be celebrating the North Carolina Arts Council’s 50th Anniversary with a Mountain-to-Sea theme that will showcase all the wonderful art that makes up our great state.

**Arts Splash:** The High Point Arts Council is pleased to announce our 2017 summer outdoor concert series – Arts Splash. This season’s line up includes artists highlighting various genres of music: Motown, Soul, Folk, Blues, Latin, and Bluegrass. There is truly something for everyone!

**United Arts Fund Drive:** From outdoor concerts to indoor performances, the arts are everywhere in our community! The arts can be found in parks, churches, theatres, schools, recreational centers, colleges, community centers, and at the amphitheatre, library, museum, university, transportation terminal, senior center, hospital and housing authority.
**Expo Vino Uncorked:** a wine tasting with entertainment, silent auction, wine pull, 50/50 raffle and food catered. Fundraising Event.

Arts & Drafts: beer tasting featuring craft brews with music performances, raffles, beer games, and food catered. Join us for a fun, fund-rasiing event that benefits the arts in High Point.

**Capital Campaign:** For 50 years, the Arts Council moved from one location to another in search of a permanent facility where the arts could flourish. On December 12, 2012, at noon (12-12-12 at 12) we cut the ribbon on an arts facility at 121 S. Centennial Street in downtown High Point!

The Centennial Station Arts Center has enabled the Arts Council to move the arts forward in High Point. In less than a year, the Arts Council has transformed the showrooms into rehearsal studios and the lobbies are now art galleries. As a former freight train station, it is also a unique venue for weddings, receptions, parties, family gatherings, corporate events and entertainment events. A capital campaign is underway with naming rights for galleries, rehearsal studios, offices and other spaces. The Arts Council borrowed $981,000 for the purchase of the facility and upfitting and the first note of $250,000 has already been paid. It is the goal of the Arts Council to pay off the entire debt for the facility within three years and place funds into reserves for repairs.

**John Coltrane Jazz Workshop:** The legendary John Coltrane grew up in High Point and the High Point Arts Council sponsors the John Coltrane Jazz Workshop for youth as a tribute to this world famous jazz saxophonist. Once again this summer, students will be able to attend the jazz summer workshop in High Point . The workshop is available to all rising 7th through 12th graders with varying levels of ability in bass, percussion, guitar/keyboard, brass (trumpet, trombone), or woodwind instruments (clarinet, flute, saxophone).

ArtsGreenboro

Greenboro, NC

http://www.artsgreensboro.org/

**National Folk Festival:** Greensboro has been chosen from a field of 32 American cities to host the National Folk Festival for a three-year stay in 2015, 2016 and 2017. ArtsGreensboro and the National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA) co-produce the free event in cooperation with the City of Greensboro, the Greensboro Convention & Visitors’ Bureau, Action Greensboro, DGI and other local groups. The prestigious National Folk Festival is the nation’s longest-running traditional arts event, a three-day free outdoor multicultural celebration of music, dance and traditional arts which historically draws as many as 150,000 attendees by the third year of its residency, along with an economic impact of $15 to $30 million a year. The Festival’s three-year stay will lay the groundwork for a locally produced festival that continues after the “National” moves on. The National Folk Festival will be celebrating its 77th anniversary in Greensboro September 8-10, 2017. “On behalf of the City of Greensboro, I want to express how excited and honored we are to host the National Folk Festival,” said Greensboro Mayor Nancy Vaughan. “Greensboro is making a name for itself hosting national events, and people recognize our city’s outstanding hospitality.” mindful“While the benefits of hosting the Festival are huge for the city and its citizens,“ noted ArtsGreensboro President & CEO Tom Philion, “the benefits to artists and arts groups both here and across the state will be tremendous, making this a true statewide celebration with Greensboro at the center of it.” Philion added that this will be the first time the National Folk Festival has been presented in North Carolina since its founding in 1934. Greensboro was chosen in a nationwide competitive process that began last December with a an RFP, and a proposal put together in a team effort led by ArtsGreensboro in cooperation with City officials, the Convention and Visitors’ Bureau, Action Greensboro, DGI, and other supporters. Chosen as a finalist in January, NCTA representatives visited Greensboro mid- February to tour the city and meet with City officials and organizers, and hear from a variety of supporters, including surprise performances from Grammy winning singers Laurelyn Dossett and Rhiannon Giddens, among others. “Greensboro was quite impressive,” said NCTA Executive Director Julia Olin. “There is an amazing community spirit, the kind of energy and enthusiasm that makes for a great partnership and successful event.” The Festival will bring with it as many as six stages of continuous music, a dance pavilion, traditional crafts, regional food, storytelling, parades and folklife demonstrations to center city Greensboro for this free, three-day celebration. With many thousands in attendance each year, the National Folk Festival has become a major new arts destination event unprecedented in the city’s history, at a time when new arts initiatives – including the new Tanger Center – will blossom in front of a national audience.

**Van Dyke Performance Space:** ArtsGreensboro announced in October 2014 that renowned choreographer and Dance Project artistic director Jan Van Dyke had pledged up to $1 million to create a new downtown performance and rehearsal space by expanding existing facilities at Greensboro’s Cultural Center on Davie Street. Van Dyke said she had been looking for potential property downtown for nearly two years. When a recent Cultural Center Visioning Study sparked interest in the idea of expanding space there, Van Dyke and Philion came together to discuss the idea of creating a partnership with the City. Van Dyke explained, “Young artists and producers often leave Greensboro after graduation because they lack opportunities to present their work. This facility will enable dancers and other artists to showcase their work cost-effectively in a professionally outfitted space. With an appropriately-sized stage, outstanding technical capabilities, and a ‘sweet spot’ of 400 to 500 income-generating seats, this facility will answer that need.” The proposed project would provide a flexible downtown venue in which to produce dance, theatre, music, and a variety of other events with professional technical capabilities and seating for 400 to 500 patrons. “Jan’s remarkable commitment will help us create something unique and special downtown,” said ArtsGreensboro CEO Tom Philion. “This new space will complement the Steven Tanger Center for the Performing Arts, filling a gap for smaller arts groups as well as entrepreneurs, event producers, and the community. Just as importantly, it will achieve all this at a modest cost.” Proposed plans include the 7,500-square foot performance space with moveable seating and staging, state-of-the-art sound and lighting equipment, and added facilities for patron comfort. With this expansion, the Cultural Center would be better positioned to actively engage with LeBauer Park and its users. Furthermore, it would strategically connect the Cultural Center, City Center and LeBauer Parks, the performing arts center, the Historical Museum, the Children’s Museum, and the Central Library into a truly cohesive Downtown Cultural District. “This is a tremendous opportunity that could be a win-win for the arts community and our city,” said Philion. “It’s the domino effect. Jan Van Dyke has a long-held dream of creating a unique performance space; the Cultural Center needs to be reimagined and reconfigured so it can thrive and serve our community in an evolving downtown landscape; and the City envisions the creation of a cohesive Cultural District. Jan’s incredibly generous gift has set all this in motion.” Jan Van Dyke passed away on July 3, 2015 after a 2 1/2-year battle with primary peritoneal cancer. The Van Dyke Performance Space will exist in her memory.

**17 Days Greenboro:** Come to Greensboro, North Carolina for 17DAYS Arts & Culture Festival and experience more than 100 events across the city in dozens of some of the south’s most charming and unique venues. From musical classics to Americana roots-rock, award-winning theatre and dance to storytelling, the visual arts, galleries and everything in between. 17DAYS is a celebration of all things beautiful and exciting. In just five year’s time, 17DAYS Arts & Culture Festival has firmly established itself as a major arts destination event for Greensboro, North Carolina. Through the Festival, ArtsGreensboro has created a unique vehicle to collaboratively fuel the arts marketplace, celebrate creativity, and stimulate the economy of the city by matching arts events with unprecedented promotional resources. What’s different about 17DAYS is the unique collaborative nature of the Festival’s vision: more than 70 arts & entertainment presenters, arts producers, venues and other organizations will work together in 2017 toward 200+ events within the Festival’s two-and-a-half week calendar – making it the largest festival of its kind in NC. 2014 highlights included performances from multiple Grammy winning performers, as well as theatre productions, numerous art exhibits, dance, children’s programming, poetry, special events, animated film & video, street festivals, food truck rodeos, college and university programming, late night scene – even a very successful chocolate-lovers weekend celebration at multiple venues – all hosted by ArtsGreensboro. Partners included the city’s major arts & culture producers, from Triad Stage, the Symphony, Weatherspoon Museum, and the Science Center – to more grassroots organizations and community projects.

**Levitt AMP Greensboro Music Series:** For the second year in a row, the City of Greensboro has been named one of 15 American towns and cities to win a Levitt AMP Grant award of $25,000 in matching funds to present a series of ten FREE concerts in 2017! The concerts will be held at the Barber Park Pavilion in East Greensboro every Saturday starting June 3 through August 5. No tickets needed, the event is FREE!

**First Friday:** In 2008, the Arts Council (now ArtsGreensboro) launched First Fridays in downtown Greensboro. The project brought downtown merchants and artists together on the “first Friday” of each month to celebrate Center City Park and support the vitality of downtown. Now co-hosted with Downtown Greensboro, Inc. (DGI), these popular evenings of entertainment offer everything from pop-up events to impromptu street performances, drawing thousands of participants to this free self-guided tour of downtown Greensboro’s shops, local art galleries, studios, museums, and alternative art venues on the First Friday of every month from 6-9 pm.

**Greensboro Cultural Center:** The City of Greensboro, in partnership with ArtsGreensboro, provides studio, gallery, classroom, administrative and meeting space for 15 arts organizations who call the 23 year-old Greensboro Cultural Center home. The facility was created through a unique private/public partnership beginning in 1988 with a private $2 million “Renaissance” Campaign to create a center city home for Greensboro’s arts organizations. Located at 200 N. Davie Street (across from Center City Park), the Center is filled with activity year round. It hosts visual art galleries, performance spaces, pottery and dance studios, visual art studios, music rooms and multiple administrative offices. The Culture Center is also adjacent to the future LeBauer Park, set to open in 2016.

**Sternberger Artists Center:** ArtsGreensboro owns and operates the Sternberger Artists Center at 712 Summit Avenue in Greensboro. Built in 1926 by Sigmund Sternberger, the Center was donated in 1971 from the Sigmund Sternberger Foundation. Originally, the home housed the offices and member agencies of the United Arts Council. Today, the Sternberger Artists Center includes 16 studios and thrives with 90-100% occupancy. The center’s studio spaces are home to a variety of artists, including writers, painters, photographers and more.

**Arts & Media Fund**: ArtsGreensboro invited the News & Record to explore how we might work together to increase arts coverage, including bringing back reviews of theater, dance, music and exhibitions. The result is an innovative agreement similar to the underwriting model for public broadcasting. The News & Record maintains its editorial independence, while ArtsGreensboro helps make that expanded coverage possible — with no strings attached. This strategic partnership is good for the arts and good for our city. It will drive ticket sales (reducing arts organizations’ reliance on fundraising), raise awareness for arts programming and shine a light on the broad range of arts and entertainment options available to all of us. It’s also part of a continuing effort at ArtsGreensboro to raise awareness about the value and impact of the arts.

**Durham Arts Council, Inc.**

**Durham, NC**

**http://www.durhamarts.org/**

**Dinners a l’Art:** Dinners a l’ Art succeeds as a benefit for the Durham Arts Council because of the generosity of individuals and organizations who donate 100% of the resources and services to make these dinners possible. We are tremendously grateful to the featured artists, hosts, chefs, caterers and sponsors listed.

**Annual Arts Fund:** The Durham Arts Council Annual Arts Fund is the volunteer driven campaign for the arts in Durham. DAC is a United Arts Fund Affiliate of Americans for the Arts. Since fees and other earned income only provide 42% of the total costs to deliver our outstanding programs and services to the community, the Durham Arts Council must raise $1.2 million in contributions from generous donors each year. The Annual Arts Fund is a public/private partnership with the community of Durham and surrounding counties which supports the DAC in carrying out its mission through three areas: Community Arts Education: The DAC School and CAPS program Community Funding and Support of the Arts: Season Grants program and Emerging Artist program. Community Access to the Arts: Operation of the DAC studios, theaters, galleries and rehearsal spaces. The Durham Arts Council believes the arts play an essential role in defining the cultural life of Durham and can serve as a catalyst for bringing communities together. By fulfilling our mission of promoting excellence in and access to the creation, experience and active support of the Arts for all the people of our community, we are helping to make Durham a better place to live and grow.

**United Arts Council of Raleigh & Wake County**

**Raleigh, NC**

**http://www.unitedarts.org/**

**First Friday:** United Arts is an official First Friday location in the Glenwood South neighborhood. Featuring new works of art in our Marilyn J. Harrison (MJH) gallery each month, United Arts hosts an opening night reception for new exhibits the first Friday of each month except for January and July. The exhibits are curated by Visual Art Exchange in Raleigh.

**Pieces of Gold:** Pieces of Gold features 1,000 Wake County Public School System students singing, dancing, and performing to a packed Memorial Auditorium each March. Pieces of Gold has been a Wake County staple for more than 30 years, and it is a show that you don’t want to miss.

**Cultural Arts Booking Fair:** The Cultural Arts Booking Fair occurs annually, bringing together artists and community members who schedule cultural arts programming. More than 80 artists who currently are part of the United Arts Council’s Artists in Schools program participate. Participating artists have booths set up in a trade-show format, where attendees can meet artists and learn more about programs listed in the Artist Directory. Approximately 40 artists also participate in showcases held throughout the day, in which they present and perform brief excerpts of programs.

**Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner?:** Writers, actors, singers, dancers, painters and potters will share dinners with you (our guests) in private homes throughout Wake County on November 2, 3 and 4, beginning at 7 pm. Each home will have its own distinct food and wine. Some dinners are as intimate as 14 guests; others will be as large as 75 guests. Each home will feature an accomplished artist with a significant North Carolina connection. Guests won’t know which artist is attending their dinner until they arrive!

**State of Arts & Culture in Wake County:** Each January, United Arts presents: new arts and cultural data, information on upcoming arts events, the new Piedmont Laureate, and Business Support of the Arts Awards in conjunction with the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce.

**Artists in the Schools:** Students excel when they are exposed to the arts. We see the impact in their smiles—and in their test scores. The arts can open possibilities and ignite imaginations—plus improve attendance records and motivate students to stay in school. Many young students, however, have had limited exposure to the arts. Our Artists in Schools program offers grant funding and other support to help Wake County schools bring in professional teaching artists to implement curriculum-based arts education. Approximately 140 public, private and charter schools throughout Wake County participate in this program. Thanks to the Artists in Schools program, more than 120,000 Wake County school children see a theater, dance or music performance, or receive a week-long artist visit, each year. This year, Artists in Schools made 407 programs in 142 schools possible: 65 writer residencies, 100 teaching artist residencies and workshops, 242 music, dance and theater performances.

**Arts Learning Community for Universal Access:** The Arts Learning Community for Universal Access consists of arts organizations that collaborate to advocate for and improve access to the arts for people with disabilities. Since 2015, the City of Raleigh Arts Commission and United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County have partnered to offer a yearlong arts learning community that uses a collaborative approach to advocating for and improving access to the arts for people with disabilities.

**4th District Congressional Art Contest:** United Arts is pleased to work with Rep. David Price’s office in the annual Congressional Arts Competition for high school students in the 4th U.S. Congressional District.

**National Arts Program:** The National Arts Program® is designed to give artists at every skill level an opportunity to exhibit their artwork in a professional manner. This annual exhibition is sponsored by the United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County and the City of Raleigh Arts Commission, in collaboration with the National Arts Program Foundation Inc. of Malvern, Pennsylvania. The National Arts Program is pleased to provide materials and funding for this visual art exhibit including certificates for all participants and $2,400 in cash prizes. All prizes and awards are funded by the National Arts Program®.

**Visual Art Exhibitions:** Each year, the United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County curates and sponsors 23 art exhibits in two locations: the Wake County Justice Center in downtown Raleigh and WakeMed Raleigh on New Bern Avenue.

**Arts Integration Institute:** Something changes when the arts are an everyday part of learning. No culture — from West Africa to India to Brazil – is foreign once you’ve learned to sing and play its music. You’ll never forget high and low-pressure weather systems after you’ve danced them. When you build shadow puppets and perform scripts you’ve written, mythology becomes real. And once you’ve made your way through Ellis Island in the year 1901, history is no longer something you just read about in books — it’s the subject of your own poetry. We designed the Arts Integration Institute to make this kind of learning possible in every classroom. Each year we give elementary school educators a hands-on opportunity to work with extraordinary teaching artists who understand how classrooms really work. Teachers learn how to think creatively, collaborate and invigorate their classrooms. They also gain: A full week to explore the arts as students. Inspiration for innovative teaching. Time and space to plan collaboratively. Practical lesson plans they can use immediately in the classroom. The ability to integrate arts standards across the curriculum. Support throughout the year through feedback, refresher workshops, and an online resource custom-designed for Arts Integration Institute participants.

**GlaxoSmithKline East Wake Residency:** The GlaxoSmithKline East Wake Residency began in 1988 to establish a partnership between the arts, local governments, communities, schools, and businesses and to serve the citizens of eastern Wake County by providing a high-quality, culturally diverse arts and educational experience. These residencies take place in eastern Wake County, primarily in the towns of Knightdale, Wendell and Zebulon. Residencies include workshops, lecture-demonstrations, master classes, performances, and up to two weeks of residency work with core groups in schools and with community partners. Community partners have included the Parks and Recreation Departments of Knightdale, Wendell and Zebulon; the Wake County Public School System; local libraries; senior citizens facilities; family life centers; and GlaxoSmithKline and its employees at the Zebulon facility. Professional artists, presented by United Arts in residency work, have included the New Century Saxophone Quartet, Ying String Quartet, the String Trio of New York, Carlota Santana Spanish Dance Company, the Anderson String Quartet, and the African American Dance Ensemble.

Piedmont Laureate: The Piedmont Laureate program is dedicated to building a literary bridge for residents to come together and celebrate the art of writing, enriching the lives of all our citizens. It is co-sponsored by the United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County, the City of Raleigh Arts Commission, the Durham Arts Council and the Orange County Arts Commission. The program's primary goal is to "promote awareness and heighten appreciation for excellence in the literary arts in the Piedmont region.” The Piedmont Laureate, appointed for one year and from a different literary genre each year, offers the following activities in Durham, Orange and Wake counties. Readings at designated public sites (libraries, arts centers, schools, universities, and other community gathering places). Encourages creative writing for all age groups by offering workshops or other types of outreach. Promotes literature at select public events. Brings attention to literature in less traditional settings.

**Cultural Alliance of York County**

**York, PA**

**http://www.culturalalliance-york.org/**

**Creative Impact Arts:** The Creative Impact Awards Inspire Children, Energize Neighborhoods, and Create Community in York County by funding arts-based projects/programs that impact our region one of two key ways: Contributing to a thriving local economy, and creating a
more connected community.

**PA Partners in the Arts:** The Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts (PPA) Project Stream grants provide opportunities for arts organizations, individual artists and community-based groups to apply for up to $2,500 in funding to support performances, exhibitions and other arts projects that are presented to the public and take place between a designated time period. The Cultural Alliance supports the program in Adams, Fulton, Franklin, and York Counties.

**Where Arts and Education Come Together:** AIE promotes learning in and through the arts in throughout Adams, Franklin, Fulton and York counties. Schools, community organizations and senior centers are invited to collaborate with highly trained teaching artists to custom-design learning experiences for their site.

**BROADway Bound:** Recognizing the need for trained and motivated board members who can effectively govern and strengthen our nonprofit cultural organizations, the Cultural Alliance partnered with Leadership York to create the BOARDway Bound program. The five-session course covers board member roles, leadership styles, and the special aspects of arts organizations.

**York Lawyers for the Arts:** The Cultural Alliance of York County and the York County Bar Association have partnered to create York Lawyers for the Arts, a new program to benefit artists and arts organizations in York County. The York Lawyers for the Arts program will match qualifying artists and arts organizations with experienced attorneys.  The York Lawyers for the Arts program will provide legal representation at a substantially reduced rate (modest means) or as pro bono for those who may qualify.  York Lawyers for the Arts will also provide information to the community about common legal issues that artists encounter, including issues involving intellectual property, contracts, sales, business formation, taxes, and other matters.  Additionally, York Lawyers for the Arts (YLA) will serve to raise awareness of the resources available from the Cultural Alliance and York County Bar Association.

YorVoice: A BIG thanks to everyone who joined us for our 3rd annual YorVoice - a friendly singing competition between York-area singers/bands to inspire York pride, celebrate the arts and their impact on our community, highlight local talent, and most importantly, raise awareness for our 2017 Annual Campaign. 10 area performers rocked the Strand Stage in support of arts and culture in York! Hosted by the Strand-Capitol Performing Arts Center and featuring live musical performances from house band Boompop Coalition and celebrity judges, it was a night filled with music, fun, and laughs. Congratulations to Caroline Wolfe, 2nd Place winner, and Adelaide Achterber, our 2017 YorVoice Champion AND People's Choice winner! Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 24, 2018, for our next YorVoice!

**Impact Arts Conference:** The Cultural Alliance of York County is proud to partner with York College of Pennsylvania for our regional arts & culture conference. The conference provides professional development and networking opportunities for the arts managers and organizations, artists, community and economic development professionals, students, educators, and others working in the arts and cultural industry in South-Central Pennsylvania and beyond. The conference includes tracks led by industry experts that focus on nonprofit management, professional development for artists, and community economic development through the arts. Attendees can expect a variety of presentations, workshops, and panel discussions on their communities, as well as give those working in the arts & clture sector a chance to connect and network with their peers. Check out the full conference schedule for more information. The conference will bring together hundreds of people involved in the arts in one location where participants get equipped for success, shared ideas, and celebrate our vibrant and growing creative industry.

**York365.com:** York365.com serves as an all-inclusive arts and entertainment event resource, and is brought to you by the [Cultural Alliance of York County](http://www.culturalalliance-york.org/) , a united arts fund working to bring arts & culture to life in York County & the surrounding region, 365 days a year.

York365.com is made possible by a grant from the [Women’s Giving Circle of York County Community Foundation](http://www.yorkwgc.org/index.asp), a diverse group of more than 80 women committed to strategic philanthropy to help shape the future of their community. The WGC’s investment in York365.com follows a year of study to identify an investment to support the entire arts community and build the Cultural Alliance’s capacity as a catalyst for York’s economic prosperity. York365.com is powered by the [Artsopolis Network](http://www.artsopolis.com/), a growing number of member licensees dedicated to effectively promoting arts, culture and entertainment in their communities. There are more than 30 cities nationwide in the Network.

York365.com serves as an all-inclusive arts and entertainment event resource, and is brought to you by the [Cultural Alliance of York County](http://www.culturalalliance-york.org/) , a united arts fund working to bring arts & culture to life in York County & the surrounding region, 365 days a year.

York365.com is made possible by a grant from the [Women’s Giving Circle of York County Community Foundation](http://www.yorkwgc.org/index.asp), a diverse group of more than 80 women committed to strategic philanthropy to help shape the future of their community. The WGC’s investment in York365.com follows a year of study to identify an investment to support the entire arts community and build the Cultural Alliance’s capacity as a catalyst for York’s economic prosperity. York365.com is powered by the [Artsopolis Network](http://www.artsopolis.com/), a growing number of member licensees dedicated to effectively promoting arts, culture and entertainment in their communities. There are more than 30 cities nationwide in the Network.

**Theatre Forward**

**New York, NY**

**http://www.nctf.org/**

* Theatre Forward was founded by and represents historic, award-winning professional institutions, uniquely positioned for lasting local and national impact. Our theatres are taking active steps to be more inclusive community institutions as demographics in America shift. Theatre Forward’s Advancing Strong Theatre initiative is a collective response to address this on-going challenge. Designed by theatres themselves, this competitive production grant of $50,000 aims to support productions advancing theatres’ Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) goals for a targeted underserved and under-represented community that complements the theatres’ ongoing strategies to institute EDI change across the dimensions of their board, leadership, staff, audience and artistic programming. Our goal is to focus on: Equity – addressing inequities in the field; Diversity – bringing forth and championing a plurality of voices; Inclusion – recognizing and welcoming communities who were not always part of the institution. STRONG theatre means key funding will be awarded to enable theatres to innovate and take risks. This grant’s flexibility empowers the theatres to be transformative, forge and sustain longer term efforts, create capacity and take the lead in changing the social and cultural dynamics within their institution and community. Theatre Forward aims to foster an equitable theatre community that reflects the plurality and diversity of American culture. This project is national in scale, local in impact, will bring thousands of new audience members to our theatres, tells important new stories, and supports the breakdown of barriers to access and opportunity onstage and off across the country.
* Theatre Forward supports access and opportunities throughout our network of theatres for educating through theatre at every grade level and beyond. Our theatres work to bring the benefits of resident professional theatre and education programs to their communities. Studies continue to show that children in poverty and at-risk especially benefit from an education rich in the arts; yet, their access is the most limited. Theatre Forward strives to close that crucial opportunity gap, especially since our own research shows how crucial the skills gained in theatre education are in the 21st century workforce.  Therefore, Theatre Forward places special priority on connecting underserved and under-represented individuals and communities to theatre. Additionally, exposure to theatre contributes to a greater understanding of people, cultural and global ideas beyond one’s community.  Beyond support for K-16 programs, we support learning throughout the lifespan, community engagement and programs that are inclusive in their approach to bringing theatre and its unique features to people in every community and age group.
* Theatre Forward’s Spotlight Series are deeply discounted tickets to the hottest shows in New York. These events are geared towards corporate employees of our supporting companies and our Save My Seat users and most include a pre-show networking opportunity.  Past events include *Waitress*, *The Lion King*, *Aladdin* and *Hamilton*. Upcoming event:[*Come From Away*](https://theatreforward.org/events/come-away-payment-form-october-5/), October 5*.*
* The Chairman’s Awards Gala brings together business leaders, resident theatre board members, theatre patrons, and industry professionals to celebrate the achievements of world class theatres and artists. All net proceeds from the event go directly to our founding theatres, the leading 10 regional theatres in key markets across America.
* Broadway Roundtable: Each winter an intimate group of Theatre Forward supporters enjoy an exclusive discussion and luncheon with the leading artists in the industry sponsored by UBS.  Past panelists include Patrick Stewart, James Lapine, Michael Riedel, Daryl Roth, Robert Lopez, Tyne Daly, Betty Buckley, Brian Stokes Mitchell, and Bernard Telsey.
* Creative Conversations: Thought leader conversations between artists and business leaders bringing together board members, supporters, and theatre leaders in conversation. Past panelists include Phylicia Rashad, Gordon Edelstein, Jim Turley, Sandra Ruppert and Kenny Leon.
* Patron Events: Patrons of Theatre Forward and Board Members enjoy prime orchestra seating and artistic engagement with the creators and performers of Broadway’s biggest hits.  Past shows include *A Gentleman’s Guide to Love & Murder*, *Finding Neverland*, *It’s Only A Play, The Front Page* and *The Great Comet of 1812*.

**ArtsWestchester**

**White Plains, NY**

**https://artswestchester.org/**

**The Shops at ArtsWestchester:** The theme for the Shop aligns with the theme of ArtsWestchester’s current exhibition on view in the gallery. Each cycle, the shop is re-curated with new artist and designer products that compliment exhibited artwork in style and in price. ArtsWestchester’s central, metropolitan location gives local visitors easy and exclusive access to shop original artists and designers from the Greater NY area. Our mission involves supporting these artists by providing them with a broader audience. Our collection of items available for purchase in the Shop includes clothing, greeting cards, books, jewelry, soaps, skin care, affordable artwork and more of your favorite chotskies.

**Community Artist Residenceies: Early Childhood.** Thousands of Westchester children from families with limited resources often enter kindergarten with a learning gap that grows wider over time. Artist residencies provide preschool children with exposure to music, dance, and visual arts to help them master important kindergarten-readiness skills. **Adolescents and Teens.** For many adolescents the opportunity to work side-by-side with an artist on a creative project is a defining moment, enabling them to view the world, and their place in it, differently. Through partnerships with after-school initiatives, community groups, and government agencies, ArtsWestchester provides teens with creative, productive outlets. **Adults in Transition.** Through ArtsWestchester’s outreach and advocacy efforts, human service agencies—shelters for homeless people, mental health facilities, job training programs, drug and violence prevention programs, adult homes and senior programs—are becoming increasingly aware of how important the arts are to the health and well being of their clients. **Seniors.** No one feels the loss of community more than our senior citizens. Artist Residencies in senior centers encourage seniors to get together, enjoy new experiences and share their stories.

**Public Art Programs:** ArtsWestchester believes that the arts should be accessible to all people and that artwork enriches any environment – – be it classroom, conference room, public park, downtown or private development. Public art presents art outside museum walls building community pride, enlivening the landscape and establishing a sense of place. In the hands of artists, dull building exteriors become vibrant destinations, sidewalks become inviting places and ordinary streetscapes become extraordinary. ArtsWestchester partners with municipalities and businesses interested in utilizing the arts to add value to their projects and communities. There are endless possibilities, but art is at work throughout Westchester in retail projects, libraries, hospitals, hotels, commercial apartments and public housing projects.

**Folk Arts Program:** ArtsWestchester’s Folk Arts Program began in 1996, documenting a vital work tradition in the region: the work of past and contemporary stonemasons. Since then, the program has presented at least half a dozen public programs each year, documenting and highlighting the diverse cultures of Westchester, collaborating with partner organizations throughout the county and offering promotional and cultural development services to artists, community groups and cultural organizations committed to the preservation and cultivation of folk arts.

**School Artist Residencies:** The arts are about more than concertos in concert halls and paintings in museums; they can be tools for teaching and cultural expression. ArtsWestchester can connect you to the power of the arts with our Artist Residency Program. This program is designed to enhance the work you are doing by integrating the arts into a variety of school and human service settings. From classrooms to after school programs, day care centers to shelters, the arts can make a tremendous difference in reaching and teaching. **The Artist Residency Program can:** Help you match a professional teaching artist with your site or school’s need to design an artist residency that weaves the arts into the curriculum addressing NYS Learning Standards to achieve educational goals, or into your existing community programs to achieve social or behavioral goals. Provide you with technical assistance and integrated arts program development at your school and site. Enable you to engage professional artists at reasonable affordable rates…no negotiating necessary! Free you from back office work, such as issuing contracts and payments, troubleshooting, etc. Entitle you to free or affordable admission to ArtsWestchester professional development workshops and ArtsWNews Subscription.

**Become a Teaching Artist:** To be listed in our Teaching Artist directory, an artist must pass our rigorous panel process to be ready to work in schools and human services sites. Professional artists working in all fields and media are welcome to apply—currently the list encompasses visual art, theater, video, music, dance, book arts, slam poetry, computer arts and more. Each artist must have a proven track record of artistic achievement, along with the training and skills needed to bring learning to life through the arts in classrooms or human services sites

**Arts Award:** Each spring, ArtsWestchester recognizes individuals and organizations for their extraordinary impact on arts and culture. We invite you to recommend candidates for consideration.

**White Plains Jazz Fest:** Returning to the city of White Plains for its sixth year, the 2017 Jazz Fest promises to be a five-day celebration of jazz for music lovers of all ages. A partnership between ArtsWestchester, the City of White Plains and the White Plains BID, Jazz Fest has become a signature White Plains event of free and affordable jazz performances attracting jazz enthusiasts from throughout Westchester County and beyond. Recently awarded Best Jazz Festival by *Westchester Magazine*, Jazz Fest offers concerts at a variety of White Plains venues throughout the week culminating in a free outdoor Jazz & Food Festival on Mamaroneck Avenue on Sunday, September 17, 2017.

**Art Consulting:** We believe that the arts should be accessible to all people and that artwork enriches any environment – – be it classroom, conference room, apartment building or hospital waiting room. ArtsWestchester offers clients a single source for all their arts consulting needs. Our arts professionals oversee each art project from concept to completion, insuring the highest quality. With over 2000 artists on our artist roster, we have access to a diverse group of well-established, mid-career and emerging visual artists. We believe selecting artwork should be a stimulating and personal process. Our team works closely with you to bring the gallery to you creating visually dynamic surroundings for work or pleasure. Our temporary or permanent project work benefits: healthcare, hospitality, real estate and residential clients. **Our Services Include:** Acquisition of fine art for homes or businesses, Building corporate or personal collections, Curatorial services, Art appraisal services, Creation and installation of temporary exhibits, Collaboration with interior design professionals, Execution of private gallery events, Custom art solutions, Public art projects & Site specific commissions, Local artist programs

**Arts Deals:** Arts Deals are the perfect way to take part in the arts in Westchester at affordable prices. ArtsDeals, a cultural marketplace presented by ArtsWestchester, offers the best of artistic events in Westchester County at a discount. Discover Westchester’s diverse cultural landscape and explore area arts destinations for the entire family to enjoy.

**Broome County Arts Council**

**Binghamton, NY**

**http://www.broomearts.org/**

**United Cultural Fund: T**he United Cultural Fund (UCF) is a program of the Broome County Arts Council (BCAC) in Binghamton, New York.  Established in 1987, the UCF is a locally-funded combined campaign for the arts in Broome County. The annual campaign is supported by Broome County government appropriations, local foundation grants —  including Hoyt, Decker, Gaffney and M & T Charitable Foundation — and charitable donations from businesses, corporations and individuals. Grants funded by the UCF Campaign provide general operating support and project grants to non-profit arts organizations, community non-profits and individual artists in Broome County. On average, the UCF Campaign raises over $200,000 and distributes 85% as grants.  The remaining 15% is an administrative fee to BCAC, which raises the rest of its operating budget from other sources. The UCF is a unique resource. According to the national arts advocacy group Americans for the Arts in Washington , D.C. , Broome County is one of only 7 communities in all of New York State with an active combined campaign for the arts. Since 1987, BCAC has distributed more than $9.5 million in UCF grants in Broome County.

**Heart of the Arts Awards:** BCAC honors individuals who have made significant impact on and contributions to the arts in Broome County. Originally an annual award, they are now given biennially. Heart of the Arts Awards recognize recent contributions to the arts. Lifetime Achievement Awards recognize long-term contributions to the arts.

**Sculpture Outdoors:** **Welcome to Broome County Arts Council’s on-line exhibition of public sculpture!**This collection of historically and artistically significant works in Greater Binghamton and Broome County is a collaboration with Binghamton University Art History Department and Professor Kevin Hatch. The project editor is Jillian Proscia. This ongoing collaboration started in 2013. The goal is to identify, catalogue, and raise awareness of public sculpture as valuable cultural assets, landmarks, resources and attractions that are worthy of investment and care. This catalogue offers stories about how these works came to “live” among us and the artists who designed them. Many of these public sculptures bear the scars of change caused by nature’s sun and storms or by human neglect and, sometimes, violence. But still they stand, meaningful public sculptures that serve as community touchstones of past glories, current realities, and future promise. Each sculpture listed below possesses its own unique story. As you click through the exhibition, you can read its history as well as locate the sculpture within Broome County. We encourage you to leave your comments on each page, whether you mention personal knowledge of the sculpture or simply offer your opinion. We welcome your interaction within our virtual exhibit.

**Literati Reading Programs:** The Literati Reading Series, run in partnership between the Binghamton Center for Writers and the Broome County Arts Council, brings well known authors, like Eleanor Henderson, J. Robert Lennon, and Joe Weil to the Broome County Arts Council for free readings that also feature a Binghamton University Creative Writing graduate student. Creative Writing graduate students are published authors themselves with work featured in The New Yorker, Rattle, Glimmer Train, and other prestigious journals. The authors read from their own work and engage in a discussion with the audience afterwards, first formally through audience questions and then informally at the reception.  Programs are held at the Broome County Arts Council – 81 State Street, Binghamton – 5th Floor.

**BCAC Exhibits:** Broome County Arts Council (BCAC) is planning gallery exhibitions and programs for 2018. BCAC invites fine artists and cultural curators who live and work in Broome County to submit proposals for gallery exhibitions and programs for consideration by BCAC’s Program and Marketing Committee. Proposals are invited from visual artists, poets and writers, musicians, and performing artists, as well as curators of cultural programs with local significance. Emerging artists are welcome to submit proposals. Priority will be given to BCAC members but ALL submissions will be considered. BCAC will review proposals on a rolling basis.

**The Business of Art Workshop:** The Business of Art Workshop Series is an opportunity for artists of all disciplines to learn essential business success strategies in a supportive environment.  The instructors and facilitators have many years of successful experience in various business ventures throughout the arts community.  Participants will learn many of their tried and true best practices. If you are already in business, thinking of launching a career as a professional artist (visual, performing, literary, and digital) or would like to attend and network with other members of the arts community – welcome!

**High School Emerging Artist Competition:** The Annual High School Emerging Artist Competition is open to all high schools and high school-level home schoolers in Broome County.  All work is received in March, judged by professional artists, and displayed at the Broome County Arts Council for the month of April, with an Awards Ceremony First Friday in April.  Participants receive certificates from the Broome County Arts Council, and the winners receive recognition by County Government.

**UCF Campaign:** Since 1986, the Broome County Arts Council’s United Cultural Fund (UCF), the locally-funded combined campaign that has raised over $10 million for the arts in Broome County.  The annual UCF campaign funds grants for general operating support and project grants to LOCAL nonprofits and individual artists The UCF grantees collectively had expenditures of more than $4 million in Broome County.  The grantees entertained, educated, employed and/or engaged more than 150,000 county residents and visitors, 80 percent of whom visited of whom visited establishment before or after an event.  Financial benefits are a two-way street – yet another reason for supporting the ARTS and the UCF. Recipients of UCF general operating support funding include: Art Mission & Theater, Binghamton Philharmonic, Cider Mill Playhouse, Endicott Performing Arts Center, Goodwill Theatre, Roberson Museum & Science Center, and Tri-Cities Opera; and approximately 15 smaller grants given to local artists and non-profit arts organizations annually. An investment in the 2017 UCF Campaign contributes directly to the advancement of our quality of life, to tourism and ongoing economic development.  You are investing in your community pride and growth!

**Greater Hartford Arts Council**

**Hartford, CT**

**https://letsgoarts.org/**

**The Art Room:** Bring your team to the newest creative destination in downtown Hartford, the Arts Council’s Art Room. Offering arts breaks to inspire creativity, as well as team building experiences, The Art Room is a great way to bring excitement to your next meeting or team outing. All Art Room experiences include an instructor to lead your group through your chosen activity and all the materials needed to create your masterpiece in a fun, relaxing atmosphere located at 100 Pearl Street. And the best part - all proceeds from The Art Room benefit the Arts Council’s United Arts Campaign, which is helping to improve lives and transform communities through the arts.

**Lets GO Arts Card:** The Arts Council's popular Let's GO Arts! discount membership program connects you with hundreds of performances, concerts, exhibitions and family activities—all at a discounted price. You'll even save on dining out! It's just our way of saying "thanks" for your contribution to United Arts.

**#IAmAnArtist:** Whether you doodle, knit or sing to your kids we all have an artistic side. Take the time to discover yours and join the United Arts Campaign to keep the arts alive in our communities! We hope you find artistic inspiration in these fun DIYs, local classes and exciting events.
*Share your art with us on Twitter and Instagram using #IAmAnArtist and #LetsGoArts.*

**Explore The Arts!:**Greater Hartford has a vibrant arts and cultural scene from daily plays and musicals, to concerts and exhibitions. Don't get left out of the excitement! Connect with us to stay up-to-date and start exploring the arts.

**Art on the Streets:** We've partnered with Aetna to bring Art on the Streets back to downtown Hartford this spring! Ten local artists will present interactive artistic experiences for the public to enjoy that also draws attention to how the arts make us happier and healthier. Share your Art on the Streets photos with us on Instagram using **#GHACxAetna** and we'll repost!

**Arts Innovation Day:** Enhance your social media strategy, learn how to build stronger corporate partnerships, and so much more at the second annual Arts Innovation Day, a day of professional learning for arts professionals in collaboration with local business leaders. Here's your opportunity to work with peers and corporate professionals towards a more strategic and, ultimately, more innovative organization. From digital marketing and PR to corporate partnerships and arts advocacy, artists and arts organization professionals will have the opportunity to learn from the Arts Council's corporate partners and how Business Volunteers for the Arts can help you meet your organizational goals.

**Summer Soiree:** The Greater Hartford Arts Council invites you to our Summer Soirée at the historic and beautiful Governor's Residence to support Neighborhood Studios, our arts education program for local teens. Mix and mingle as you enjoy sparkling wine, delicious food, and hear two special guest speakers: Broadway Director, Benjamin Endsley Klein; and Jeff Poulin, Arts Education Program Manager at Americans for the Arts.

**Annual Celebration:**  Join us to celebrate the 2017 United Arts Campaign and discover the amazing impact your support has on our community. Enjoy food, wine, and an interactive arts activity from our workplace campaigns. You’ll also get a sneak peek of some of the exciting changes happening at the Arts Council!

**I Am An Artist Day:** Discover your inner artist through creative and interactive experiences with local arts organizations and artists!

**Big Red for the Arts:** Show YOUR support for the arts! Join us at Big Red for the Arts to celebrate the arts in our community and kick-off the 2017 United Arts Campaign. Enjoy special live performances by local artists, signature dishes from the area's best restaurants, local spirits and international wines!
**Concert & Cocktails:** Join us for our first-ever Concert & Cocktails event featuring special guest Dr. Edison Liu, president and CEO of The Jackson Laboratory (JAX) and jazz pianist. Dr. Liu will take you on a sojourn through the worlds of art, music, and science with his presentation *The Art & Science of Creativity*. As a jazz pianist, as well as a world-renowned cancer and genomics researcher, Dr. Liu will incorporate piano improvisation with a view on scientific discovery and will be joined by JAX Assistant Professor Basile Tarchini, who will be playing the double bass. Part piano recital and part lecture, this unique event will showcase how creativity and innovation in art and science impact all our lives. All proceeds from this event will benefit the Arts Council's United Arts Campaign!

**Creative Workshops:** We've partnered with local artists to host fun, creative workshops to unleash your inner artist!  Unwind after the work day as you create and mingle in our new creative space, **The Art Room**!  All proceeds benefit our **United Arts Campaign.**