Oregon Arts Commission Meeting
Friday, March 31, 2023
9:00 am to 12:30 pm

7:00 Thursday night dinner
Mother’s Bistro – It’s all about the love (mothersbistro.com)
Map Mother’s Bistro & Bar - Google Maps
Inside Embassy Suites by Hilton

9:00am Commission Meeting
Commission Meeting at Hampton Opera Center
Hampton Opera Center | Portland Opera
The Hampton Opera Center - Google Maps

Commission meeting overview schedule
11:30am Congresswoman Bonamici Joins Commission meeting for discussion about arts
in Oregon. (Over lunch)
12:30 – Tour of Hampton Opera Center
1:30 – Tour of Native Arts and Culture Foundation
Tour of Native Arts and Culture Foundation
Native Arts and Cultures Foundation
Map Native Arts and Cultures Foundation - Center for Native Arts and Cultures - Google Maps
Maps
Oregon Arts Commission
Meeting Agenda
March 31, 2023
9:00am to 12:30pm
The Hampton Opera Center

1 Action 9:00 AM Call to Order, Welcome and Chair’s Report  Jenny Green, Chair

2 Action - Vote 9:10 AM Board Minutes December 15, 2022  Jenny Green

3 Discussion 9:15 AM Art in Public Places Collection Management  Sarah Baylinson, Art Collection and Artist Services Specialist

4 Discussion 9:35 AM Grant Budget Preliminary Review  Brian Rogers, Executive Director

5 Discussion 9:55 AM Strategic Plan Review  Liora Sponko, Senior Program Manager

6 10:15 AM Break

7 Discussion 10:25 AM Committee Updates  Jenny Green, Harlen Springer, Liora Sponko, Brian Rogers

8 Discussion 10:45 AM Executive Director Report  Brian Rogers

9 Discussion 10:55 AM Commissioner and Staff Reports

10 Action 11:25 AM Panel Dates  Kat Bell, Grants Officer

11 Discussion 11:30 AM Congresswoman Bonamici Visit

12 Discussion 12:00 PM Lunch

13 Action 12:30 PM Adjourn  Jenny Green

12:30PM Tour of The Hampton Opera Center
1:30PM  Tour of Native Arts and Culture Foundation

Unanticipated agenda items may or may not be included. The meeting is a phone conference. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to Kat Bell 503-986-0082. TTY 800-735-2900
## Mission

**Oregon Arts Commission**

To enhance the quality of life for all Oregonians through the arts by stimulating creativity, leadership and economic vitality

To lead in building an environment in which cultural organizations are sustained and valued as a core part of vibrant Oregon communities.

## Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Governance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Policy development and advice to government on programs related to arts&lt;br&gt;• Official state arts agency&lt;br&gt;• Grantmaking&lt;br&gt;• Advocacy&lt;br&gt;• Multiple programs (Community Development, Arts Education, Percent for Art)</td>
<td>9 Members Appointment by the Governor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Policy development and advice to government on programs related to culture&lt;br&gt;• Fund development&lt;br&gt;• Grantmaking&lt;br&gt;• Advocacy&lt;br&gt;• County/Tribal Coalition development</td>
<td>11 Members Appointed by the Governor, confirmed by the Senate 1 House Member; 1 Senate Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## FTE

| 4.5 Admin & Programs<br>3 Contract (Percent for Art) | 1 Executive Director<br>3.5 Fund Development, Communications, Assistant |

## Budget

| $3,728,492 | $3,384,340 |

## Revenue Sources

| General Fund, Federal Fund (NEA)<br>Other Funds (Percent for Art, Cultural Trust, The Ford Family Foundation, Oregon Community Foundation, Lottery) | Other Funds (Contributed, License Plate, Interest Earnings) |

## Services & Technical Assistance

| Percent for Art | Grant Trainings • Staff Outreach • Online Resources • Communications • Coalition Leadership |

## Shared Services

| Office • Technology/Software • Financial • Contracts • Human Resources • Administrative • Communication Staff |

## Grants FY2021: July 1 20120 – June 30, 2021

| Arts Access Reimbursement, $5,914<br>Arts Build Communities, $180,002<br>Arts Learning, $190,000<br>Career Opportunity, $164,126<br>Designated, $40,000<br>Fellowship, $25,000<br>Operating Support, $1,493,981<br>Small Operating, $209,423<br>Total = $1,493,981 | Cultural Development, $1,350,719<br>Coalitions, $676,760<br>Cultural Partners<br>• Oregon Arts Commission, $181,868<br>• Oregon Heritage Commission, $60,623<br>• Oregon Historical Society, $60,623<br>• Oregon Humanities, $181,868<br>• State Historic Preservation, $60,623<br>Total = $2,573,084 |

| FY19 Donations $4,557,355 |

Revised 03/08/22
Oregon Arts Commission Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2022

Commissioners Present: Jenny Green, Chair; Harlen Springer, Vice-Chair; Subashini Ganesan-Forbes (arrived after ABC vote); Stephanie Kim; Roberta Lavadour; Matt Stringer

Commissioners Absent: Avantika Bawa, David Harrelson, Kamilah Long

Staff Present: Sarah Baylinson, Art Collection & Artist Specialist; Ryan Burghard, Public Art & Artist Programs Coordinator; Tiffany Harker, Arts Education & Grants Coordinator; Carrie Kikel, Communications Manager; Brian Rogers, Executive Director; Liora Sponko, Senior Program Manager

Call to order
Green called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

Minutes
Roberta Lavadour moved approval of the December 2, 2022 minutes as amended. Seconded by Harlen Springer. Motion passed unanimously.

Spending Plan Augmentation
Brian Rogers presented report.

Discussion of the process and timeline for contracting communication support.

Discussion of how to staff Arts and Culture Caucus event; perhaps find a sponsor to produce.

Green said she assumes we will let SOG recipients know this is a one-year bump. Rogers said yes.

Springer commended the process that led to the adjusted plan. He asked about the feasibility study for public art maintenance. Rogers said the goal is to put it in motion for the next biennium.

Springer moved approval of the spending augmentation plan as revised. Seconded by Stephanie Kim. Motion passed unanimously.

Arts Build Communities
Tiffany Harker presented report.

Matt Stringer moved approval of the additional Option 2 Arts Build Communities awards made possible by the augmentation plan. Springer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
Fellowships – Performing Arts
Sponko presented report.

Stringer asked for a definition of site-specific dance.

Lavadour said the panel really went into detail in their evaluation. It’s humbling to see the talent. Notable and unfortunate there were no tribal member applications.

Subashini Ganeson-Forbes said it’s sad that theater artists are often overlooked.

Discussion of materials that support the application and how to make it more accessible to theater artists.

Ganeson-Forbes moved approval of the seven top Fellowship awards. Seconded by Kim. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Green asked how the additional ABC awards were determined. Rogers said it was related to their scores and normalization of the scores.

Springer gave an update on the Arts and Caucus formation process. There are currently eight members with more meetings scheduled. There will be a Zoom meeting with members in early January and a big event at the Hallie Ford Museum in early February. Green said we will wait until the Legislative calendar is set to finalize.

Springer said the event will be about an hour early evening Monday to Thursday. Introduction of Caucus members and organizers. Springer will convene an event planning subcommittee to include Ganesan-Forbes and Carrie Kikel.

Discussion of media strategy for announcing the Caucus and cost of the event. Springer envisions the Caucus will continue to grow over time.

**Adjourn**
Green adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.
March 31, 2023

TO: Oregon Arts Commission
FROM: Sarah Baylinson, Art Collection and Artist Services Specialist
SUBJ: Art in Public Places – Collection and Project Update

During the meeting I’ll give a presentation that covers the following associated with the Art in Public Places program.

Overview
- Collections Management
- Research and Curatorial Work
- Grant Support
- Art in the Governor’s Office
- Special Projects

☐ Informational only ☒ For commission input/discussion ☐ For commission action
WORK OVERVIEW

Collections Management
Research and Curatorial work
Grant Support
Art in the Governor’s Office
Special Projects

Sarah Baylinson and Phil Cash Cash conducting research

Leah Wilson “Listening to the Forest”

Ellen Lesperance “Fist”
WHAT IS A COLLECTIONS MANAGER?
A little like being a doctor for the art
We help diagnose issues
Refer to specialists
Manage records
Maintain best practices

PERCENT COLLECTION DATA

- **2,691** Number of artworks
- **34** Agencies
- **283** Buildings
- **86** New works in the last three years
- **43** Artists commissioned in the last three years
PROJECT KICK-OFF

Conduct Inventory  
Report Condition  
Implement Plan

COORDINATE NEEDS

Coordination Liaison  
PAAC Chair  
Gather Estimates  
Art Handling  
Conservation  
Document Install-Sucesses and Needs
MAINTAIN DATABASE

PHYSICAL ARCHIVE

- Compile and organize all documentation and contracts
- Confirm receipt of all necessary documents before final payment to artists

MAINTAIN DATABASE

DIGITAL DATABASE

PUBLIC ART ARCHIVE
INVENTORY

Purpose:
Confirm Location
Record Condition
Photo Documentation

Nearly 70% Complete
CONSERVATION

- Addressed during inventory
- Brought to our attention by agencies
- Discussed at the onset of a new percent project

Va Vang and Chu Vang “Untitled” textile

URGENT REQUESTS

Urgent requests typically result from construction, safety or disaster issues. Due to the size of our collection, requests come in frequently.
SPECIAL PROJECTS

ART IN THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

ARTIST REGISTRY

FORD FAMILY FOUNDATION

FEATURED
Artists: Join the new Oregon Artist Registry! To ensure artists' access to funding opportunities and build a case for more artist resources, the Oregon Arts Commission partnered with The Ford Family Foundation to create an Oregon Artist Registry.

Thank you

Sarah Baylinson sarah.baylinson@biz.oregon.gov 971-707-3096
Our projected total general fund is for the 2023-2025 Biennium is $4,287,169. Traditionally we have split the funds equally between the two fiscal years in the biennium.

In the 2021-23 biennium we allocated $2,449,406 of the general fund to grantmaking and $1,523,235 to administration and operations. For the grantmaking budget we divided the general fund allocation equally between the fiscal years which is $1,224,703.

Attached is a very initial concept for the grants budget the fiscal year 2024 based on the past two fiscal years.

Also attached is the augmentation budget for Fiscal Year 2023, we will give an update on augmentation activity.
2023-2025 Funding Sources

- General Fund
- National Endowment for the Arts
- Other Funds

Other Funds Sources:
- Oregon Cultural Trust
- The Ford Family Foundation
- Percent for Arts
Number of Applications Since 2008

- Operating Support Program
- Arts Build Communities
- Arts Learning
Arts Commission 23-25 Biennium Grant Budget

- **Operating Support**: 55%
- **Small Operating Support**: 12%
- **Programs**: 33%

- **Arts Access Reimbursement**: 1%
- **Individual Artist Fellowship**: 2%
- **Career Opportunity**: 10%
- **Arts Learning**: 10%
- **Arts Build Communities**: 10%
## Oregon Arts Commission

### Program 

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>General Fund</th>
<th>Federal Funds</th>
<th>Other Funds</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>% of budget</th>
<th>General Fund</th>
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### Budget

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<th>2021-2023 Biennium - Actual</th>
<th>2023-2025 Biennium Projection -</th>
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<td>$1,224,703</td>
<td>$841,600</td>
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### Balance

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<th>2021-2023 Biennium - Actual</th>
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**Balance of funds for Administrative Expenses**
TO: Oregon Arts Commission
FROM: Brian Rogers, Executive Director
SUBJ: FY2023 Spending Plan Augmentation - UPDATE

We learned in December of 2022 that there was a balance in General Funds for the current biennium. The 2021-23 biennium has two fiscal years, FY2022 and FY2023. The total balance from FY2022 is $253,069.

During FY2022 we saw vacancy savings of $162,000. We also had additional savings in our general administrative services and supplies of $85,000. Services and supplies include travel, office expenses, professional services, and state government costs. There was also $6,500 in unspent grant funds.

Updated Recommendations
1. Expand Communication Capacity – Developed a contract for social media strategy and increase presence with a focus in the following areas: general Arts Commission impact stories, drafting media releases, increasing awareness of opportunities, art in public places projects and, artist registry amplification. We will issued a call for contractors and initial contract is set up for $10,000. Now that the contract is established, we will post an RFP for to increase the contact to $30,000. Our goal is to continue with a contractor and will budget in future biennia. The contractor is Elayna Yussen.

2. Career Opportunity Program – $20,000 to increase budget for Round 2 from $45,298 to $65,298. This is enabling funding more artist focused opportunities. The deadline was March 8th, there are two panels on April 20 and 21.

3. Arts Build Communities (ABC) – $40,000 to increase budget from $225,000 to $265,000. Each award would remain $5,000 but the number of awards would increase from 45 to 53.

4. Fellowships - $10,000 to increase the number of fellowship awards from 5 to 7. The panel met on December 7, 2022.

5. Small Operating Support (SOG) – $79,073 to augment each award by $739, increasing awards from $2,261 to $3,000. 107 SOG awards have been augmented.

6. Oregon Folklife Network (OFN) – $20,000 to fund a challenge grant to increase fundraising potential and increase OFN’s programmatic and administrative capacity. The award is in process.

7. Administration - $43,996 contingency to support: potential cultural districts program contract increase, and increased staff and commissioner travel. We will also consider supporting the photography project in partnership with The Ford Family Foundation. Extended Jill Coughlin’s contract through June 2023.
## General Fund Close Recommendation FY2023

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<tr>
<th>Line</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Augment Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Expand Communication Capacity</td>
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<td>Career Opportunity Program</td>
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### Administration Breakout (Line 8) - Up to Amounts

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<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>8a</td>
<td>Cultural Districts Augmentation</td>
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<td>8b</td>
<td>Photography Project Contractor Support</td>
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<td>8c</td>
<td>Potential Arts Caucus Support</td>
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<td>8d</td>
<td>Staff and Commissioner Travel</td>
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<td>8g</td>
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- [ ] Informational
- [ ] For commission input/discussion
- [x] For commission action
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<td>54%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performing Artist FY23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$35,000</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Visual Arts FY22 Fellowships</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Fellowship (PAM CUT) FY23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$28,000</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Literary Fellowships (Literary Arts) FY23</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Career Opportunity Grants</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$130,533</td>
<td>$240,533</td>
<td></td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Subtotal Artist Grants</td>
<td>$143,000</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$130,533</td>
<td>$303,533</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Arts Northwest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Oregon Folklife Network (UofO)</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Poetry Out Loud</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Subtotal Designated Grants</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$145,000</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>$1,224,703</td>
<td>$169,073</td>
<td>$851,800</td>
<td>$323,072</td>
<td>$2,568,648</td>
<td>108%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Arts Commission’s Strategic Plan (enclosed) is designed and ready for launch, likely in mid-April. The launch of the plan will include a news release, social media posts and direct outreach to stakeholders. This release will also mention the announcement of the Arts Commission’s Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Plan. Thank you to all the staff, Commissioners and stakeholders for your work in this milestone to guide the organization over the next five years.

Also enclosed is the Arts Commission’s Action Plan, which provides specific actions, deadlines and accountability to ensure the successful implementation of our Strategic Plan. Staff will review this plan regularly, take the actions necessary to implement the work and revise the Action Plan as needed.

At the spring and fall Commission meetings each year, staff will provide updates to the Commission to inform them of our progress on the plan. In the past, the staff have documented and shared Completed, Active and Future tasks in each goal area. Please see below example of past evaluation. We welcome your feedback if this format will work for semi-annual review of our Strategic Plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Completed tasks</th>
<th>Active tasks</th>
<th>Future tasks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>1A</td>
<td>1B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Create Small Operating grant program to provide support to smaller arts organizations</td>
<td>• Evaluate impact of OCF and Literary Arts partnerships</td>
<td>• Formally select 1-3 groups (identified above) to collect data on with the goal of improving equity in OAC’s grant-making</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Evaluate the impact of Small Operating grants and recommend modification if necessary</td>
<td>• Set quarterly meetings with the CAC and Arts Commission leadership</td>
<td>• Research barriers for identified underserved groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Partnership with the Oregon Community Foundation to give extra funding to individual literary and performing artists in the Career Opportunity Program</td>
<td>• Review overlap between OAC and other funders</td>
<td>• Review applications from identified target underserved groups to identify common characteristics or needs (if any)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Partnership with Literary Arts to grant literary fellowships</td>
<td>• Develop a list of possible partnerships with other funders where overlap exists</td>
<td>• Hire researcher to produce report detailing the needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Increase Arts Build</td>
<td>• Continue to support art in the public realm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completed tasks</td>
<td>Active tasks</td>
<td>Future tasks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities grant budget in FY2017                                               • Award more than $1 million in contracts for artwork in the public realm                                                                                     • Finalize terms: access, equity, diversity, inclusion and underserved                                                                                                                                                              (both art and non-art) of each group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Award $150,000 as administrators to the Ford Family Foundation’s Art Acquisition Funds                                         • Approve definitions and publish on website                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      • Identify target underserved groups: select criteria for how we measure populations (race and geography)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Solicit and review 2-year pool of Oregon artists to exhibit in the Art in the Governor’s Office Program                          • Create reports of submission rates, competitiveness and funding rate for identified target underserved groups 1C                                                                                                             • Review grant-making data to measure impact on populations. 1D</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Steward $4 million in the Percent for Art Program                               • Create direct funding benchmark by recording average direct grant funding (from past 3 years) to chosen underserved groups 1C                                                                                                                                                                                                       • Set target goals for impact (direct and indirect) on identified target underserved groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1B                                                                                • Create working draft of terms: access, equity, diversity, inclusion and underserved                                                                                                                                      • Approve definitions and publish on website                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               • Present a range of strategies for reaching goals to Commission</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Identify which ethnically/geographically defined groups consistently received disproportionately less total funding from OAC compared to their demographic distribution in the state 1C</td>
<td>• Create reports of submission rates, competitiveness and funding rate for identified target underserved groups 1C                                                                                                                                                                                                       • Modify, refine or develop grant programs in alignment to adopted strategy (SOG priority)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1C                                                                                • Create a report on per capita funding                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        • Summarize data collection and research related to identified target underserved groups.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Requested Action:
☐ Informational only  ☒ For commission input/discussion  ☐ For commission action
Strategic Plan
Oregon Arts Commission
January 2023-December 2027
Oregon Arts Commission

Commissioners
Chair Jenny Green, Bend
Vice Chair Harlen Springer, Florence
Avantika Bawa, Portland
Subashini Ganesan-Forbes, Portland
David Harrelson, Dundee
Stephanie Kim, Hillsboro
Roberta Lavadour, Pendleton
Kamilah Long, Ashland
Matthew Stringer, Ontario

Staff
Brian Rogers, Executive Director
Liora Sponko, Senior Program Manager
Sarah Baylinson, Art Collection & Artist Services Specialist
Kat Bell, Grants & Office Coordinator
Ryan Burghard, Public Art & Artist Programs Coordinator
Tiffany Harker, Arts Education & Grants Coordinator
Carrie Kikel, Communications Manager

Mission:
The Oregon Arts Commission enhances the quality of life for all Oregonians through the arts by stimulating creativity, leadership, and economic vitality.

Vision:
The Oregon Arts Commission envisions a future where communities celebrate creative expression, artists and arts organizations thrive through robust public support, the arts are recognized as an essential economic driver and Oregon is recognized as a leader for equity and inclusion in the arts.
Strategic Planning Process

The Arts Commission’s 2023-2027 Strategic Plan was developed with the input of various stakeholders including artists, arts organization representatives, staff and Commissioners. We conducted a dozen listening sessions including more than 300 artists, arts leaders, educators, legislators, media professionals and community members.

Given the major impact of the pandemic and considering the near future, what are your organization’s top priorities, challenges and potential opportunities?

What does equity mean to you, your organization and your community?

How might the Arts Commission better support you and/or your organization?

During our listening sessions, we asked the following three questions:

Listening sessions were held virtually during the pandemic’s peak in 2021. Artists and leaders of arts organizations shared the tremendous impact the pandemic had on their work and lives. With an uncertain future and ever-evolving information, they had to constantly pivot and create new ways of reaching audiences. They also shared their gratitude for the Arts Commission’s focused effort to support the arts community and provide relief funding during the pandemic.

The Arts Commission created an ad-hoc planning committee and worked with Linzer Consulting to review input from the listening sessions and identify the key issues that emerged from the sessions. In March 2022, the Arts Commission held a board retreat to further discuss key issues and identify goals for the next five years. Staff and Commissioners worked in partnership to develop and refine the goals, objectives and actions for each goal area. We also developed an action plan with metrics and timelines to guide implementation of the plan.

The Arts Commission approved its new 2023-2027 Strategic Plan at its October 2022 meeting. We consider it a living, dynamic document. The Commission will regularly review progress on the plan and make revisions as needed. We look forward to sharing our successes with you!
Dear Oregon Arts Community,

The Oregon Arts Commission is proud to present the new Strategic Plan that will guide our work for the next five years. We greatly appreciate all of your feedback and thoughts during the listening sessions that preceded the plan’s development.

This Strategic Plan is being released at a critical time. The pandemic had a dramatic impact on artists and arts organizations over the last few years. The inability to participate in live events and programs affected us all.

*However, the pandemic has shown us that arts and creativity are the soul’s first responders.* We are deeply grateful to reconnect with our community during the reopening of arts events and programs, and we treasure how the arts reignite our lives. The pandemic and societal changes have also shown that we cannot conduct business as we have in the past. We must reimagine new possibilities to strengthen our communities, schools and each other’s lives.

Our Strategic Plan is ambitious, exciting and inspiring. It outlines the following four goal areas:

- **IMPACT:** Strengthen and Secure Dependable Funding for the Creative Sector to Meet the Needs of All Oregonians;
- **EQUITY:** Facilitate Community-Informed Work to Increase Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility;
- **ENGAGE:** Utilize the Power of the Arts to Engage Oregonians of all Ages; and
- **THRIVE:** Advance the Creative Sector as an Economic Driver in Communities.

More funding and support is needed for artists and arts organizations to ensure that all Oregonians have access to the arts. We must prioritize equity in all programming, policy decisions and outcomes. It’s time to identify new ways to engage Oregonians and to demonstrate that art and creativity are critical to the recovery of our communities and economies.

The arts community encouraged us to “go big” in increasing our impact throughout the state. We are determined, enthusiastic and ready to address the current needs of Oregonians while creating long-term solutions for artists and the arts community. We look forward to achieving our goals and objectives through the leadership of our remarkable staff, Commissioners, service partners and stakeholders who are committed to transforming the lives of Oregonians through the arts.

The arts heal the soul, engage young learners and build strong and inspired communities. Thank you for being an essential partner and for truly understanding the value of the arts and creative expression in all of our lives.

Sincerely,

Jenny Green  
Commission Chair  

Brian Rogers  
Executive Director

*Top photo:* Changui Majadero celebrates at the 2021 Sisters Folk Festival. Photo by Rob Kerr.  
*Middle photo:* Illinois Valley Community Development Organization’s “Silus on Fire” RiverStars Performing Arts program.  
*Bottom photo:* Open Hearts Open Minds concert at Columbia River Correctional Institution. Photo by Jenna Sween.
OBJECTIVES

- Engage at least 10 bipartisan and bicameral legislative advocates through a robust Arts and Culture Caucus to dramatically increase awareness of the impact of the creative sector in Year One. Expand the number of legislative advocates in Year Two and Year Three.

- Seek an increase in General Funds to expand arts and cultural offerings for all Oregonians during the 2023-2025 legislative biennium session.

- Identify new funding opportunities for increased sector stability and growth as part of an on-going three-year effort.

ACTIONS

- Work with Arts and Culture Caucus leadership to hold and coordinate regular meetings and events with caucus members to increase funds and Legislative Concepts during the upcoming legislative session, including increases in general funds, Art in Public Places and Creative & Cultural Districts.

- Ensure consistent communication between the Arts and Culture Caucus and partners in the field.

- Communicate the impact and value of artists and arts organizations through locally relevant stories, including data.

- Strengthen current partnerships at all levels and build new relationships with funders.
EQUITY: Facilitate Community-Informed Work to Increase Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility

OBJECTIVES

- Actively work to reduce barriers to grant programs and services through increased awareness in Year One.
- Increase funding to currently and traditionally underserved and under-resourced communities and artists in Years One through Three.
- Monitor and evaluate progress in reducing barriers to grant programs and services beginning in Year Two.
- Increase the diversity of staff, Arts Commissioners, panelists and stakeholders by 15 percent in Years One through Three.

ACTIONS

- Review and revise all grant programs with the assistance of stakeholders to ensure that guidelines are accessible and equitable.
- Implement grant management systems that are efficient, accessible and effective.
- Explore alternatives to the traditional grant application process.
- Develop a process to identify equity gaps and ensure funding is equitably distributed to underserved communities.
- Identify the barriers that rural communities face in accessing grant programs.
- Propose changes and revisions to current policies and explore new programs to address inequities in grantmaking.
- Develop and implement a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Action Plan.
- Revise policies and practices to ensure programs and services are accessible to people of all abilities.
- Annually review the progress on the DEIA Action Plan.
- Develop peer review panels that represent the diversity of the state.
- Develop compensation for panelists to acknowledge their professional expertise.
OBJECTIVES

- Increase the agency’s participation in arts education in Year One through Three to support lifelong learning and engage funding and service partners.
- Secure an increase of 50 percent in funding to current programs to ensure the sustainability of arts organizations beginning in Year Two.
- Secure a 50 percent increase in financial support to invest in public art that increases civic engagement by Year Four.
- Encourage ongoing recognition of the role artists play in enhancing the quality of life in Oregon’s communities through evaluation in Years Four and Five.

ACTIONS

- Work with the Oregon Department of Education and other statewide partners to support arts education initiatives.
- Support arts education leaders through convenings and technical assistance.
- Explore new strategies to increase operating support for arts nonprofits.
- Convene cohort groups for peer learning on a regular basis.
- Develop annual capacity building programs and initiatives for arts nonprofits and artists, particularly in the areas of fiscal management, board development and long- and short-range planning.
- Explore opportunities to increase arts programming for older adults.
- Increase resources to sustain the Art in Public Places program and collection.
- Increase funding for artists through existing programs.
- Explore and develop new opportunities for artist funding and income.
OBJECTIVES

- Develop the Creative & Cultural Districts Program to support vibrant arts and cultural communities in Years One through Three.
- Raise awareness of creative sector funding as a high-return investment during Years One through Three.
- Integrate the arts with state economic, community development and tourism goals in Years Two and Three.
- Increase artists’ access to resources by 25 percent in Years Two through Five.

ACTIONS

- Implement the Creative & Cultural Districts Program in communities across the state.
- Communicate the economic impact of the arts through data from the Arts and Economic Prosperity Study.
- Evaluate grant programs to identify the economic return on investment.
- Partner with Business Oregon on economic and community development initiatives across the state.
- Coordinate efforts with Travel Oregon and Regional Destination Marketing Organizations.
- Promote the artist registry and increase artists’ participation.
**Oregon Arts Commission Action Plan 2023-2027**

**Goal 1: Strengthen and Secure Dependable Funding for the Creative Sector to Meet the Needs of All Oregonians.**

**Objective A: Engage at least 10 bipartisan/bicameral legislative advocates through a robust Arts and Culture Caucus to dramatically increase awareness of the impact of the creative sector.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goal</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q3</td>
<td>Hire a contractor.</td>
<td>Apply for WESTAF funding</td>
<td>$40K</td>
<td>Brian</td>
<td>November 2022</td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q3-4</td>
<td>Coordinate meetings with Arts and Cultural Caucus (Caucus).</td>
<td>Finalize and convene monthly meetings and regional events</td>
<td>$1,000+</td>
<td>Contractor/Advancement Committee</td>
<td>November-June 2023</td>
<td>20-30 hrs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objective B: Advocate for $10 million increase in General Funds to expand arts and cultural offerings for all Oregonians during the 2023-2025 legislative biennium session.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goals</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q4</td>
<td>Work with Caucus members to increase funds and support Legislative Concepts.</td>
<td>Commissioners, staff, advocacy partners</td>
<td>Contractor/Advancement Committee</td>
<td>Through Spring 2023</td>
<td>50-80 hrs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q1</td>
<td>Communicate the impact and value of artists and arts organizations</td>
<td>Create and design legislative sheets</td>
<td>Communications Manager and</td>
<td>February 2023</td>
<td>30 hrs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
through locally relevant stories including data.

program staff identifying stories and data

**Objective C: Identify new funding opportunities for increased stability and growth of the sector.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goal</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022 Q3</td>
<td>Strengthen current partnerships at all levels and build new relationships with funders.</td>
<td>Meet with prospective funders, including The Roundhouse Foundation, Ford Family Foundation, OCF, Miller</td>
<td></td>
<td>Grants Committee</td>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>30 hrs. to engage, 80 to 200 hrs. to implement a potential new program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Goal 2: Facilitate Community-Informed Work to Increase Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility**

**Objective A: Actively work to reduce barriers to our grant programs and services through increased awareness.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goals</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q1</td>
<td>Review and revise all grant programs to ensure that guidelines are accessible and equitable.</td>
<td>Engage arts organizations and artists to address barriers in accessing grants and programs.</td>
<td></td>
<td>DEIA Committee</td>
<td>December 2024</td>
<td>100+ hrs. to research, review and revise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q1</td>
<td>Implement grant management systems that are efficient, accessible and effective.</td>
<td>Advocate for new grants management system</td>
<td>10-15K/year</td>
<td>Commission and Executive Director</td>
<td>June 2023</td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q1</td>
<td>Explore alternatives to traditional grant application process.</td>
<td>Pilot video submissions</td>
<td></td>
<td>Grant Program Coordinators/ Senior Program Manager</td>
<td>June 2023</td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objective B: Increase funding to currently and traditionally underserved and under-resourced communities and artists.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goal</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Develop a process to determine equity gaps to ensure funding is equitably distributed to underserved communities.</td>
<td>Review data from funded artists and organization and compare to geographic and ethnic composition of the state</td>
<td>Grants Committee</td>
<td>December 2023</td>
<td>60 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Q3</td>
<td>Identify barriers of rural communities in accessing grant programs.</td>
<td>Conduct listening sessions and connect with rural funders</td>
<td>Grants Committee</td>
<td>December 2023</td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Propose changes and revisions to current policies to address inequities in grantmaking.</td>
<td>Use the results of the analysis</td>
<td>Grants Committee</td>
<td>December 2025</td>
<td>60 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Develop and implement our Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Action Plan.</td>
<td>Conduct listening sessions, create goals with implementation timeline</td>
<td>DEIA Committee</td>
<td>March 2023</td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Revise policies and practices to ensure our programs and services are accessible to people of all abilities.</td>
<td>Create an Advisory Committee to review and implement NEA recommendations.</td>
<td>504 Coordinator</td>
<td>September 2024</td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Review progress in our DEIA work.</td>
<td>Implement plan and review progress at monthly staff meetings and annually at Commission meetings</td>
<td>DEIA Committee</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>100+ hrs. to implement goals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Objective C: Monitor and evaluate progress in reducing barriers to grant programs and services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goal</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 Q1</td>
<td>Implement plan and review progress at monthly staff meetings and annually at Commission meetings.</td>
<td>Solicit feedback from stakeholders, review funding gaps</td>
<td></td>
<td>Staff and Commission</td>
<td>December 2024</td>
<td>20 hrs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Objective D: Increase the diversity of staff, Arts Commissioners and panelists by 15%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goal</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q1</td>
<td>Develop application review panels that represent the diversity of the state.</td>
<td>Work with community-based organizations to identify prospects</td>
<td></td>
<td>Grant Program Coordinators</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>10 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q1</td>
<td>Develop compensation for panelists to acknowledge their professional expertise.</td>
<td>Work with new Business Oregon Community Engagement staff to develop policy; include in FY24 budget</td>
<td>20K</td>
<td>Executive Director/Senior Program Manager</td>
<td>July 2023</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Goal 3: Utilize the Power of the Arts to Engage Oregonians of All Ages

### Objective A: Increase the agency and partners’ participation in arts education to support lifelong learning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goal</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q1</td>
<td>Work with Oregon Department of Education and other statewide partners to support arts education initiatives.</td>
<td>Monthly meetings with ODE and OCF arts cohort</td>
<td>Arts Education and Grants Coordinator</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q4</td>
<td>Support arts education leaders through convenings and technical assistance.</td>
<td>Create Arts Education Meet-Ups in partnership with Young Audiences and ODE</td>
<td>Arts Education and Grants Coordinator</td>
<td>December 2023</td>
<td>35 hrs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Objective B: Support an increase of 50% in funding and explore new programs to ensure the sustainability of arts organizations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goals</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q1</td>
<td>Explore new strategies to increase operating support for arts nonprofits.</td>
<td>Research national best practices</td>
<td>Grants Committee</td>
<td>December 2024</td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Q4</td>
<td>Convene cohort groups for peer learning on a regular basis.</td>
<td>Convene arts services, arts education organizations and creative district leaders</td>
<td>Senior Program Manager, Arts Education and Grants Coordinator</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Q3</td>
<td>Develop annual capacity building programs and initiatives for arts nonprofits and artists particularly in the areas of fiscal management, board development, and long and short-range planning.</td>
<td>Conduct survey or listening sessions to understand needs, identify funding, identify partners</td>
<td>25K Senior Program Manager/Arts Learning and Grants Coordinator</td>
<td>December 2024</td>
<td>100+ hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Explore opportunities to increase support to older adults.</td>
<td>Research national programs and needs of older adults in Oregon</td>
<td>Grants Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td>40 hrs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objective C: Secure 50% increase in financial support to invest in public art that increases civic engagement.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goal</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q3</td>
<td>Increase resources to sustain the Art in Public Places program and collection.</td>
<td>Propose a Policy Option Package in the 23-25 legislative session</td>
<td></td>
<td>Executive Director and Public Art &amp; Artist Programs Coordinator</td>
<td>July 2023</td>
<td>20hrs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objective D: Encourage ongoing recognition of the role of artists in enhancing the quality of life in Oregon's communities.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
<th>Goals</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Responsible</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Increase funding to artists through our current programs.</td>
<td>Increase funding to grants and Art in Governor’s Office</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>December 2024</td>
<td>20hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3</td>
<td>Explore and develop new opportunities for earning by and funding of artists.</td>
<td>Develop professional development opportunities for artists</td>
<td>Grants Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td>50hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Explore and develop new opportunities for earning by and funding of artists.</td>
<td>Develop professional development opportunities for artists</td>
<td>Grants Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td>50hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Goal 4: Advance the Creative Sector as an Economic Driver in Communities

### Objective A: Develop the Creative/Cultural Districts Program to support vibrant arts and cultural communities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goal</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 Q3</td>
<td>Implement the Creative/Cultural Districts Program in communities across the state.</td>
<td>Develop program with consultants, advocate for funding in legislature, work with communities to participate</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
<td>Senior Program Manager/Cultural Planning Group</td>
<td>June 2024</td>
<td>200+ hrs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Objective B: Promote the awareness of the creative sector as a high return investment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goal</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q4</td>
<td>Communicate the economic impact of the arts through data from the Arts and Economic Prosperity Study.</td>
<td>Promote AEP results through all channels, community presentations</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Communications Manager/Executive Director/Commissioners</td>
<td>June 2023 and Ongoing</td>
<td>20 hrs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Evaluate grant programs to identify the return on investment.</td>
<td>Evaluate impact of COG and ABC on artists and communities</td>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Program Manager and Program Staff</td>
<td>December 2026</td>
<td>60 hrs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Objective C: Integrate the arts with economic, community development, and tourism goals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goal</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 Q1</td>
<td>Partner with Business Oregon on economic and community development initiatives across the state.</td>
<td>Explore intersections of arts and Technical Assistance and Rural Opportunity Initiative Programs</td>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Program Manager</td>
<td>December 2025</td>
<td>20 hrs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Objective D: Increase artists’ access to resources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Starting Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Completion Goal</th>
<th>Staff Time Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Q3</td>
<td>Promote the artist registry and increase artist participation by 25%</td>
<td>Develop tool for information sharing/new opportunities for artists.</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Art Collection and Artist Services Specialist</td>
<td>December 2023</td>
<td>20 hrs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Governance Committee & Executive Committee Update

Governance Committee Purpose: Create and maintain lists of potential new commissioners, oversee strategic planning, review and propose improvements to policies and procedures, recommend Chair and Vice Chair to commission, plan commission meetings.

Members: Jenny, Harlen, Stephanie, Avantika, Brian & Liora

Governance Committee Report

The Governance Committee is currently focused on:

- Keeping the commission focused on our Strategic Plan/Action Plan and DEIA Goals.
- Preparing for Arts Commission’s next Executive Committee
  - Please let Jenny and Brian know by email or call if you are interested in Chair/Vice Chair
- Updating our list of Possible Commissioners
  - Please let us know if you have any names to add or edits for the list.
- Identifying and recruiting our next two commissioners.
  - Need new commissioners in August & November
- Staggering on-boarding times of new commissioners calendar (goal of 2/year).
  - Need update on everyone’s intentions on # of terms/end dates, please email Jenny
  
  Terms
  - 2023
    - Avantika in August
    - Harlen in November
  - 2024
    - Jenny in November
    - David in May (can add 4 yrs)
  - 2025
    - Matt in December
  - 2026
    - Subashini in March (can add 4 yrs)
    - Roberta in June (can add 4 yrs)
    - Kamilah in June (can add 4 yrs)
    - Stephanie in November (can add 4 yrs)

- Continue to explore and evaluate options to ensure that the Arts Commission is maximizing our organizational effectiveness.

- Providing educational opportunities for Arts Commissioners
  - Ai Presentation
  - NASAA Presentation
  - Public Art
  - Taking Suggestions
Executive Committee Purpose:
Provide organizational oversight, maintain relationships with Business Oregon, the Oregon Cultural Trust and the Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon.

Members:
Chair, Vice Chair, ED and Senior Program Manager
Jenny, Harlen, Brian and Liora

Executive Committee Report

- Focused on helping pass legislation and establishing caucus.
  - Working with WESTAF to hire caucus liaison and create caucus launch event.
- Establishing more successful working relationships with the Cultural Arts Coalition and Cultural Trust.
  - Working with WESTAF to find helpful path forward with CACO
  - Establishing regular meetings with the OAC/OCT Executive Committees
- Continuing to meet with Sophorn Cheang to keep Arts Commission’s interests top of mind.
  - Still focused on website, grants software, panelist payments etc.
ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

March 31, 2023

Committee Purpose: “Support the Oregon Arts Commission Mission by raising our profile”

Committee members: Harlen Springer, Chair; Subashini Ganesan-Forbes; Jenny Green; Matt Stringer; Kamilah Long

The Committee’s focus has been on finalizing the formation of the Oregon Legislative Arts and Culture caucus and we are very pleased that the caucus is now up and running. Some highlights:

- Caucus now consists of 23 members, making it already one of the largest bi-partisan caucuses in the legislature. A full list of members is on the following page
- Began with 9 inaugural members, then added four and, following the launch party, added ten more
- Launch party on February 27 was a huge success – 350 people attended
  - Entertainment from Thomas Lauderdale and Hunter Noack, as well as the trumpet quintet from Salem and Antonio Huerta’s Charrreria performance was outstanding
  - Group photo of the caucus on stage with the performers has already been used in multiple media outlets. We received lots of great PR after this event
- Caucus now meeting every three weeks on Wednesdays at 9:30 via ZOOM
- Arts Commission providing updated data to the caucus which they are using, especially the fact that Oregon has just fallen from 36th to 38th in the country in per-capita funding for the arts
- Just added a new staff position to support the caucus – Arts and Culture caucus Legislative Liaison
  - Position is funded by WESTAF and will report into the Arts Commission Staff (Brian and Liora). They will coordinate with the Cultural Trust and the Cultural Advocacy Coalition to set priorities
  - Appointed an extremely qualified candidate with a strong background, Claire Blalock, to fill the position. Claire is an experienced Executive Director and has worked with organizations like the Clackamas County Historical Society, among others.
    - Claire will communicate regularly with the caucus, set up and facilitate meetings and agendas, provide data, help set up events for caucus members and other duties as assigned
- Five caucus members and other supporters are members of the powerful Ways and Means Committee, so we are working with them to get bills passed.
- Advocacy Day is April 19 and we are coordinating with the Cultural Advocacy Coalition to have a strong presence and another photo op with the caucus
- Working on another possible “event” on May 6
- Look forward to working with Carrie and the new Communications Contractor on new marketing initiatives
Oregon Legislative Arts and Culture caucus

Members as of 3/31/23

1. Representative Rob Nosse (D-Portland) Caucus Coordinator
2. Senator Dick Anderson (R-Lincoln City)
3. Representative Janelle Bynum (R-Clackamas)
4. Representative Maxine Dexter (D-Portland)
5. Representative David Gomberg (D-Otis)
6. Senator Bill Hansell (R-Athena)
7. Representative John Lively (D-Springfield)
8. Representative Pam Marsh (D-Ashland)
9. Senator Deb Patterson (D-Salem)
10. Representative Dacia Grayber (D-Southwest Portland/East Beaverton)
11. Representative Annessa Hartman (D-Gladstone/Oregon City/No. Clackamas County)
12. Representative Lisa Reynolds (D-Northeast Washington County)
13. Representative Ricki Ruiz (D-Gresham)
14. Senator Lew Frederick (D-North/Northeast Portland)
15. Representative Ben Bowman (D-Tigard/Metzger/South Beaverton)
16. Senator Michael Dembrow (D-Portland)
17. Senator James Manning Jr, (D-North Eugene/West Eugene/Veneta)
18. Representative Thuy Tran (D-Northeast Portland)
19. Representative Kevin Mannix (R-Keizer/North Salem)
20. Representative Daniel Nguyen (D-Lake Oswego/Southwest Portland)
21. Senator Mark Meek (D-Clackamas County)
22. Representative Emereson Levy (D-Bend/South Redmond/Tumalo/Sisters)
23. Representative Hoa Nguyen (D-East Portland/Damascus)
**Grants Committee Report**  
**March 31, 2023**

**Waivers:** Please see current waiver policy and process here: [Waivers | Oregon Arts Commission](#)

The Arts Commission created a waiver policy and process for organizations who do not have a 50c3 status but who are strong arts organizations our operating support program (OSG or SOG). Through the waiver approval process, certain entities who do not have nonprofit status of their own can apply under the auspices of "nonprofit parent organization" that is an institution of higher learning, a larger nonprofit, a unit of municipal government, or a federally recognized tribe. Examples of these organizations include: The Bach Festival, Oregon Folklife Network, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at the UO and PSU, Hallie Ford Museum, among others. Organizations must reapply for a waiver every five years to be eligible for the operating support program.

The intention of the waiver is not fund organizations who work like nonprofit organizations but do not have their distinct nonprofit status. The language in the current policy is misleading as it includes “a unit of municipal government” as an eligible entity for waivers. This would allow for municipal arts commissions to be eligible for a waiver and subsequently create another large subsection of organizations to fund, who are municipally-funded and are not nonprofits. The grants committee recommends removing “unit of municipal government” as an eligible entity for consideration of a waiver.

**Small Operating Grant Eligibility**

Small arts organizations are doing incredible work across every region in our state. Investment in small arts organizations is vital, as they provide essential programming and services to local communities. Currently our policy requires that applicants in the Small Operating Grant category have been in existence as a 501c3 for two years:

*Have been in existence as a 501(c) (3) for a minimum of two years as evidenced by an IRS determination letter*

The grants committee finds this policy too restrictive and unnecessary. Through our experience, we have found that unincorporated groups are capable and trustworthy of receiving funds from the Arts Commission and have a few years of programming before they get incorporated.

Many other funders (including funders of public funds) only require nonprofit status upon application and are funding small arts organizations before we do:

- National Endowment for the Arts: [GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS: Eligibility | National Endowment for the Arts](#)
  
  - *Meet the NEA’s "Legal Requirements" including nonprofit, tax-exempt status at the time of application.*
  
  - *Have completed a three-year history of arts programming prior to the application deadline.*
- Oregon Community Foundation: [Small Arts & Culture Grants](oregoncf.org)
  - Be certified 501c3 tax exempt organization with good standing with the IRS.
- Tiff also researched other state agencies and confirmed similar eligibility as OCF.

Proposal: Take off two-year requirement and include demonstrated track record of providing arts programming for two years at the time of application.
December 31, 2023

TO: Oregon Arts Commission
FROM: Brian Rogers, Executive Director
SUBJ: Executive Director Report

Below is a summary of all the legislative bills and ask in the current legislative session. Attached is Cultural Advocacy Coalition Summary.

Summary of Legislative requests 2023-2025

- **HB2498** - $200m in Lottery Bonds in Long-term Funding for the Corpus of the Oregon Cultural Trust. Would create a Cultural Support program for cultural operating support. Referred to Ways and Means by Prior Reference – 3/23/23

- **HB2459** - $50m in General Funds for additional recovery for the arts and culture Sector. Referred to Ways and Means by Prior Reference – 3/23/23

- **HB2911** - $20m transfer from the Administrative Services Economic Development Fund to the Business Oregon’s Industry Competitions Fund for arts and culture sector. This bill has been modified to request $10m for county fairs. Referred to Ways and Means by Prior Reference – 3/23/23

- Investment in Cultural Capital Projects, Lottery Bonds (no bill at this point) Later in session. List of proposed projects is attached.

- **HB3532** for Trust admin restriction of $400k removal and replace with up to 5% the value of the permanent fund ($30m). Public hearing on 3/30/23 – I’ll present. Work Session scheduled on 4/4/23

- **HB2092** Extend Trust Tax Credit Sunset from 2026 to 2028 Referred to Tax Expenditures by order of the Speaker on 3/2/23

- **POP** for $10m Arts Commission General Fund (POP 113) Line item of SB5524 (Oregon Business Development Department, Agency Bill). Currently the line item is $4,287,169 for the biennium. Informational hearing scheduled for 3/27/23.

☐ Informational only ☒ For commission input/discussion ☐ For commission action
CULTURAL ADVOCACY COALITION OF OREGON (CACO)

OREGON’S OPPORTUNITY TO BOOST LIVABILITY, ECONOMIC IMPACT, COMMUNITY CONNECTION AND HEALING: LIFT THE CREATIVE SECTOR TO AMONG THE TOP STATES IN THE COUNTRY

Oregonians strongly support arts, culture, heritage and the humanities. We value the connection woven between us when we are exposed to creativity as well as the expansion of our minds and hearts.

We believe everyone in our state should have access to rich and meaningful creative experiences in their lives, especially our youth. We believe Oregon’s economy and tourist industry need a strong creative sector driving jobs, spending, and income.

We call on our state policymakers to invest in the creative sector as its transforms itself post-pandemic. We offer our collective, most ambitious agenda to date to raise Oregon’s standing nationally and to proclaim the start of a new recognition of the essential role that arts and culture play in the success of our state.

1. $50 m. in Additional Recovery Funding for the Arts and Culture Sector. Across the nation, Oregon experienced some of the longest pandemic-related shutdowns and the arts and culture sector felt it keenly as people were slow to return to in-person gatherings and artists fell sick with COVID-19. Many nonprofit organizations are seeing attendance rates at less than 50% of what they were before the pandemic. The need is great. Recovery from the pandemic for this sector is proving to be a five-year time period. Additional recovery money is essential to help organizations transform their delivery.

2. Investment in Cultural Capital Projects. A strong creative sector impacts livability, social attachment to our communities and a stronger economy. Expanding access to the arts is crucial for our state’s continued growth and community development. CACO reviewed over 40 applications in its bi-annual process to prioritize the most ready arts and culture projects for state capital investment. Seventeen projects emerged from our extensive per review totaling $11.9 m. Our slate represents large and small nonprofit organizations with project size from $3 m. to $72,000, locations all over the state, and a robust mix of arts, culture, historic preservation, and heritage sites.

3. $200 m. in Long-term Funding for the Corpus of the Oregon Cultural Trust. We are asking lawmakers to fulfill the original $200 m. promise made to fund the Oregon Cultural Trust through the sale of surplus state property, which has not occurred. The Trust thus far has been supported by Oregonians through their use of the cultural trust tax credit. But now is the time to fulfill that promise by selling $200 m. of lottery bonds and allowing the Oregon Cultural Trust to use the income and earnings from investing
those funds for operations grants to the 1600 nonprofits eligible for OCT/OAC grants. We will work with county coalitions and tribal coalitions to distribute these funds in their communities. This is a unique-to-the-nation plan that can propel Oregon into the top national rankings for state support to arts and culture.

4. **$10 m. increase in Oregon Arts Commission Grants Budget.** The grants budget of the OAC has been relatively flat for about 15 years and an increase is badly needed to meet the needs of our growing population. This focused request will support arts organizations, community-based arts projects, arts in education and artists to increase services and engagement opportunities for all Oregonians. There is significant emphasis on organizations that have historically been underrepresented.

5. **Expanding Support Capacity to the Creative Sector.** The needs of the creative sector have outpaced the capacity of OCT and OAC staff to respond. This will replace a cap of $400,000 on administrative costs with a percentage that will create the ability to apply up to 5% of the Trust permanent fund to staffing. This is a necessary request to enable stronger support to arts and culture nonprofits, and to recognize that a flat cap fails to recognize the evolution of the sector. The Permanent Fund will continue to grow as the OCT allocates 40% of funds raised each year back to the Fund.
2023-25 Cultural Resource Economic Funds (CREF)
Endorsed Capital Projects

The Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon received over 35 applications for 2023-25 CREF funding for arts and culture capital projects across the state. We evaluated each of these applications in a peer review process led by CACO Board members and with expertise from staff of the Oregon Arts Commission and the Oregon Cultural Trust. Using specific criteria from economic impact to expanding access to the arts, we saw many exciting projects under development across the state.

Successful projects were selected largely because of their impact and their level of readiness for state investment. We are confident that state funds will support well-developed and viable projects on the endorsed slate.

1. **Black United Fund ($900,000).** *Building United Futures Complex.*
   A comprehensive razing, rebuild and renaissance of the physical space of the Black United Fund on Alberta Street in North Portland to showcase and shelter local Black and BIPOC artists and arts organizations, among other mission-aligned organizations focused on economic development, education, and more. Increases capacity of BUF by 200% resulting in 4,000 people directly served and nearly 40,000 indirectly served each year.

2. **Clatsop County Historical Society ($1,000,000).** *Expanding the Oregon Film Museum.*
   To increase space to facilitate appreciation of the art of media making and careers in film by better accommodating 40,000+ visitors a year in Astoria.

3. **Friends of the Oregon Caves & Chateau ($455,690).** *Restoring the Oregon Caves Chateau.*
   For restoration and repair of historic doors and their related hardware dating back to 1933-34 when the Chateau was built in Cave Junction. One of only two National Historic Landmark Lodges in Oregon. Currently 120,000 people visit each year and with completion of the Chateau’s restoration, this is expected to grow to 200,000.

4. **Literary Arts ($1,000,000).** *Building New Community Space/Headquarters of Literary Arts.*
   To build a community space and permanent headquarters in Portland’s Central Eastside by quadrupling Literary’s Arts current capacity with added classrooms, seminar and event spaces. Helping people to tell their story as a form of artistic self-expression, empowerment and community building, Literary Arts currently serves over 20,000 event attendees, over 700 readers and writers who take classes, 581 fellowship applicants, 4,000 youth per year, and over half a million radio show and podcast listeners.

5. **Columbia County Museum Association ($400,000).** *Relocation and Improved Accessibility of the Columbia County Museum.*
   To move the Museum to the historic John. Gum School in St. Helens expanding and improving access to the collection which chronicles the people, places, things and events that shaped Columbia County’s history and culture. In 2019, visitors to Columbia County spent $4.4 million on arts, entertainment, and recreation, including museums and historical/cultural preservation activities.
6. **Josephine Community Library Foundation ($424,603).** *Acquisition of land for a New Josephine County Library and Community Commons.*  
Acquisition of land to construct a new, two-story library and community gathering space in central downtown Grants Pass. Over 20,000 people annually attend library events with an additional 15,000 patrons using public computers and 75,000 connecting to library wi-fi.

7. **Native Arts and Culture Foundation ($3,000,000).** *Creation of the Center for Native Arts and Cultures.*  
To renovate and retrofit the Yale Union Building in Southeast Portland to provide cultural resources to rural and urban Native constituents across the state of Oregon as well as serve as a national, Oregon-based arts and cultures destination. From supporting direct grants and fellowships to artists and culture-bearers, to supporting community organizations, and hosting convenings, NACF is positioned to serve 6.8 m. people in this country who identify as Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians.

8. **High Desert Museum ($2,000,000).** *Construction of a New Wing of the High Desert Museum.*  
To construct new exhibit space at the Museum in Bend and renovate the permanent exhibition on the Indigenous Plateau. The Museum has a $20 m. impact on the central Oregon region annually. This project will double the Museum’s educational programming capacity, increase events with revenue of over $1 m., and increase attendance by a minimum of 10% a year, with 150,000 visitors coming from outside of the region.

9. **Southern Oregon Historical Society ($500,000).** *Creation of an Event Center and New Southern Oregon Historical Society Museum.*  
To fund renovation of the J.C. Penney building in Medford to house new event space which will facilitate establishing a new exhibit space as well as a mobile museum for the collections showcasing the history of Jackson County and Southern Oregon.

10. **PAM CUT // Center for an Untold Tomorrow ($250,000).** *Creation of the Tomorrow Theater.*  
Renovation of the former Oregon Theater, a 1925 vaudeville theater in Southeast Portland to provide multi-media performance space focused on immersive cinematic experiences of all kinds. Audiences of over 88,000 are expected by the Theater’s third year, along with support for over 5,000 artists and 30+ community partnerships.

11. **Painted Sky Center for Arts and Culture ($500,000).** *Acquisition of Building for Painted Sky Center for Arts and Culture.*  
To acquire a multi-use permanent space in John Day to serve all Grant County residents and visitors with arts and culture offerings. Located next to the Kam Wah Chung State Heritage Site, this facility will provide year-round livability and economic benefits to the region.

12. **Very Little Theatre ($350,000).** *Renovate and Remodel Existing Building for the Very Little Theatre.*  
To expand the scene shop and storage capacity of this community theatre in Eugene in order for more community groups to use the facility and strengthen economic impact.

13. **Rainier Oregon Historical Museum ($500,000).** *Building Construction for the Rainier Oregon Historical Museum.*
Currently operating out of one-room in the City Hall, this expansion on land already owned by the Museum will allow for designated space for collection display and community events serving the 2000 residents and numerous visitors to Rainier.

   For critical building repairs and to expand accessibility to support the continued delivery of contemporary art and artistic exhibitions, programs, and productions in the North Portland area. Improvements will include external lighting, security upgrades, and ADA compliance updates needed to operate safely to the benefit of community groups, staff and artists who utilize the space.

15. Sisters Folk Festival ($72,000). *Capital Upgrades to Sisters Art Work Venue.*
   For upgrades to the venue space in Sisters including adding shading, storage space, and increasing electrical and lighting resources for expanded use. Outdoor music and middle school youth camps have strong outreach into the community in Deschutes County.

   Repair of this historic attraction created by volunteers upon the acid ball used to process wood pulp at the former Boise Cascade operation now home to Riverfront Park. This monument is need of significant renewal attention to match the growing vibrancy of Salem’s riverfront park.

17. Portland Playhouse ($300,000). *Acquisition of Portland Playhouse Building and Property.*
   To purchase the home of Portland Playhouse in the King neighborhood in North Portland, reaching over 13,000 people a year in audience size plus serving 500 students annually with in-school residencies.

**TOTAL 2023-25 REQUEST** $11,952,293
March 31, 2023

TO: Oregon Arts Commission
FROM: Sarah Baylinson, Art Collection & Artist Services Specialist
SUBJ: Staff Report

Percent for Art Team
To create a better workflow, team building, and creativity for the percent program, Ryan Burghard and I have committed to regular meetings regarding all things percent for art related. We have created a weekly “All Things Percent” meeting to update each other on projects and a weekly virtual co-work space to work on projects together. We are also trying to be more inclusive and engaged with the Project Coordinators. We now have project kick-off meetings with our Project Coordinators, Ryan and myself, when a new project starts to meet and strategize the big-picture scope of a new project.

Percent for Art Collection Inventory
To date, 1,688 artworks have been inventoried. Out of the 284 buildings that hold the collection, 159 have been visited across the state. This project is 63% finished, with the most extensive collections remaining in Southern Oregon University, Portland State University, and the Department of Corrections. This month I visited several agencies to keep this project moving forward. Inventory was done in nine buildings throughout Portland, Hillsboro, Astoria, Tillamook, Newport, Corvallis, and Eugene buildings. We are collaborating with the larger universities, including UO, OSU, and PSU, to help complete inventory on their campuses. The universities are forming collections care committees and utilizing interns in their risk management department to keep current on this project continuously. In UO’s case, they are integrating their GIS department to map all the artworks on campus.

Percent for Art Collection Maintenance
As the collection grows and continues to age, maintenance will always be an essential issue to manage. There were sixteen maintenance issues in the most recent round of inventories completed in the past month. These issues range from minor labels and security hardware needed to critical, fully damaged artwork that may require a deaccession. With a collection ranging over fifty years, it will be imperative to have a consistent understanding of the health of the art. My current plan is to complete an entire collection inventory every two years.
DAS Executive Building Re-Curation
The Department of Administrative Services has contracted a curator to re-curate 10 of their buildings to give workspaces a refreshed feel after many decades. The curator has visited all facilities involved in the project to begin the process of reimagining these spaces. Curation efforts are underway, with an evaluation form created for employee input and buy-in.

Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC)
OLCC has an active percent for art project; this will be the fourth project in OLCC’s history. The project is currently on pause until the construction budget is finalized. Because this is the fourth OLCC project, they have a significant existing collection. It has been determined that this would be an excellent opportunity to care for the current collection. Percent for Art funds will be used to reframe their collection, ensuring quality archival materials are used. The construction budget will be used to properly relocate and re-install in the new building all works, including two sculptures.

Memorable Moments
The Supreme Court had its grand re-opening on the 14th, which Ryan and I had the opportunity to attend. In addition to the building having many new upgrades, possibly the most impactful is April Wagner’s glass work, *Alis Volat Propriis (We Fly with Our Own Wings)*. Consisting of 2000 glass feathers suspended from the ceiling. The Supreme Court is the country’s first historically preserved, LEED-certified, and seismically approved building. The opportunity to talk with artists, architects, project managers, and justices about our work was exceptional and memorable. We hope to continue spreading the word about our collection and its impact on the community in the future.

Requested Action:

- [ ] Informational only
- [ ] For commission input/discussion
- [ ] For commission action
3/31/2023

TO: Oregon Arts Commission
FROM: Kat Bell, Grants Officer
SUBJ: Arts ADA Accessibility Reimbursement Grants

FY23 Arts ADA Accessibility Reimbursement projects:

**BendFilm**, $1,000
To support sign interpretation for the opening night party, the awards ceremony and for Q and A after the film *Being Michelle*. The movie is a powerful feature-length documentary about a deaf woman with autism who was incarcerated and now uses her artwork to depict the trauma she survived.

**Boom Arts**, $600
To support sign interpretation for each of three performances of *Okinum*.

**Broadway Rose Theatre Company**, $1,000
To support retrofitting of a door at the New Stage facility in Tigard to be opened with a button and stay open for 10 seconds.

**Festival Chorale Oregon**, 150
To support temporary on-street handicapped parking permits from the City of Salem for use of 10 parking spaces in front of the performance venue.

**PDX Pop Now**, 700
To support rental of a portable ADA toilet and hand washing station for the weekend portion of the annual music festival.

**Portland Center Stage at The Armory**, $1,000
To support sign interpretation for five play readings at the JAW New Play Festival.

**Portland Gay Men’s Chorus, Inc.**, 900
To support sign interpretation for the performance *Learn to Fly*.

**Portland Lesbian Choir**, 850
To support sign interpretation for the performance *Be a Light*.

**Shedd Institute for the Arts, The John G.**, $1,000
To support installation of a hearing loop in Warren Court, a large public gathering room.

**About the Program**
The purpose of the Arts ADA Accessibility Reimbursement Program is to
• Offset expenditures for specific accessibility related expenses
• Provide public access to all individuals with disabilities who want to participate in arts activities offered by Oregon arts nonprofits
• Assist our grantees in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
• Identify best practices in accessibility throughout Oregon

Award amounts range from $200 to $1,000. Organizations with total cash operating expenses of $150,000 or less can receive 100% reimbursement (up to $1,000). Organizations with total cash operating expenses of more than $150,000 can receive up to 50% reimbursement (up to $1,000).

Nonprofits with arts as the primary purpose of their organization are eligible to apply. Fiscal sponsorships or organizations housed within larger nonprofits, schools and institutions of higher learning are not eligible to apply for support in this category.

Arts ADA Accessibility Reimbursement Program funds may not be used for the following:
• Events whose primary focus is to raise funds for a non-arts purpose
• Services to entities located outside Oregon
• More than two requests per fiscal year for each applicant organization
• Expenses for access services delivered more than 190 days prior to submission of application
• Tuition assistance or scholarships for college, university or other degree bearing courses of study

Requested Action:
☑ Informational only ☐ For commission input/discussion ☐ For commission action
3/31/2023

- **TO:** Oregon Arts Commission
- **FROM:** Ryan Burghard, Public Art and Art Programs Coordinator
- **SUBJ:** Percent for Art in Public Places Program Report

The Percent for Art in Public Places program currently has 21 active art acquisition projects. These projects are being managed by four contracted project coordinators (Meagan Atiyeh, Peg Butler, Renee Couture, and Claire Schechtman) along with myself, and with the support of Sarah Baylinson for projects that include existing artworks. In addition, Tiffany Harker has remained on to close out the final stages of a project at Southern Oregon University during her transition into her new role as Arts Education & Grants Coordinator.

This report includes a description of each active project, as well as recently completed projects and upcoming projects.

**Program Updates**

With both myself and Tiffany Harker transitioning from Project Coordinators to staff positions, the program has experienced a decrease in available project coordinators. An RFQ has been drafted to recruit new Project Coordinators. Objective is to contract 2-3 new Project Coordinators to meet a backlog of pending projects and to meet the influx of projects anticipated in the next biennium.

We have reinstated monthly Project Coordinator meetings. These meetings are opportunities for us to discuss overarching approaches to project coordination, to discuss policy and to create a culture of collaboration/support. In addition, we have initiated a new project kick-off program that requires each Project Coordinator to meet with myself and Sarah Baylinson at the execution of a new work assignment contract so we can provide a brief of the project and to address any existing works already at the facility. Project closeout meetings will also occur and are an opportunity for Project Coordinator to debrief with program staff, address any remaining issues that requires Commission attention and to identify gaps in service so that we can continue to improve the Art in Public Places program.

The Percent for Art total allocation for these active projects is over $10 million. The Arts Commission’s budget will only ever reflect 10% of this, as the only funds that go through
Business Oregon are from the 10% administrative fee charged for each project. We typically do not receive the admin fees until projects are 50% and 100% completed, and projects take anywhere from one year to five years to complete.

The program’s average annual revenue from the admin fees is about $150,000, which is the only source of revenue for the program (other than overages of staff salaries which must be covered by other sources). We currently do not have a staff member that focuses solely on this program, and there is no dedicated source of revenue for hard costs associated with maintenance and care of the collection.

Currently Active Projects

Department of Administrative Services, Executive Building, Salem
Project Coordinator (PC): Peg Butler Percent for Art: $450,000
Full gutting and remodel of the Executive Building, while maintaining and restoring some of the historic elements of the building and maintaining the recently remodeled entry lobby. Originally built in 1936 to serve as a post office, with an expansion in 1978 that resulted in a 63,000 sq ft, 5 level building and two-level parking garage on the site.
Status: This project is just getting started. A review of existing collection is in progress. It has been determined that Ed Carpenter’s “Untitled” will require conservation, the scope of these efforts will determine available budget for additional acquisitions. Deaccession of Robert Kasai’s “Cascade” has been approved by PAAC.

Department of Administrative Services, North Valley Complex, Wilsonville
Project Coordinator (PC): Peg Butler Percent for Art: $567,122
Renovation and upgrade of existing 175,600 square foot, single-story concrete, tilt-up building purchased by DAS in 2020, with an interior mezzanine and associated site improvements. A design driver is to provide a space that supports a “One-State” cross-pollination between state agency tenants in the building.
Status: The committee met in early February to select artists for commissions. They selected: Pete Beeman [OR] $175,000, Schenk/Davis [OR] $150,000 and Sue Taves [WA] $90,000 commissions.

Eastern Oregon University, Inlow Hall Phase II, La Grande
Project Coordinator (PC): Peg Butler Percent for Art: $150,000
Seismic upgrades to the second story, mezzanine and attic system. Improvements to the building envelope including restoration of original architectural concrete work, roof replacement, and improving building system efficiency. Address underutilized and ineffective space, optimize classroom capacity and distance education technologies. Expand academic and partnership space.
Status: This project is just getting started.
Oregon Institute of Technology, Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center, Scappoose  
Project Coordinator (PC): Renee Couture    Percent for Art: $122,000
Hosted by the Oregon Institute of Technology, the state’s polytechnic university, the new 30,000 square foot OMIC Research & Development Additive Innovation Center will include a large industrial workshop, ample office space with adjoining classrooms, staff offices, partner spaces, as well as a dedicated student lounge. The new building will focus on additive manufacturing, which means creating an object by adding layers of material--specifically 3D printing--and enable manufacturers to adopt emerging technologies.

Status: Lisa Little [CA] project is in design development phase working through geometry revisions, attachment details between the nodes, and color revision. Artist on target for midpoint review.

Oregon Judicial Department, Supreme Court Building, Salem  
Project Coordinator (PC): Peg Butler    Percent for Art: $300,000
The State Supreme Court (SCB) building is owned by Oregon Judicial Department; it houses seven justices, and their administrative support, has one courtroom, and a large two-story law library. This project is an interior modernization and seismic retrofit of 3-story historic building (original build 1914).

Status: Commissioned artist April Wagner [MI] installed Alis Volat Propriis (We Fly with Our Own Wings) in October 2022. On March 14th, 2023, Chief Justice Meagan A. Flynn and members of the Oregon Supreme Court hosted the formal reopening of the newly renovated historic Supreme Court Building. This is a rare opportunity to tour the Supreme Court Building,
including the extensive renovations and seismic upgrade, and to view the new art installation by glass artist April Wagner, who addressed attendees in the third floor Courtroom. Project completion pending.

**Oregon Legislature, State Capitol CAMS II/III**  
Project Coordinator (PC): Meagan Atiyeh  
Percent for Art: $2,167,452

The Capitol Accessibility, Maintenance and Safety (CAMS) project was approved by the 2016 Legislative Assembly to address Americans with Disabilities Act deficiencies; at-risk mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems; and security and life-safety issues. Phase I was 75% or more mechanical, so was exempted from Percent for Art. Phase II was approved by the 2020 Legislative Assembly addresses needed improvements to the seismic structure of the 1977 portions of the Capitol building; south entrance accessibility; mechanical and electrical elements; life-safety issues; and restoration of historic elements. Phase III was approved by the 2022 Legislative Assembly and will concentrate on the 1938 portion of the Capitol.

Status: Project re-started September 2022 with CAMS phase II and III combined budgets. Early planning stages.

**Oregon Liquor Control Commission, New Office & Warehouse, Canby**  
Project Coordinator (PC): Renee Couture  
Percent for Art: $826,684

Relocation of the OLCC liquor distribution center and agency’s administrative office, as well as the installation of a new conveyor system for the new warehouse. The new location will include approximately 400,000 sq ft of warehouse/distribution space, approximately 30,000-55,000 sq ft of office space and a 330-space parking lot and truck staging areas on 20-35 acres.

Status: Project currently on pause until budget reconciliation process for construction is complete (anticipated late May), at which time final designs will be complete for building.

**Oregon State Police, Central Point Office Expansion, Central Point**  
Project Coordinator (PC): Renee Couture  
Percent for Art: $218,000

Renovation of office building in Central Point where OSP has been a tenant for many years. OPS assumed ownership of the building from DAS 3-5 years ago. (ODOT is also a tenant – about 1% of the building occupants.) Construction approved for complete renovation to modernize whole facility.

Status: After issuing an RFQ, the committee selected 5 finalists to create concept proposals: John Rogers, Jud Turner, Volkan Alkanglu, and Color Outside the Lines. Artist orientation was held in February and proposals will be presented to the Art Selection Committee in April.

**Oregon State University, Patricia Valian Reser Center for the Creative Arts (formerly the Arts & Education Complex), Corvallis**
The new Arts and Education Complex (AEC) brings together music, theatre, digital communications, and the visual arts to create a campus centerpiece and gateway for culture and creativity. The building supports university goals of moving from a STEM to STEAM education model and provides additional performance and event space on campus. The complex is a comprehensive education and performance facility with a 500-seat recital hall, black box theater, flexible art gallery and customized support spaces. Additionally, the AEC includes the renovation of an adjacent historic structure for rehearsal and classroom functions and a site design configured for outdoor performance and public gathering.

Status: *Forest of the Future* will be a three-dimensional data sculpture based on audio data obtained by OSU/Forest Service Project. The dataset that constitutes the building block of the artwork has been sourced from microphones placed in multiple location along the coastal range. Final design approval was granted to Refik Anadol Studio [CA] in February 2023. The studio is currently finalizing engineering documents for permitting and fabrication will begin shortly.

**Oregon State University-Cascades Campus Ray Hall, Bend**

Project Coordinator (PC): Ryan Burghard
Percent for Art: $245,000
Edward J. Ray Hall will serve the STEAM disciplines of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics. With innovative design and construction features, Ray Hall is OSU-Cascades’ ‘North Star’ for sustainability, setting a standard for future campus buildings and helping us move towards the bold, net zero energy, water and waste goals laid out in the campus’s long range development plan.

Status: Interior mural by Samantha Wall [OR] was installed in late 2021. Phase one of exterior artwork by Sam Stubblefield [WA] was completed in Spring 2022 with phase 2 scheduled for completion by June 2023.

Oregon State University, Cordley Hall Phase I, Corvallis
Project Coordinator (PC): Ryan Burghard Percent for Art: $750,000
Cordley Hall is a 220,000 square foot, multi-story academic laboratory building. This project renovates the building, which originally opened in 1956. New construction will transform Cordley into a state-of-the art laboratory building with brand new MEP systems and lab gases, modern biology research labs, a 220-seat lecture hall, collections storage and teaching spaces. This is Phase 1 of the renovation; Phase 2 may be funded in the future.

Status: Ann Hamilton delivered a public lecture at OSU on October 24th, 2022 and conducted material tests prior to presenting her proposed design to the committee. The initial tests were unsuccessful, and Ann has been working closely with scientists and the selection committee to revise the design of her artwork commission. Final design presentation is anticipated for April.

Oregon State University, Fairbanks Hall, Corvallis
Sam Stubblefield, progress documentation after completion of Phase One installation
Project Coordinator (PC): Renee Couture    Percent for Art: $110,000
Renovation of 1893 wood building, bringing it up to current code. Building is home to College of Liberal Arts Fine Arts/Art History and Graphic Arts programs.

Status: Commission artist Adrien Segal installed her exterior sculpture in August 2022. Remaining project funds have been used to cover framing and installation of two works by artist Julie Green [OR].

Oregon State University, Gilkey Hall, Corvallis
Project Coordinator (PC): Claire Schechtman    Percent for Art: $50,000
Gilkey Hall is a 1912 brick building in the OSU Historic District designed by architect John Bennes. Our project will completely renovate the 2nd and 3rd floors for use by OSU Counseling and Psychological Services, and the 1st floor will have upgrades of plumbing and heating systems and will have continued use as classrooms and miscellaneous offices.

Status: Project in early stages.

Oregon State University, Reser Stadium Complex, Corvallis
Project Coordinator (PC): Ryan Burghard    Percent for Art: $975,000
The project will transform Reser Stadium into a national best-in-class football facility with year-round programs and facilities for all OSU students, faculty, and staff. The project fully renovates the stadium’s west side and includes a new state-of-the-art Student Welcome Center and a new campus wellness clinic.

Jill Anholt testing color samples at Glasmalerei Peter studios in Paderborn, Germany
Status: Commissioned artist for the Stadium/Welcome Center location, Ben Butler received approval for 50% completion of fabrication in March. Commissioned artist for the Health Center artwork, Jill Anholt, received approval for 50% completion of fabrication in February with 100% fabrication anticipated for April. Both works are slated to be installed in spring 2023.

**Oregon State University, Upper Division Undergraduate and Graduate Student Housing, Corvallis**  
Project Coordinator (PC): Renee Couture  
Percent for Art: $350,000  
New building for upper division and graduate student housing.  
Status: Project was put on pause, restart anticipated for April 2023.

**Portland State University, Vernier Science Center, Portland**  
Project Coordinator (PC): Peg Butler  
Percent for Art: $450,000  
This project expands and renovates Science Building One (SB1), which currently has 92,610 square feet and contains science classrooms, offices and laboratories. It was originally completed in 1967. The renovation includes replacing antiquated building systems; seismic stabilization; improve safety in labs by replacing equipment; expand building square footage; construct new student spaces, adding new centers (e.g., STEM Institute) and relocating the Geography and Geology departments into the expanded spaces.  
Status: Contracts for Lehuauakea [OR], Sara Siestreem [OR], and the team Adam McIsaac and Travis Stewart [OR] have been executed and they are in proposal development mode. Proposal presentation scheduling is in progress.

**Southern Oregon University, Britt Hall, Ashland**  
Project Coordinator (PC): Tiffany Harker  
Percent for Art: $52,000
Renovation and upgrades to an existing building that houses classrooms, labs, offices, meeting rooms and breakout spaces. Building users include the Communications Department, Service Center (purchasing, contracting, accounting) and SOU/OHSU School of Nursing, with additional spaces not yet unprogrammed.

**University of Oregon, Huestis Hall, Eugene**

Project Coordinator (PC): Renee Couture  
Percent for Art: $525,000

The Huestis Hall project encompasses a full renovation of the approximately 60,000-sf structure on four floors, and includes LEED Gold certification. Exterior improvements include a new seismic tower and elevator, a new mechanical penthouse, exterior window replacement, and repair of the existing brick and concrete structure. The lower floor of Huestis Hall is occupied by the Biology Department’s teaching and preparatory laboratories, while the upper floors house more than a dozen research laboratories of the Institute of Neuroscience (ION).

Status: Projects by Greg Dunn’s (Bulgaria) and Susan Zoccola (Seattle) are in the development phase. Installation expected in December 2023-January 2024.

**University of Oregon, Lewis Integrative Science Building, Eugene**

Project Coordinator (PC): Peg Butler  
Percent for Art: $229,064

Reflecting the UO’s interdisciplinary, collaborative approach to the sciences, Lewis Integrative Science Building was designed to encourage research that is not defined by departmental boundaries. The 103,000-square-foot facility is part of the Lokey Science Complex, which brings together biologists, chemists, physicists, mathematicians, psychologists, and other researchers. LISB is home to research on the human brain, molecular biology, nanotechnology and solar energy.

Status: Project Coordination was transferred from Tiffany Harker to Peg Butler at the end of January with a project kick-off conducted on February 2nd. Artist Rob Ley [CA] remain in design phase with installation scheduled to occur by September 2023.

**University of Oregon, Knight Campus for Accelerated Impact, Eugene**

Project Coordinator (PC): Meagan Atiyeh  
Percent for Art: $1,552,000

The Phil and Penny Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact is an ambitious $1 billion initiative that will fast-track scientific discoveries into innovations that improve quality of life. Work here will dramatically shorten the timeline between discovery and societal impact through world-class research, training, and entrepreneurship in a nimble scientific enterprise. The campus is made possible by a $500 million dollar lead gift by the Knights, the largest ever for a public flagship institution. The vision for this new Campus will unfold over the next decade.

Status: Project Coordination was transferred from Tiffany Harker back to Meagan Atiyeh at the end of October with file transfers recently completed. The Knight Campus project is an innovative model of what public art might be. Through a process with the selection committee
and in partnership with UO, a residency program is being developed that will bring nationally- and internationally recognized artists to the Eugene to create artwork and engage with the Knight Campus community. The program is supported by periodical drawdowns from the initial investment of $1,552,000 into an endowment fund.

Recently Completed Projects

**University of Oregon, Chapman Hall, Eugene**
Project Coordinator (PC): Eleanor Sandys/Sarah Baylinson 
Percent for Art: $70,000
Chapman Hall was built in 1939 as a project of the federal Works Progress Administration. An extensive, award-winning interior renovation by Hennebery Eddy Architects preserved the historic character of the building, while creating state of the art learning facilities. Over 1200 high-achieving students are enrolled in Robert D. Clark Honors College, pursuing majors offered by every UO school and college.

Status: Sixteen artworks, primarily by Pacific Northwest artists (including Dennis Allen, Don Bailey, Humberto Gonzalez, Philip Govedare, Wuon-Gean Ho, Barry Johnson, Vincent Keele, Susan Murrell, Susan Point and Samantha Wall) were installed in November 2022.

Upcoming Projects

**Oregon Institute of Technology, Boivin Hall, Klamath**
Project Coordinator (PC): In Assignment Process 
Percent for Art: $165,000
Full renovation of Boivin Hall will offer a range of academic programs spaces including new chemistry and teaching labs, office suites for College Administration and the Student Advising and Retention department and the new home for campus Information Technology Systems (ITS). Located at 3201 Campus Dr. on OIT's Klamath Falls campus.

**Oregon State University, Pride Center, Corvallis**
Project Coordinator (PC): In Assignment Process 
Percent for Art: $24,687
Renovation of a 1000 sf 1919 bungalow that has been the home of OSUs Pride Center serving LGBTQIAA students, faculty, and Corvallis communities. It will add a 1200 sf addition to the 1919 structure as well. It will provide much improved gathering space, study space, a dining room, a fully appointed kitchen, two shared restrooms, an office for the Center Director, a private quiet space, storage, a work/craft room, and covered and uncovered outdoor spaces. The property around it will be fully landscaped and improved with beautiful outdoor areas that can be used for events and activities at the Center. The project includes new HVAC, plumbing, landscaping as mentioned, and very much improved accessibility features.
March 31, 2023

TO: Oregon Arts Commission
FROM: Tiffany Harker, Arts Education & Grants Coordinator
SUBJ: Staff Report

Poetry Out Loud, State Finals, March 11, 2023
We had a wonderful POL State Finals event on Saturday March 11th at Allied Video Productions in Salem. The contract POL Coordinator, Aimee Craig, and I worked together and Liora supported us during our first year organizing the first in person competition in several years. Jenny Green welcomed the students, parents and guests on behalf of the Oregon Arts Commission. Jason Graham/Mosley Wotta emceed and supported the students throughout the competition, and special guest Rene Mitchell performed a “call and response” original poem while the judges tabulated scores. Our state champion is Kari Morgan, representing the Oregon School for the Deaf, Salem. Carrie directed photography and sent out the news release immediately following the event. See attached. I am excited to support Kari and her chaperone, Althea during the process at the POL national competition in Washington, D.C., May 9-10, 2023.

Conversations with Funders, February 28 - March 16, 2023

- Portland
- Astoria
- Coos Bay
- Eugene
- Medford
- Pendleton
- Redmond
- Virtual Event

Liora and I represented the Oregon Arts Commission for the annual Conversations with Funders tour around the state. organized by the Oregon Cultural Trust. Over 570 grant seekers were engaged and in addition to OAC, participating funders included Oregon Heritage, Oregon Humanities, The Oregon Community Foundation, James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation, The Collins Foundation, Marie Lamfrom Charitable Foundation, Nonprofit Association of Oregon, The Autzen Foundation, Spirit Mountain Community Fund, The Roundhouse Foundation, Lane Arts, Wildhorse Foundation, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, Bend Cultural Tourism Fund, Portland’s Regional Arts and
Culture Council, Multnomah County Cultural Coalition, Clatsop County Cultural Coalition, Lane County Cultural Coalition, Coos County Cultural Coalition, Jackson County Cultural Coalition, Umatilla County Cultural Coalition, and Deschutes County Cultural Coalition.

Grants

- Operating Support Grant / Closed
- Small Operating Grant / Closed
- Arts Learning / Open / Applications due May 2

Percent for Art, Southern Oregon University
Completing installation of Percent for Art responsibilities at SOU with artist Claire Burbridge, which will be my final installation before formal closeout of the project.

Requested Action:

☑ Informational only
☐ For commission input/discussion
☐ For commission action
For Immediate Release
March 11, 2023
Contact: Carrie Kikel, 503-480-5360, carrie.kikel@oregon.gov

Kari Morgan of Oregon School for the Deaf
nenamed Oregon’s 2023 Poetry Out Loud champion;
Maria Daniels from St. Stephens Academy named runner up

Salem, Oregon – For the second consecutive year, a student from Oregon School for the Deaf is Oregon’s Poetry Out Loud champion. Kari Morgan, a 16-year-old sophomore, was named the 2023 Oregon Poetry Out Loud state champion at Saturday’s Poetry Out Loud State Contest in Salem. Trayshun Holmes-Gournaris, a recent graduate of Oregon School for the Deaf, was Oregon’s 2022 state champion.

Morgan was one of 10 finalists who competed at the state contest after winning their school competitions and advancing through regionals; she will now represent Oregon at the national Poetry Out Loud competition to be held May 8-10 in Washington D.C.

Also for the second consecutive year, Maria Daniels of Beaverton was named runner up. Daniels, a junior at online St. Stephens Academy, would be invited to represent Oregon in the national competition should Morgan be unable to attend.

Morgan, “like most humans her age,” loves to sleep in late. She is an artist, a performer, a writer and signer of poetry. She is crafty and likes to make things with her hands. Her best quality may be her love of encouraging others to shine their brightest. She describes herself as a “twinkling star.”

“I’m feeling shocked and very happy!” said Morgan. “I get to be a future role model for Oregon School for the Deaf – Go Panthers!”

“Kari is a star in so many ways,” said Gayle Robertson, the Oregon School for the Deaf Poetry Out Loud coach, who has now coached three state Poetry Out Loud champions. “I am proud of her determination and independence.”

The poems Morgan presented at the state contest were: “Self-Portrait” by Chase Twichell; “Ways of Talking” by Ha Jin; and “Invictus” by William Ernest Henley.
“Poetry Out Loud continues to be an excellent demonstration of how the arts enrich and empower young people to broaden their horizons through poetry,” said Andre Middleton, who served as an accuracy judge for the state contest. “Kudos to all the participants and especially this year’s winner Kari Morgan for making it a such a memorable experience.”

“I was completely transfixed by Kari Morgan’s performances throughout the competition,” said Tiffany Harker, the Arts Commission’s Arts Education & Grants Coordinator. “She embodied the poise, expressiveness, vulnerability and confidence that makes Poetry Out Loud so special. All of the students did a wonderful job and I’m still in awe of their performances.”

The other nine students who competed, after winning their school competitions, are: Lillyan Carroll, South Medford High School, Medford; Amelia Farrell, Lakeridge High School, Lake Oswego; Tempus Hillstrom, Oregon Charter Academy; Benson Lawson, Redmond High School, Redmond; Naomi Margolis, Lincoln High School, Portland; Thu Nguyen, Lakeridge High School, Lake Oswego; Katie Olson, West Linn High School, West Linn; and Drew Williams, Crook County High School, Prineville.

The Arts Commission established accessibility guidelines for deaf students to participate in Poetry Out Loud in 2009 when the Oregon School for the Deaf began participating. Those guidelines have now become a national standard. Morgan is the third state champion to be named from the school; in addition to Holmes-Gournaris, Tiffany Hill of Oregon School for the Deaf served as the 2009 Poetry Out Loud state champion.

Poetry Out Loud is a national recitation contest for high school students, organized in Oregon by the Oregon Arts Commission in collaboration with the NEA and the Poetry Foundation. Participants memorize and present poems, practicing public speaking skills while exploring the complexity of poetry.

Editor’s note: Video to be available on request after 8 p.m.
* * * * * * * * * *

The Oregon Arts Commission provides leadership, funding and arts programs through its grants, special initiatives and services. Nine commissioners, appointed by the Governor, determine arts needs and establish policies for public support of the arts. The Arts Commission became part of Business Oregon (formerly Oregon Economic and Community Development Department) in 1993, in recognition of the expanding role the arts play in the broader social, economic and educational arenas of Oregon communities. In 2003, the Oregon legislature moved the operations of the Oregon
Cultural Trust to the Arts Commission, streamlining operations and making use of the Commission's expertise in grantmaking, arts and cultural information and community cultural development.

The Arts Commission is supported with general funds appropriated by the Oregon legislature and with federal funds from the National Endowment for the Arts as well as funds from the Oregon Cultural Trust. More information about the Oregon Arts Commission is available online at: www.oregonartscommission.org.
March 31, 2023

TO: Oregon Arts Commission
FROM: Carrie Kikel, Communications Manager
SUBJ: Staff Report

**Communication Contractor**

Elayna Yussen is now on contract to support Arts Commission communication work. Elayna is a multi-talented communication professional who has worked with The Immigrant Story and Oregon Metro and also served as a production assistant at OPB. She spent a year as a staff photographer at the Daily Courier in Grants Pass and has volunteered for several arts and education organizations.

Her first assignment was drafting the FY2023 Arts Build Communities news release. She is now working on building a 2023 PR Calendar; her next project will be developing a regular eblast with resources and opportunities for artists, with support from Sarah Baylinson.

As Elayna’s contract expires on June 30, we will need to identify available funds and conduct an RFP process prior to that date to keep her on contract.

**Impact Stories**

Included in your packet are the first three produced impact stories by contract writer Max Tapogna. Max is doing a wonderful job! The stories are also being posted on the Arts Commission website and social media. Again, to keep his work flowing we need to identify FY2024 funds and conduct an RFP process before his contract funds are depleted.

Requested Action:

- [ ] Informational only
- [ ] For commission input/discussion
- [x] For commission action
One Friday afternoon last March, a group of theater-goers crowded into the auditorium at Salem’s Enlightened Theatrics, located a few blocks west of Oregon’s state capitol building. On the playbill were two world premieres written and performed by members of Enlightened’s All Abilities Camp. The “friends and family” audience was there to see campers’ hard work pay off.

“A lot of the kids brought in their own costumes,” says Sarah Olbrantz. “We had popcorn, soda. It was a very real performance.”

Sarah Olbrantz, who led the camp, remembers celebrating with her students after the show. “They had these big smiles on their faces. It was an incredible energy to feed off of.”

The All Abilities Camp—funded in part by an Oregon Arts Commission Arts Build Communities grant—had 10 participants aged 8-14, and ran for a week in March of 2022. The course was designed for students who identify as neurodivergent, an umbrella term that can encompass people with diagnoses such as ADHD, ADD and autism.

“It’s very valuable to have a space where students don’t have to explain their behaviors, because everyone here gets it,” says Olbrantz. “It’s confidence boosting.”

The camp was modeled after Olbrantz’s work as a drama therapist, an interest Olbrantz first developed over a decade ago as an acting student at Syracuse University. Olbrantz taught in what was then called the Young Actors Workshop (it’s since been renamed All Star C.A.S.T.), a theater program Syracuse offered to community members with developmental disabilities.

After graduating, Olbrantz moved to New York City—and took the skills she gained in the Syracuse workshop along with her. In 2010 she co-founded CO/LAB Theatre Group with three other Syracuse alums. CO/LAB’s mission was inspired by the group’s time at Syracuse, offering individuals with developmental disabilities a creative and social outlet through theater.

Last spring, Olbrantz brought her talents in drama therapy back to her hometown. For its participants, the All Abilities Camp was a crash course in playmaking.

“We started with basic story building,” says Olbrantz. “Establishing characters, writing the script, and co-creating together.”

The campers divided into two groups based on age, performing their plays on Enlightened’s stage in the final showcase for friends and family. One of the plays was set in an abandoned Blockbuster store; the other revolved around a malevolent sorceress and her imprisoned cook.

Olbrantz says her curriculum is designed to let the students be in control of the storytelling. Children live in a world where they have little autonomy. “Especially youth who differ from societal norms,” says Olbrantz. “It’s really important for them to have a space where they are able to express their wants and desires.”

“Theatre has the opportunity to provide that space.”

Story by Max Tapogna
ARTIST PRESERVES BASKET WEAVING TRADITIONS

It’s summer on the Oregon coast, and the sun is as elusive as ever. Yet the inclement weather doesn’t stop traditional basket weaver Beth’Ann Gipson and her eight students – members of Southern Oregon’s Umpqua Tribe of Indians – from collecting spruce root, one of the many natural materials needed to make a ceremonial tobacco basket.

“It was storming,” remembers Gipson. “But you can’t just buy these materials. You have to learn how to recognize the plant and know when to gather it: rain or shine.”

After braving the outdoors, Gipson led a session on how to cure the roots. Funded by an Oregon Arts Commission/Oregon Folklife Network Traditional Arts Recovery grant, the weekend expedition gave Gipson an opportunity to teach basket weaving to members of her community.

“I showed them how to take the bark off the spruce and how to split the root, so you get two for one,” says Gipson.

When Gipson started basket weaving in 2012, there were only a handful of master weavers in Oregon. Gipson was first introduced to the craft in a weekend workshop, led by weavers from the Karuk and Yurok Indian tribes of Northern California.

Ten years down the road, Gipson is considered a master weaver, running classes and workshops of her own.

“That’s been our whole goal, to keep these traditions going.”

Basket weaving requires patience; every part of the process plays out on a measured timeline, she says. The spruce will need to dry for at least a year until it’s pliable enough to be basket-ready. Gipson is at home in the unhurried world of weaving, having spent six months this year working on a single basket: one of historical significance.

The tobacco basket is the first to use the complicated “Wolf Eye” design in more than 150 years. Currently, there are only two such baskets in existence: Gipson’s and a surviving model from the 1850s. When that spruce finally dries, Gipson’s students will be able to make their own versions.

Gipson says she hopes to ultimately teach at least 10 other master weavers. She seems on track to meet that goal.

Gipson’s nine-year-old granddaughter has already perfected the bear grass braid – a technique that can be used for jewelry and clothing – and she teaches the design to other kids her age.

“We didn’t have that as kids,” says Gipson. “I’m working with my people to keep this tradition going, so that it never sleeps again.”

Story by Max Tapogna
At HAUNT CAMP – a months-long vocational arts program that received an Oregon Arts Commission Arts Learning Grant – students traded guts and gore for cake and coffee. The desserts were, in fact, prosthetic props that adorned a gastronomy-inspired haunted house: entirely designed and built by teenagers.

“They were the art directors,” says JR Rymut, who developed and ran the camp in partnership with the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture. “I taught them the skills to get it done.”

Exposing young people to career pathways in the arts was HAUNT CAMP’s mission.

“I’ve found these careers that I wasn’t introduced to in formal art education,” says Rymut, who studied at the Rhode Island School of Design.

The industrial art skills required to build the haunted house – such as set and prop construction, mural painting and designing practical effects – are transferable. Rymut knows this firsthand; she’s made a career working in both museum exhibit installation and the film industry, splitting her time between rural Oregon and Los Angeles.

“I want to let kids know that there are options,” says Rymut. “If you see something that you really respond to, you can be a part of it.”

Twenty-five students aged 15 to 19 constructed the immersive production, which revolved around a bewitched cheesecake factory where the desserts eat the diners. The students came up with the concept and built the set over the course of three months, meeting after school and on the weekends.

“One student told me, until this camp, she had never worked on a piece of art that was bigger than her,” says Rymut.

Although the student was speaking literally - the sheer scale of the haunted house was a novel experience - there was a clear double meaning.

When the haunted house opened on Halloween last fall, the production included two dozen community extras and actors. Rymut says HAUNT CAMP ultimately brought over 1,000 unique visitors—roughly half the population of Enterprise.

Rymut says she hopes to run the widely popular camp again in 2023, with a brand-new concept.

“I want to spark these kids’ imaginations,” says Rymut. “We should be showing them that you can have well-paying careers in the arts.”

Story by Max Tapogna
March 31, 2023

TO: Oregon Arts Commission
FROM: Liora Sponko, Senior Program Manager
SUBJ: Staff Report

Legislative/Caucus

- Acted as the Director in Brian’s absence, which included attending prep meetings with Business Oregon for budget hearings and supporting the updates on the presentation. Thank you, Kat and Carrie, for your extra time and work to update the presentation!
- Reached out to various stakeholders to provide testimony for our Arts and Trust budget hearing.
- Supported the new Caucus Liaison’s work in collaboration with the Commission, Trust and CACO.
- Invited CACO to the February Arts Services Meet-Up to share their legislative priorities.

Creative & Cultural Districts

The program continues to develop with the support of stakeholder feedback. We conducted a stakeholder briefing in January with over 60 participants in attendance. We also had follow-up conversations with the Steering Group, Oregon Community Foundation and several community leaders. David and I toured Native American Youth and Family Center and a few districts they are developing for communities of color in Northeast Portland. Capi Lewis (Business Oregon) and I met with the Mayor of Sisters who was very interested in this work.

I facilitated my interactive workshop, “Catalyze Your Community Through Arts and Culture” to the following communities:

- Astoria: In October I spoke with a group of 10 and then in March to a group of 25 arts and culture leaders. They are exploring layering a creative district in conjunction with their Main Street.
- Newport: 65 artists and leaders from Newport, Lincoln City, Toledo and Depoe Bay attended. They discussed the possibility of their own districts while also creating regional collaboration of events and marketing. Jason Holland from Oregon Coast Council for the Arts will continue to convene stakeholders in the region.
Condon: A dozen leaders from the County, City, school district and art council/theatre were excited to develop an arts/theatre district in conjunction with their Main Street and historic district.

Eugene: Leaders from the City, Arts and Business Alliance and Lane Arts Council were excited to create an arts/creative district in downtown in partnership with anchor institutions that would impact the entire city.

Pendleton: A group of 8 leaders from the city and arts community discussed the need to expand Pendleton’s identity from “cowboy culture” to include high-quality arts experiences and crafters.

Old Town PDX: They are working to develop a multicultural district to include Japanese American Museum of Oregon, Lan Su Chinese Garden, Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education, Portland Chinatown Museum, Saturday Market, Oregon College of Oriental Medicine, Chinese Consolidated Benevolence Association, and Oregon Chinese Coalition.

Takeaways
- Everyone is extremely excited about this concept—many are ready to participate.
- Every community expressed the need for funding to support staffing to implement this work.
- Communities talked about their desire to make an impact outside of the district itself, including other communities in the city or region.
- This work intersects with need for affordable housing.
- Communities want marketing support to better tell their story.

Pilot Communities
Several communities would like to participate in our pilot program in the 23-25 years. They would need to leverage funding from their legislators. Potential pilot communities include:
- Newport
- Toledo
- Condon
- Eugene
- Old Town PDX
- Sisters

Next Steps
- A few legislators have called the Arts Commission expressing their interest in this program in their communities. They could create line-item appropriation or a bill to fund this program during the 23-25 session.
- Cultural Planning Group will meet with Arts Commission staff and a few stakeholders on April 17th in Portland to develop the pilot program and brainstorm on building a technical assistance program.
Conversations with Funders

- Tiff, Ryan, Sarah, Brian and I participated in Conversations with Funders with Tiff and I visiting all seven communities and talking artists and arts leaders about our grant programs. Locations included Portland, Astoria, Eugene, Coos Bay, Medford, Pendleton and Redmond.
- I took the opportunity to visit with a few AEP communities including Astoria, Eugene, Coos Bay, Southern Oregon and Pendleton.
- I led three workshops on this tour in Astoria, Eugene and Pendleton.
- I conducted a site visit to Native American Youth and Family Center in Portland, Umpqua Valley Arts Association in Roseburg and Crows Shadow in Pendleton.

Other Activities

- Business Oregon is working to develop a Request for Proposals for various IT software needs, which will include grants management needs and donor management needs (for the Trust). Arts Commission and Trust staff will be invited to serve on the review panel to select the product that meets our needs.
- Business Oregon is working on a policy and process to enable departments to pay stipends to volunteers, including grant reviewers. We will want to plan for this expense in our 23-25 budget.
- Many AEP communities have reached their 800 minimum target including Florence, Eugene and Coos Bay. There are a few communities that are struggling to get surveys because of capacity issues including the Gorge, Medford, Klamath County and Harney County.

Requested Action:

☑️ Informational only ☐ For commission input/discussion ☐ For commission action
March 31, 2023

TO: Oregon Arts Commission
FROM: Kat Bell, Grants Officer
SUBJ: Grant Panel Dates

Below is a list of panel dates and chairs for the coming review cycle. We are asking that commissioners sign up to chair panel meetings. Please send your choices to Kat at kat.bell@biz.oregon.gov

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Panel</th>
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<th>Coordinator</th>
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<td>4/20/23</td>
<td>FY23 Career Opportunity Round 2 (Performing Arts)</td>
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<td>Ryan Burghard</td>
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<td>4/21/23</td>
<td>FY23 Career Opportunity Round 2 (Visual Arts)</td>
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