

BOARD ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



Established in 1961 by the Washington State Legislature, the Washington State Arts Commission is a small agency within state government. The Executive Director, appointed by the Governor, reports to the Board of Commissioners.

The Board of Commissioners includes 19 Washington State residents appointed by the Governor to 3-year terms. The Governor considers the following criteria when considering a potential appointee:

- Representation of the various disciplines within the visual, performing, literary, and media arts.
- Representation of Washington State's varied geographic areas.
- Representation of cultural, state, and community organizations.

The Governor's Office encourages Commissioners to keep informed and up-to-date on issues, legislative activity, and statutes affecting their Board. **Be sure to read the Board and Commissions Membership Handbook** found at www.governor.wa.gov under the Boards and Commissions tab, under resources. It is also important to complete the online appointee training, which includes training on the Open Public Meetings Act, the Public Records Act, and an overview of ethics in government. Be sure to complete all paperwork in your welcome packet from the Governor's Office.

In addition, the Legislature appoints two members of the Senate and two members of the House (one from each party from each chamber), for a total of four legislators serving as Commissioners. The Washington Administrative Code (WAC), Title 30 (revised in 2010) outlines how the Board of Commissioners is governed. The Board's responsibilities include the following:

- Approval of the agency budget for each fiscal year and biennium.
- Approval of the agency strategic plan and goals each biennium.
- Approval of grants and artist rosters.
- Advocating for the arts, including meeting with legislators and other public officials, as allowable under state regulation.

The success and sustainability of ArtsWA depends on the commitment and support of each Commissioner in taking the following actions:

Please plan to attend all Board meetings. But, if unable to attend, please let Leslie Pope, ArtsWA Executive Assistant, know as early as possible at Leslie.Pope@arts.wa.gov.

- Prepare for the Board meetings by reading all materials before the meeting begins.
- Serve on grant panels and committees.
- Follow rules and policies, including those concerning conflict of interest.
- Decline complimentary tickets, except for an event that is free to the public.
- Keep current with activities and issues of ArtsWA by following eNews, Facebook, and Twitter updates.
- Be aware that authority to act is granted to the Board as a whole, not to individual members.
- Speak for ArtsWA only as authorized.
- Work with other Commissioners so that the arts are indispensably integrated into state priorities.

STANDING COMMITTEE STRUCTURE



Executive Committee

The Executive Committee meets outside the regularly scheduled Board meetings, to discuss issues that arise between Board meetings, and to review the agenda and prepare for Board meetings. The Executive Committee includes the Chair, First Vice-Chair, and Second Vice-Chair, plus one or more at-large members who are chosen by the Chair. Officers are elected by the Board at the first meeting of each fiscal year (WAC 30.01.050).

Advocacy Committee

Appointed by the Board Chair, the committee is comprised of one or two chair members, and other members as mutually selected by the Board and co-chairs. It is open to any and all Commission members. This committee plans and implements advocacy efforts on behalf of the Commission; helps coordinate advocacy efforts with those of the Washington State Arts Alliance, ArtsEd WA, and other partners; puts forward recommendations to the full Board relative to advocacy efforts.

Nominating Committee

At the final Board meeting of the fiscal year, in May, the Board Chair appoints a Nominating Committee to survey or interview all Commissioners by phone about Board leadership, meetings, and similar topics; and to prepare the slate of officers for election at the July / August meeting.

Other Committees

The Chair may establish other committees and appoint members. The Advocacy Committee has been active in recent years to monitor legislative activity and guide the Board's advocacy efforts. Board members can also participate in ad hoc committees such as the Strategic Planning Committee.

Other Opportunities to interact with ArtsWA

Grant Review Panels

Commission members may be invited to participate as a panelist on one of a variety of panels convened each year to review the wide range of applications received for grant support. Our grants, in the categories summarized below, provide the seed money necessary to ensure that individual communities nurture and grow the arts.

- Grants to organizations
 - Level A – Small arts organizations (under \$200,000 budget) and other community service groups.
 - Level B - midsized arts organizations of (\$200,000 to \$1 million budget), or local arts agencies sponsored or designated by local government or tribal agencies.
 - Level C - large arts institutions (over \$1 million budget).
 - Grants to statewide partners - organizations that provide services to support artists and arts professionals across the state of Washington.
- Grants for K-12 arts in education
 - First Step Grants
 - Community Consortium Grants



In all cases, panelists are selected by the program managers. They can and often do include Arts Commissioners alongside professionals experienced in the arts discipline or type of grant being reviewed or citizens with a record of arts activities, experience, and knowledge. In addition to standard grant review panels, opportunities for Commissioners can also include involvement with the following activities.

Art in Public Places

- The Public Art Deaccession Committee (standing committee based on specific expertise)
- Public Artist Roster (competition held every 3 years)
- The Curator Roster (next competition in the fall of 2016)
- K-12 Pooled Funds review panel (held every 2 years)
- Attend or participate in Art Selection Committee meetings
- Participate in art work dedications in your district or town

Arts in Education

- Roster of Teaching Artists (review panel)
- Poetry Out Loud (judging panel)

Governor's Arts and Heritage Awards

The Awards were established in 1966 to recognize individuals and artists for their significant contributions to the creative vitality of Washington State. Opportunities for participation include:

- Serve as a panelist to select winners in each category
- Host a table or take on the role of ambassador
- General volunteer at the annual event

Arts and Heritage Day

- Join fellow commissioners, ArtsWA staff, and your statewide peers in Olympia each year (February 8, 2017) to meet with legislators and advocate for ArtsWA's budget, and other issues as directed by the advocacy committee.

SOCIAL MEDIA

ArtsWA actively uses social media (Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr and Flickr) to share news, photos and information. Board members are encouraged to follow ArtsWA on social media and to share, "like," and comment on ArtsWA posts. Your posts should be casual, but professional in tone, positive and applicable to the subject. Whether you identify yourself as a board member of ArtsWA or not, please remember you are a Governor-appointed commissioner and your comments are a matter of public record. If you have questions or concerns, contact [Glenda Carino](#), ArtsWA's Communications Manager.

BOARD REVIEW AND TIMELINE



The fiscal year for Washington state government is July 1 through June 30. The Board meets at least four times each fiscal year. The table on the following page shows the types of decisions that may require Board action at each of the meetings during a typical year. The agenda for each meeting may not include all of these items and is likely to include other Board actions as needed, including one-time, biennial, or occasional actions—as well as reports, updates, and similar topics.

BOARD MEETING	AGENDA FOCUS	PURPOSE
November	<u>ADVOCACY</u> : Preview upcoming Legislative session. Discuss advocacy goals/agenda and related strategies.	Information
	<u>BUDGET</u> : Review 1st Qtr Report/ current fiscal year; Review Final (4th Qtr) Report for previous fiscal year.	Information
	<u>BOARD</u> : Approve Board meeting schedule for next calendar year. Orient new Board members appointed in August; introduce mentors.	Approval
February / March	<u>ADVOCACY</u> : Refine advocacy strategies; participate in Arts & Heritage Day.	Information
	<u>BUDGET</u> : Review 2 nd Qtr Report/current fiscal year.	Information
May	<u>ADVOCACY</u> : Review status of Legislative session and related implications.	Information
	<u>BUDGET</u> : Approve budget for next fiscal year. Review 3 rd Qtr Report/current fiscal year.	Approval
	<u>PROGRAM</u> : Approve grants.	Approval
July / August	<u>BUDGET</u> : Approve biennial budget request.	Approval
	<u>BOARD</u> : Elect Board officers. Review preliminary Board meeting schedule for next calendar year.	Information
	<u>PROGRAM</u> : Approve grants.	Approval

ADVOCACY



Advocacy is central to the Board’s purpose. As stated in RCW 43.46.050, the Board “shall meet, study, plan, and advise the governor, the various departments of the state and the state legislature and shall make such recommendations as it deems proper for the cultural development of the state of Washington.” The Board’s advocacy role is coordinated by the Executive Director and the Board Chair, often in consultation with the Executive Committee and/or a Board Advocacy Committee. Advocacy and lobbying are addressed in the Revised Code of Washington (RCW 42.17.190). While advocacy activities are allowed, grassroots lobbying, as defined below, is not.

Definitions

Advocacy. To influence legislative decision-making about the arts by building relationships with state elected officials. Inform them of the public benefit of the arts and of ArtsWA by providing meaningful information about funding and program impacts. Encourage legislators to participate in the arts in their community.

Lobby. To ask a state elected official to take a specific action on an issue. (Example: Request that a legislator vote for an increase in state funding for the arts.)

Grassroots lobbying. To ask anyone besides state elected officials to take a specific action on an issue. (Example: Ask a neighbor to contact legislators to vote for an increase in state funding for the arts.)

Educate/Inform. To provide information about an issue or program without asking for action. (Example: Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper citing the impacts of ArtsWA in the community.)

Advocacy Goals

- Increase the funding for and awareness of ArtsWA programs and activities by our authorizers (the Governor and Legislature).
- Communicate the public value of the arts to the public, elected officials, and other policy leaders.

Advocacy Actions

Commissioners must coordinate their advocacy efforts with the Executive Director and Board Chair. As a Commissioner, you CAN:

- Directly lobby the Governor, state legislators, and state agencies while on official ArtsWA business. This includes placing phone calls, writing letters, and meeting in person with elected officials and state agency directors.
- Educate and inform anyone, using talking points and materials provided by ArtsWA staff.
- Advocate the official agency position or interests of the agency to any elected official.
- Introduce and vote on ArtsWA resolutions. Example: [May is Arts Education Month](#).

Grassroots Lobbying Actions



By law, Commissioners MUST NOT take part in the following actions:

- Ask someone else to lobby about ArtsWA or arts issues in general. You cannot encourage others to take action on an arts issue; for example, by urging colleagues to contact their legislators about ArtsWA funding.
- Campaign for, or endorse, any elected official as a state arts commissioner.

However, as a Washington State resident, you can lobby as an individual, and you can also belong to the Washington State Arts Alliance (WSAA), ArtsEd Washington, and other advocacy organizations. If you do lobby in such a role, please remember that you cannot represent yourself as a Commissioner, and must not wear your ArtsWA name badge when acting in a resident lobbying role or in any campaign activity.

Annual ArtsWA Advocacy Committee Plan

Annual Goals

- Explore opportunities for relationships with local elected officials throughout the state, especially encouraging arts and cultural priorities among state legislative agendas by municipal and county governments.
- Build new and/or activate existing relationships with local constituents throughout the state especially within legislative districts where we do not have board representation.
- Deepen our direct relationships with state legislators and improve communication with Governor’s staff during session and throughout the year.
- Develop a legislative agenda for the upcoming session and begin forming the agenda for the subsequent session.
- Respond to emerging legislative issues as they arise.

Pre-Session: September to December

Monthly Advocacy Committee meetings are held by phone on the third or fourth Friday of every month at 9:30 a.m. (Or at an agreed upon time that suits the majority).

Objectives

- Explore opportunities and methods for engagement of local elected officials to increase state arts priorities within local legislative agendas.
- Make direct contact with all state representatives and senators regarding ArtsWA.
- All commissioners make contact with their three state legislators, at least one local elected official, and an arts constituent in a district not represented on the Board.
- Board leadership engages the Governor’s Office and legislative leadership regarding ArtsWA planning and priorities.
- Establish an ArtsWA legislative agenda for the upcoming session.
- Identify issues or legislation that the commission may want to support in terms of a board adopted resolution.

- Draft and present legislative talking points to the board for inclusion in annual Legislative Advocacy Training.
- Coordinate lobbying and advocacy plans with Washington State Arts Alliance.
- Continue to train and activate ArtsWA Board members as advocates.



During Session

Weekly Meetings: During the Legislative Session, Advocacy Committee meetings will be held by phone on a weekly basis, most likely every Friday at 9:30 a.m. (Or at an agreed upon time that suits the majority).

Objectives

- Deliver and reinforce messages regarding ArtsWA’s Legislative agenda to state legislators and the Governor’s Office throughout the legislative session.
- Track and share with other Board members any critical developments surrounding arts-related legislation during session, taking additional lobbying or advocacy action when necessary in response to developments.
- Participate in planning and execution of Arts & Heritage Day.
- Collect and share information critical for strategic planning efforts from legislative relationships and interactions.
- Deepen relationships with local elected officials, increasing their awareness and participation in arts priorities during legislative session.

Post-Session: April to August

Monthly Advocacy Committee meetings by phone will resume, possibly on the third or fourth Friday of every month at 9:30 a.m. by phone. (Or at an agreed upon time that suits the majority).

Objectives

- Review and assess the past session advocacy strategies.
- Develop advocacy goals and tactics for the next year.
- Invest in relationship-building with local and statewide elected officials during the off-session period.
- Increase ArtsWA Board capacity to advocate and lobby.
- Begin developing ArtsWA legislative agenda for the next year.

ARTSWA ADVOCACY COMMITTEE



Local Action

“Local Action” is a program intended to engage ArtsWA Board members in building relationships with local officials. The goal is to enlist the help of local officials in advocating support for ArtsWA during interaction between local officials and their state delegations.

1. Identify local officials within ArtsWA Board members’ communities (local officials include council members, mayors, and commissioners...any official who interacts with the State Legislature).
2. Research officials’ areas of interest and attempt to associate those interests with ArtsWA’s.
3. Determine existing relationships between officials and ArtsWA Board members.
4. Identify potential new relationships to be established between officials and Board members.
5. Schedule initial meetings between officials and ArtsWA Board members, during which ArtsWA Board members indicate their desire to meet with officials regularly (quarterly or bi-annually).
6. Meetings springboard off the interests of officials to dive into the associated interests of ArtsWA (utilize the CVI and other resources).
7. During meetings, request confirmation from officials that they will support ArtsWA, either for specific items or generally, when officials engage with their state delegation.
8. ArtsWA Board members relay to state legislators the level of ArtsWA support Board members garnered from local officials, stressing any commonalities between local officials’ interests, interests of legislators, and ArtsWA’s interests (Arts & Heritage Day).
9. Review Local Action program’s success after each legislative session, re-evaluate, and either adjust or discontinue.

2017-2021 STRATEGIC PLAN

The legislation that established ArtsWA also set the framework for the programs we manage and the way we go about our work. Legislation—and good business practice—requires that our agency follow a strategic plan that is updated every three to four years.

The strategic plan establishes our mission, vision, values, goals, and objectives to ensure that our programs and services are meeting the needs of the public. The Board takes an active role in developing our strategic plan, and the public is asked to weigh in as well. A revised and updated strategic plan was completed in 2016 and passed unanimously by the Board at the July 2016 meeting. It will be valid for the time period of 2017-2021.

Our Mission

The Washington State Arts Commission is a catalyst for the arts, advancing the role of the arts in the lives of individuals and communities throughout the state.

Our Vision

The arts thrive and are celebrated throughout Washington State, and are woven into the fabric of vital and vibrant communities.

Our Values

We believe in...



WASHINGTON STATE
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The Public Value of the Arts

- The arts impact our lives and develop strong schools, communities, and economies.
- The arts are an essential component of basic education for all students.
- The state's artistic resources are vital to Washington's identity and worthy of preservation.
- Public art is an essential, integral part of the state's built environment.
- Artistic excellence is central to meaningful arts experiences.

The Arts as a Catalyst for Inclusiveness, Social Equity, and Racial Justice

- All Washingtonians should have access to and engagement with the arts.
- The arts create social bonds and amplify voices across all populations.
- We seek diversity of perspectives and backgrounds in our committees, staff, and board.
- We support diverse forms of artistic expression.

Leadership in and for the Arts

- We support arts organizations, artists, and arts participants statewide.
- We are accountable to the public and our stakeholders.
- We invest in effective strategies that align with statewide goals and priorities.
- We develop partnerships and collaborations to leverage expertise and resources.
- We operate with flexibility, innovation, integrity, and creativity.

Our Goals

- Expand arts participation in communities across Washington State, with a focus on cultural equity, to ensure all people have access to the arts.
- Build leadership and resources in and for the arts.
- Activate and enhance public buildings and campuses through the acquisition, stewardship, and presentation of the State Art Collection.
- Strengthen arts education as part of and fundamental to K-12 basic education.
- Advance efficient, effective, and relevant practices across all agency programs and services.

[Read the complete ArtsWA 2017-2021 Strategic Plan, Goals, and Objectives.](#)

PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND SERVICES



ArtsWA staff manages three major program areas and several projects that support our strategic plan. The programs form the foundation of our work, but we have the flexibility to add specific projects as the need and funding arise. We have a very small administrative staff to provide program support in the areas of communications and outreach, technology, accounting, and logistics.

Our programs include

- Grants to Organizations
- Art in Public Places
- Arts in Education

Our projects include

- Tracking the State's Creative Economy: Creative Vitality Suite (formerly, Creative Vitality Index)
- Creative Districts State Certification Program
- My Public Art Portal
- Governors Arts & Heritage Awards
- State Poet Laureate program
- Poetry Out Loud
- Washington State Teaching Artist Training Lab
- Washington State Teaching Artists' Roster
- Washington State Heritage Caucus
- Washington Center for Cultural Traditions

Our services include

- Agency and program administration—accounting and logistics
- Memberships and networks (see section below)
- Communications—Enews, website, social media, reports, announcements, news releases
- Technology—online grant applications and webinars

Programs

Our programs are guided by state law and policies, and advance the arts and the agency's mission.

Grants to Organizations

Competitive grants support Washington's non-profit arts organizations and local arts agencies. Funding has become more limited in recent years, so the size of each grant has diminished. However, because of the stringent review process we use in awarding the grants, our money helps to leverage larger donations and grants from other organizations. Grants expand access to arts programs, reduce admission costs, support outreach efforts, encourage working in and with underserved communities, strengthen management practices, and support artistic excellence. For each grant category, staff determines the

application cycles, application forms, guidelines, eligibility requirements, and review criteria established in accordance with the Washington Administrative Code (WAC 30.12).



Grant applications are reviewed by a panel of arts management peers; most grant panels include a Commissioner. Panel recommendations must be approved by the Board.

We offer two programs: Project Support Grants and Cooperative Partnership Grants, described below.

Project Support Grants provide funding for arts organizations, community service groups, and local or tribal governments that host arts events targeted to public audiences in Washington State. The grants support a diversity of performances, exhibitions, workshops, and services to expand arts engagement and arts participation. Goals and guidelines for ArtsWA grants will be revised for FY 2017 through a process involving staff, Board and constituents.

The current FY 2017 Project Support grants accomplish the following:

- Support artistic excellence, defined as demonstrated mastery of skills and techniques, professional approaches to process and presentation, and communication of unique vision or perspective of an artistic effort, event, program, or service.
- Support artistic and cultural development of a community or individuals.
- Broaden access to the arts; expand and diversify the audiences.
- Evaluate and document arts programs by measuring results and using this information for future planning.
- Encourage good management strategies for planning, budgeting, collaborating with community partners, and fund-raising.

Cooperative Partnership Grants for FY 2017 support statewide arts service organizations through partnership contracts that further our mission in supporting artists and arts professionals across Washington State. Application for the Cooperative Partnership Project Support Grants is open to all statewide arts service organizations for FY 2017 grants and all applicants are given equal consideration based on the eligibility requirements and application review criteria. Grants were awarded to:

- **Artist Trust** to support the works of individual artists through training, direct funding support, and advocacy.
- **Arts Northwest** to provide an annual booking conference and other critical services for performing artists, performing arts agents, and presenters and presenting organizations.
- **Centrum** to provide festivals, workshops, training, residencies, and in-depth youth programs (located at Fort Worden State Park, Port Townsend).

Art in Public Places

The Art in Public Places (AIPP) program facilitates the acquisition, placement, and stewardship of public art throughout Washington. Established by the State Legislature in 1974, the program is funded from the state's capital construction budget. By law, 1/2 of 1 percent of construction budgets must be set aside to acquire public art. The law applies to new construction of state agency buildings and public schools, and to new construction and renovation projects exceeding \$200,000 for colleges and universities. Each artwork acquired becomes a part of the State Art Collection. The law also mandates that 15 percent of each art allocation supports ArtsWA for administration of the program. Of the remaining 85 percent, up to a total of \$100,000 is set aside per biennium for conservation of the collection.



Washington was the second state in the nation (after Hawaii) to establish a percent-for-art program. Of the 30 states with percent-for-art programs, only a few include the public school system. Washington State's percent-for-art program is viewed by other percent-for-art programs as a leader in the field.

Public art for each eligible site is commissioned through a local committee process, facilitated by staff from the AIPP program. Managers of the host site form an art selection committee to select the artist, establish criteria and possible locations for the artwork, and approve the design of the artwork. Our role is to manage the funds for the process, ensure that the artist contracts are fulfilled, manage and support the committee through the art selection process, and offer training and technical support for follow up care of the artwork as it becomes part of the State Art Collection.

Public Artist Roster. The art selection committee chooses an artist from our Public Artist Roster. An open competition is held to update the roster every 3 years. A panel consisting of artists and arts professionals is convened to jury the artists' portfolio applications.

State Art Collection. All the artwork acquired through the Art in Public Places program is collectively termed the *State Art Collection*. The Collection, which consists of more than 4,500 artworks, is publicly owned, publicly sited, and publicly selected. One of our roles in guiding the artwork selection process is to help shape the Collection so that it represents the diversity of contemporary artistic production. Notable local, regional, and national artists are represented in the Collection holdings.

Conservation of Artwork and ArtCare Policies. The AIPP program manages conservation of artwork in the State Art Collection in accordance with the *ArtCare* Collections management policies. The sites that house the artwork are stewards of the Collection and are required to provide routine care of artworks. In addition, host sites can contribute funds toward urgent care of the artworks they house. In July 2005, the Legislature approved use of up to \$100,000 of the percent-for-art allocations biennially to help conserve the Collection. ArtsWA leadership is actively working with the Office of Financial Management (OFM) to raise the conservation cap at some point in the not too distant future

Arts in Education

The Arts in Education (AIE) Program supports the arts as an essential part of K–12 education through grants, training, partnerships, and resources. Our arts education strategies support Washington's Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs) in the arts, as well as cultivate community partnerships and champion proven arts education practices.

Community Consortia Grants. These grants help community arts and education partners to build and sustain arts education programs as part of basic education in their local K-12 public schools. Consortium programs often involve multiple arts organizations or agencies, teaching artists, schools and/or districts, parents, and other community partners. These grants require matching funds and leverage significant local support. Funded consortia have received ongoing support through grantee trainings, such as workshops on evaluation and sustainable arts education, and other professional development opportunities.

First Step Grants. These grants support newer and/or smaller arts education partnerships. Like the Community Consortia Grants, successful First Step grantees have goals related to long-term impacts rather than short-term projects. First Step partnerships, however, are likely to be in earlier stages of development, with a narrower focus and/or a smaller group of participants.



Roster of Teaching Artists. This is a juried listing of high-quality teaching artists who are especially well suited for working in K–12 public schools. The teaching artists included in this roster are able to support classroom teachers by making connections between their art form and the Washington state educational standards in the arts. Many of these teaching artists are also skilled in integrating arts concepts with other subject areas, such as combining dance and math, or visual art and literacy. They also may have particular skills and interests related to professional development for classroom teachers, or to working with specific student populations.

PROJECTS

Creative Vitality Suite

ArtsWA has been using the CVSuite™ since it was developed in 2005 to calculate the impact of the arts on Washington’s economy. ArtsWA uses the data from the CVSuite™ to track the state’s creative economy for the Governor’s Results Washington Goal 2 - Prosperous Economy – Quality of Life 4.1 b: Increase the ArtsWA creative vitality index (for Washington State) from 1.02 in 2011 to 1.05 by 2015; remain above national average. Washington’s CVI value has held steady at .97 for the last two years.

The CVSuite™ is an index and research tool that measures annual changes in the economic health of an area by integrating economic data streams from both the for-profit and nonprofit sectors. Using per-capita measurements of revenue data as well as jobs data from a selection of highly creative occupations, the research model for the CVSuite™ involves aggregating the data streams into a single index value that reflects the relative economic health of a geography’s creative economy.)

The subscription costs to gain access to the CVSuite™ are generally prohibitive to small organizations, though considered of great importance. The Washington State Arts Commission is looked to for help in generating local creative impact reports to use for community planning and advocacy. ArtsWA pays an annual CVSuite™ subscription fee and dedicates a portion of one staff member to research, produce, and disseminate the requested information. It has recently negotiated an arrangement with WESTAF to allow communities deeper access to the tool at a greatly reduced price, if arranged through ArtsWA.

Creative Districts State Certification Program

SHB 1183 was signed into law on Monday, May 8, 2017 by Governor Inslee. Its preamble describes it as an act that authorizes specified local governments to designate a portion of their territory as a Creative District, subject to certification by the Washington State Arts Commission. Creative industries are an important part of Washington’s economy in cities big and small across the state. The Certified Creative Districts program will offer vetted districts tailored technical assistance, networking and training programs, access to advocacy tools, and access to tools encouraging development of maker spaces, and affordable housing for creatives who choose to live and work in the districts. The Creative District Certification process focuses on defining specific geographic areas that can attract artists and creative entrepreneurs to a community, infuse new energy and innovation and enhance economic and civic capital. Creative Districts are hubs of economic activity, enhancing the area as an appealing place to live, visit and conduct business, as well as generate new economic activity. Primary recipients are Washington communities, including local government entities and nonprofit cultural organizations within and surrounding the Certified Creative Districts.



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My Public Art Portal

ArtsWA was also successful in securing \$304,000 in additional funding from the Legislature for the 2015-2017 biennium to expand “*My Public Art Portal*.” This dynamic, interactive, virtual technology platform substantially enhances public access to the 4,500 artworks in the Washington State Art Collection. Three additional staff were hired and dedicated to the project, which aims to complete a full physical, hands-on inventory of the State Art Collection by June 30, 2019, and publish all the artworks to the Portal within four years.

Governor’s Arts and Heritage Awards (GAHA)

The Governor’s Arts and Heritage Awards recognize individuals and organizations who have contributed significantly to the arts and cultural development of Washington State. ArtsWA manages the nominations and panel review process; the Board reviews panel recommendations and advises the Governor of its decisions. The Governor approves the final slate of honorees. ArtsWA plans and organizes the annual Governor’s Arts and Heritage Awards (GAHA) dinner and celebration, where awardees are presented with a custom-made “GAHA”, and recognized by the Governor, or his assigned representative, ArtsWA staff and board, family, friends, peers and colleagues.

[Learn more about the Governor’s Arts & Heritage Awards.](#)



Poet Laureate

The Washington State Poet Laureate works to build awareness and appreciation of poetry through public readings, workshops, lectures, and presentations in communities, schools, colleges, universities, and other public settings in geographically diverse areas of the state. The Poet Laureate is appointed by the Governor to serve a 2-year term and receives a small stipend to help cover the cost of providing poetry programs and activities statewide. The program is currently a partnership with Humanities Washington.

Appointed by Governor Jay Inslee in February, 2016, Tod Marshall currently serves as Washington State’s Poet Laureate. Marshall was born in Buffalo, New York. He grew up in Wichita, Kansas. He studied English and philosophy at Siena Heights University, earned an MFA from Eastern Washington University, and graduated with his PhD from The University of Kansas. He directs the writing concentration and coordinates the visiting writers’ series at Gonzaga University where he is the Richard and Ann Powers Chair in the Humanities. As State Poet Laureate, Marshall has focused on three main components:

- Conduct readings and workshops in multiple Washington locations.
- Build two publications that celebrate our state’s poetry.
- Celebrate and build Washington’s poetry talents.

Dr. Marshall’s term as State Poet Laureate expires January 31, 2018. His successor will be identified in late 2017. [Read our State Poet Laureate’s blog.](#)



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Poetry Out Loud

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the Poetry Foundation partner with state arts agencies to support Poetry Out Loud, which encourages the nation's youth to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance. The program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage.

Poetry Out Loud uses a pyramid structure that begins at the classroom level. Winners advance from classroom competitions to school-wide competitions, regionals, and then to the state competition. One student from each state advances to the National Finals. ArtsWA manages the statewide program, in collaboration with regional partners, and produces the state final, held annually in March. An ArtsWA Commissioner is often included on the judging panel for the state final.

Washington State Teaching Artist Training Lab

The Teaching Artist Training Lab (TAT Lab) is a professional development project led by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and ArtsWA in collaboration with key arts education leaders and major arts organizations based in Seattle. TAT Lab is a professional development program for teaching artists working in all artistic disciplines, in all parts of Washington State; the focus of the program is to develop teaching artists' capacity to develop strong arts learning plans and to work effectively in K-12 schools.

Washington State Heritage Caucus

The Washington State Heritage Caucus was organized in 1990 to discuss heritage, arts, and other cultural and recreational issues. The Caucus is a bipartisan gathering of state legislators and other elected officials; staff and representatives from state heritage, arts, and cultural agencies, and nonprofit organizations; and Washington residents interested in supporting Washington's cultural heritage and the arts. The Heritage Caucus is typically co-chaired by two legislators and co-staffed by the Washington State Historical Society (WSHS) and ArtsWA.

Caucus meetings are held very Wednesday during the legislative session from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. in Olympia, on the Capitol Campus in the Cherberg Building conference room A/B. All meetings are open to the public.

To receive email notification of Heritage Caucus meetings and related legislative news, contact Glenda Carino at Glenda.carino@arts.wa.gov or Mark Vessey at the State Capital Museum at mvessey@wshs.wa.gov.

Center for Washington Cultural Traditions

In 2016 the Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA), Humanities Washington (HW), and Northwest Heritage Resources (NWHHR) joined as key partners to establish the Center for Washington Cultural Traditions (CWCT). The purpose of the Center will be to document, explore, and promote the history, art, and traditions of Washington's cultural communities, carrying on the good work previously conducted by ArtsWA and NWHHR. By capitalizing on the strengths of each partner, this collaborative effort will create a strong foundation and leadership for a statewide movement in support of the folk and traditional arts.



SERVICES

Communications

ArtsWA's communications program functions as both an agency program with tangible products and services for external customers and as an administrative position serving staff and Commissioners internally. Communications responsibilities include managing the agency website and social media accounts; producing Enews and Eblasts, briefing papers, and agency publications; conducting research and special projects; and serving as the agency spokesperson when the Executive Director is not available. The Communications Manager is also responsible for public records requests and serves as ArtsWA's legislative liaison.

Administration

The Executive Director leads program staff and administration. The Executive Director's role is to provide leadership and advocacy for the arts statewide, manage agency programs and operations, and serve as chief spokesperson for the agency. The Deputy Director manages the finances and personnel for the agency. The Executive Assistant supports the Board meetings, including logistics such as Commissioner travel and meeting minutes.

Memberships and Networks

As an ArtsWA Board member, Commissioners automatically receive membership in National Assembly for State Arts Agencies, Americans for the Arts, and Grantmakers in the Arts. Commissioners are contacted via email regarding member benefits from each of these organizations.

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) is a membership organization that unites, represents, and serves state and jurisdictional arts agencies. <http://www.nasaa-arts.org/>.

Americans for the Arts (AFTA) is a national nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education through policy, advocacy, research, information, and professional development. www.artsusa.org.

Grantmakers in the Arts (GIA) is the national association of private and public funders who make grants to artists and arts organizations. GIA provides leadership and service to advance the use of philanthropic resources on behalf of arts and culture. www.giarts.org.

WESTAF (Western States Arts Federation) is the regional non-profit arts service organization serving the 13 Western states. Dedicated to the creative advancement and preservation of the arts, WESTAF provides innovative programs and services, technology solutions, funding opportunities, advocacy and cultural policy work, and other services. www.westaf.org.

RULES AND POLICIES



Agency Rules

ArtsWA programs and processes are governed by Title 30 WAC, updated in 2010 as approved by the Board through a year-long rule-making process. Title 30 WAC is available at <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/>.

Statutory Authority

ArtsWA has authority as established in RCW 43.46; the entire RCW is available at <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/>.

Purpose: The conservation and development of the State’s artistic resources [are] essential to the social, educational, and economic growth of the State of Washington. Artists, works of art and artistic institutions contribute to the quality of life and the general welfare of the citizens of the State, and are an appropriate matter of concern to the government of the State of Washington. (RCW 43.46.005)

Powers and duties generally: The commission shall meet, study, plan, and advise the governor, the various departments of the state and the state legislature and shall make such recommendations as it deems proper for the cultural development of the state of Washington. (RCW 43.46.050)

The commission may develop, sponsor, promote, and administer any activity, project, or program within or without this state, which is related to the growth and development of the arts and humanities in the state of Washington and may assist any person or public or private agency to this end. (RCW 43.46.055)

Visual arts program established: The legislature declares it to be a policy of this State that a portion of appropriations for capital expenditures be set aside for the acquisition of works of art to be placed in public buildings or lands. There is hereby established a visual arts program to be administered by the Washington State Arts Commission. (RCW 43.46.090)

State Art Collection: All works of art purchased and commissioned under the visual arts program shall become a part of a state art collection developed, administered, and operated by the Washington State Arts Commission. (RCW 43.46.095)

BOARD TRAVEL

Commissioners’ travel expenses while on Board business are reimbursed by the state, with a few exceptions. You are on Board business, and therefore in travel status, from the time you leave for an ArtsWA meeting until your return. As a Board member, you are welcome to choose not to seek reimbursement for all or some of your expenses, leaving the monies instead, to ArtsWA grants programs and other endeavors. This is however, completely at a board member’s discretion.

Commissioners may travel to meetings using their own vehicle. Use of carpools and public transportation are encouraged whenever possible. [Contact the Executive Assistant](#) for help with travel arrangements by plane or car rental, and use the designated hotel as outlined in the Board packet (or email) for each meeting in order to utilize cost-saving state negotiated rates.

To be reimbursed for travel expenses you **MUST** complete and submit a Statewide Vendor form and W-9, which will be sent to you by the Executive Assistant. Travel expenses are documented on the Travel Expense Voucher sent via email with each Board meeting packet. The following are a few tips to complete this form:



- Submit your travel reimbursement request as soon as possible; print form, complete all information requested including your departure and return times, sign form, scan or take a picture with your cell phone, and return via email with a scanned copy of your receipts, or by USPS. All receipts for hotels, parking, airport shuttles, taxis, and other miscellaneous expenses (especially those that exceed \$25) must be submitted.
- Meals not provided by ArtsWA are reimbursed per the state per diem rate for that location; see www.ofm.wa.gov/resources/travel/colormap.pdf for rates per county as well as mileage and hotel reimbursement rates.
- Meals not provided by ArtsWA must be consumed while in travel status and during specific meal times: Breakfast – 6:30 to 7:30 am; Lunch–12 to 1 pm; Dinner–5:30-6:30 pm.
- Alcoholic beverages are excluded from reimbursement.

All travel vouchers must be submitted in the fiscal year during which expenses were incurred. **The fiscal year ends on June 30.** Legislative Commissioners are not reimbursed by ArtsWA. For more information on state travel regulations, reimbursement rates, or additional questions, contact our staff.

Helpful links include:

Chapter 10, State Accounting travel regulations at

www.ofm.wa.gov/policy/10.htm

www.ofm.wa.gov/resources/travel/colormap.pdf

PUBLIC MEETING CONSIDERATIONS

Open Public Meetings Act

All Board meetings are open to the public, and the public is encouraged to attend. In addition, the Executive Assistant takes minutes that are part of the public record and posted to the ArtsWA website after Board approval at the following Board meeting. Commissioners are asked to keep in mind that any comments made during the Board meeting are subject to public records [Open Public Meetings Act, RCW 42.30].

Use of microphones: To make our meetings more accessible, ArtsWA provides a PA system so that commissioners, audience members, and staff are able to hear the meeting discussions more clearly. Commissioners, staff and presenters are required to use the microphones. On occasion, TVW may tape a Board meeting for future broadcast on its government access channel and use of the microphones are important for broadcast quality.

Required Training

The 2014 Washington State Legislature passed Engrossed Senate Bill 5964, the Open Government Trainings Act. The Governor signed it on March 27, 2014. The Act becomes effective July 1, 2014. Chap. 66, 2014 Laws. Here is a link:

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/summary.aspx?bill=5964&year=2013>.

Under the Act, **members of public agency governing bodies** are to receive training. Training subjects include the Open Public Meetings Act (RCW 42.30), the Public Records Act (RCW 42.56)

and records management and retention under RCW 40.14. Complete this training on the Governor’s website at www.governor.wa.gov in the resources section of the [Boards and Commissions](#) tab, along with other relevant and required training.



Americans with Disabilities Act

Accessibility is an organizational asset and a civil right. ArtsWA complies with all local, state and federal laws and regulations concerning civil and human rights.

Our programs, grants and employment practices are free of discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender or disability. In addition, we are specifically committed to complying with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The ADA requires that all programs, services and activities, when viewed in their entirety, are readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. ArtsWA strives for effective communication with individuals with speech, visual, and hearing disabilities. Materials are available in alternative formats upon request.

In Washington, a person with a disability is defined as a person who has, or is perceived as having, the presence of any physical, mental, or sensory disability or that uses a trained dog guide or service animal. These disabilities are sometimes visible and sometimes not; they can be permanent or temporary; they can affect people of any age; they can be severe or not. In short, disabilities can affect people in many different ways. You should be prepared to welcome everyone, of all abilities.

Chemical Sensitivity Awareness

A significant percentage of people are known to experience harmful physical symptoms when exposed to various chemicals. Even low levels of chemicals can make sensitive people ill. When preparing for a Board meeting or a meeting in ArtsWA offices, please consider not using the following:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Perfume | Highly scented shampoo |
| Cologne/after-shave | Scented fabric softener |
| Scented hand lotion | Highly scented hair products |

OTHER RESOURCES

ArtsWA website at www.arts.wa.gov.

Boards and Commissions Membership Handbook, at www.governor.wa.gov/boards. The handbook includes information relevant to all Board and Commission members serving the state of Washington:

- Role of a Board Member
- Resources available
- Laws affecting board activities
- Board transactions

Online Appointee Training at www.governor.wa.gov/boards under the resources section includes important training required by law for board members.

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS



WASHINGTON STATE
ARTS COMMISSION

Agency

AERI	Arts Education Research Initiative
AIE	Arts in Education
AIPP	Art in Public Places
APLI	Arts Participation Leadership Initiative
CPP	Cooperative Partnerships Grants
CVI	Creative Vitality Index
FDR	Final Descriptive Report (submitted annually to NEA)
FSG	First Step Grants
GAHA	Governors Arts & Heritage Awards
GO	Grants to Organizations
LAO	Large Arts Organizations
MAO	Mid-Size Arts Organizations
PBJ	Planning and Budget Jam
POL	Poetry Out Loud
PDS	Professional Development Support Grants
RoTA	Roster of Teaching Artists
TAT	Lab – Teaching Artist Training
WSAC	Washington State Arts Commission (Used prior to 2012, now known as ArtsWA)

State

AFRS	Agency Financial Reporting System
CMS	Consolidated Mail Services
CTS	Consolidated Technology Services (Used prior to 2015, now known as WaTech)
DES	Department of Enterprise Services
DRS	Department of Retirement Systems
EFT	Electronic Funds Transfer
ESS	Employee Self Service
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
FY	Fiscal Year
HRMS	Human Resources Management System
L&I	Department of Labor & Industries



LMS	Learning Management System
OCIO	Office of the Chief Information Officer
OFM	Office of Financial Management
OSPI	Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
PDP	Performance and Development Plan
PERS	Public Employees' Retirement System
PPDS	Personnel and Payroll Data System
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
SAFS	Small Agency Financial Services
SOS	Secretary of State
SWV	Statewide Vendor form
TEMS	Travel & Expense Management System
WAC	Washington Administrative Code

Arts Organizations

AFTA	Americans for the Arts
BFA	Building for the Arts
GIA	Grantmakers in the Arts
LAA	Local Arts Agencies
NASAA	National Assembly of State Arts Agencies
NEA	National Endowment for the Arts
SAA	State Arts Agencies
WSAA	Washington State Arts Alliance
WESTAF	Western States Arts Federation

Other

501(c)(3)	IRS Tax-Exempt Status
504	Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act (protects from discrimination due to disability)
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
DEI	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
EALR	Essential Academic Learning Requirement
IRS 990	Return of Organization exempt from income tax