

Cultivating Community

through arts and creativity



Think

Imagine how arts and creativity can strengthen your community:

- What is your vision for a more vibrant community?
- What are unique creative and cultural assets in the community that you could build on?
- How can you work with arts and cultural groups and creatives to achieve that vision?

Read

For more data on how investing in the arts and culture can enhance your community development efforts, we suggest the following resource:

Americans for the Arts Social Impact Explorer, which shares the social, cultural, educational, and economic impact of arts and culture in building healthy and vibrant communities:

<https://ww2.americansforthearts.org/explorer>

Talk

Opportunities abound to partner with the Indiana Arts Commission to strengthen your communities through arts and creativity. We welcome your questions and ideas and would love to continue the dialogue. Please reach out to us at:

Indiana Arts Commission: Lydia Campbell-Maher, Communities Program Manager, lcampbellmaher@iac.in.gov; or

Miah Michaelsen, Executive Director, mmichaelsen@iac.in.gov

Funding Programs

Indiana Arts Commission: Arts Project Support Grant Program. Deadlines in March and September

<https://www.in.gov/arts/programs-and-services/funding/>

Indiana Arts Commission: Creative Convergence.

<https://www.in.gov/arts/programs-and-services/funding/>

Indiana Humanities: Action Grants; INcommon; Historic Preservation Education Grants.

<https://indianahumanities.org/grants/>

Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority's CreatINg Places Crowdgranting Program.

<https://www.in.gov/ihcda/placemaking-indiana/creating-places/>

Indiana Destination Development Corporation Placemaking Grants.

<https://www.visitindiana.com/about-iddc/for-industry-partners/awards-grants/>

Consider

How arts and creativity can come alongside community opportunities and challenges in the following areas:

- Community cohesion/connectiveness
- Welcoming new populations
- Social isolation
- Civic engagement
- Wellbeing of Youth and Older Adults
- Adaptive reuse of buildings or places
- Community visioning and planning
- Public safety and transportation

Ways to strengthen your community through the creative sector:

- Committing direct resources for initiatives such as:
 - An arts commission in local government;
 - Visual and performing arts in local parks, greenspaces, farmers markets and other public spaces;
 - Events to bring community together such as street dances or community performances;
 - Partnering with local arts to provide programs for underserved populations;
 - Pop up visual arts and live music events with your Main Street organization;
 - Commissioning public art and murals;
 - Grants to support the development of arts organizations and arts events;
 - Out of school arts for youth in partnership with the parks departments or other partners such as the Boys and Girls Club;
 - Programming for vulnerable populations such as older adults in partnership with the parks department, library, area agency on aging or other community partners;
- Establishing a point of contact (a designated staff member) between local government and the creative community
- Establishing local ordinances that support creative efforts such as murals and outdoor performances
- Establishing right-of-way guidelines and processes to support community events such as artist markets, concerts or festivals and public art installations such as murals and sculptures
- Establishing a cultural district or a creative or cultural hub
- Supporting the development of artist studios and creative makerspaces
- Including creative entrepreneurs in the local small business community
- Putting creatives on boards and commissions and asking them to serve on task forces or be a part of other solution-seeking groups
- Decommissioning surplus equipment or buildings for creative use
- Actively involving the creative sector in economic development and community development planning
- Making the case that arts and creativity has significant positive impacts on Indiana's people and places

Have arts and creative inspiration and information sent directly to your inbox: <https://www.in.gov/arts/about/news/>