



Complete ArtsWA's Collections Care team to preserve Washington's world-class public art

Safeguard artworks with cost-effective safety checks and specialized maintenance for the Collection.

Operating Budget Request

| | |
|------|-----------|
| FY25 | \$317,214 |
| FY26 | \$451,842 |

Not funded
in the Governor's budget

Washington's State Art Collection comprises one of the most significant statewide collections of public art in the country.

However, our history of underfunding the care of the Collection makes it impossible—at present—to address all but the most immediate demands. The State has already removed almost 250 artworks from the Collection due to damage.

The Legislature has already funded one temporary and three permanent technicians that understand art materials and techniques. This staffing request completes our team and protects the state's vital investment in public art.

The problem: a shortage of specialists

The State Art Collection in brief:

- Valued at more than \$46 million
- Features over 5,000 artworks
- Sited at over 1,300 locations statewide

These artworks improve K-12 schools, college and university campuses, and state agency facilities. They require specialized maintenance that must be performed by trained technicians. ArtsWA will hire the necessary staff to perform this maintenance.

What does this fund?

ArtsWA will use these monies to:

- Hire a collections technician
- Make a temporary technician position permanent
- Hire commensurate administrative support to ensure that the technicians maximize their time caring for artworks

These positions will:

- Establish a regular maintenance schedule
- Address deferred maintenance needs
- Repair, install, and de-install artworks

The investment

Funding this request will complete ArtsWA's collections care team and ensure that Washington's multi-million dollar statewide investment will be safeguarded by trained professionals. Communities can confidently draw civic pride from this celebrated collection for decades to come.



Right: ArtsWA Conservation Manager Adam Fah carefully restores a work in the State Art Collection.

Top: Artist Mary Cassatt's *Surge* sculpture, located at Bainbridge High School on Bainbridge Island, represents a positive forward force. The fern is engraved with words and phrases on the theme "Becoming and Learning."