



## Board Chair's Report

Charlie Robin, Board Chair, ArtsWA Board of Commissioners

### **Above all, remember, the squeaky wheel gets the grease...**

This period in our commission calendar is always dynamic as we pair our quarterly meeting with Arts, Heritage & Science Day (AHS) in Olympia. While I appreciate that not everyone is available to join us in Olympia for all the festivities, I do encourage you to participate as fully as possible, whether that is in person or virtually.

As commissioners, we spend the year working with Karen and the ArtsWA staff to set priorities and then work with them to achieve the related goals and objectives. This is the time of year when we work with our legislators to secure the resources required to meet those commitments. While the legislators gather to define the budget for this upcoming year, Arts, Heritage & Science (AHS) day is the time to share our priorities with our legislators.

We are not the only industry with a defined day to meet with our legislators during this session. We are probably not the only industry represented on this particular day. Nonetheless, if we aren't in the mix making our appeal, then our legislators may not understand our needs or consider them when tough decisions are being made.

The staff has created exceptional materials that define our top priorities and summarize the impact of each item. The Governor has submitted his budget, which includes some of our priorities. Our time with legislators helps us underscore what is included already and make a case for what isn't. For those items that don't make the cut this year, we are setting the stage for follow up conversations for the next year's more substantial budget conversations.

AHS is not the only time to deliver this message. The time before and the period after are also ideal for meeting with, contacting, and sharing with our legislators. If you don't already have a personal relationship with the legislators in your district, then this is the perfect time to begin creating one.

And don't forget the legislative staff. These gatekeepers often set the legislator's schedule and certainly have their ear often more than anyone else. The advocacy team and staff are available to assist you, so don't be shy about reaching out.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

Charlie Robin, Board Chair

February 8, 2024

# Executive Director's Report

to the ArtsWA Board of Commissioners

February 8, 2024

## State Budget

The legislative session opened on Mon, January 9, 2024. Lawmakers got off to a quick start, passing several bills the first day. This “short” session will last through March 7. We expect to see a final budget shortly after that but will know a week or so before that date, what ArtsWA is likely to receive. Our efforts are focusing on retaining all the allocations that were included in the Governor's budget in the final budget. We are also spending time introducing the idea of a more robust allotment to the Arts Commission in the next budget (\$2 per capita as a start) and a change from ½ to 1% for the state's public art program. We will work with the budget office and legislators to develop and refine these and other budget requests for submission to the biennial budget later this year.

## Creative Economy Strategic Planning Committee

The creative economy planning committee, which I am a part of, wrapped up its work in December 2023. At the time of writing, the report entitled “Growing and Strengthening the Creative Economy” has been approved by the Department of Commerce and is waiting for approval by the budget office. The plan has four strategic priorities. They are:

- a) Equitable access to resources (accessible business support and digital equity and access).
- b) Investment in livability
- c) Creative talent pipeline
- d) Creative entrepreneur and workforce development

ArtsWA and especially our Creative Districts program are identified as potential partners for many aspects of the plan. As examples, ArtsWA and/or the Creative Districts program are called out in multiple areas of the report.

- Increased Direct State Investment in the Creative Economy: Increase state funding of artists, arts and cultural nonprofits, and creative business through state investments (through Commerce, ArtsWA, and other state departments).
- Stronger Creative Districts Program: Increase support of statewide creative districts programs (Districts) and enhance through use of incentives and other economic development strategies.
- Explore sales tax abatement for sale of creative goods and services within creative districts, an artist housing incentive, and other incentives.

The plan is to develop decision packages for the next biennial budget session rather than this session. We will work closely with Shannon Halberstadt and the Department of Commerce as plans and strategies firm up.

### ArtsWA part of NEH grant to protect public art from natural disasters

Thanks to the hard work of Janae Huber, our Collections Manager and key staff and partners, we are pleased to announce that the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) will fund a project at the Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA) and four other collections across the country to expand emergency preparedness planning for public art. The grant was one of 260 humanities projects across the country to receive funding. ArtsWA partnered with the Midwest Art Conservation Center (MACC) on the plan, which will identify public artworks in hazardous spaces and develop preservation plans in case of emergencies.

“Public art collections have unique challenges before and during emergencies, including their geographic spread.” said Janae Huber, the Collections Manager for the State Art Collection. “In the case of a catastrophic emergency, ArtsWA may need to respond across multiple counties.”

We are excited to work with MACC—supported by the NEH—to better protect Washington’s State Art Collection before and after an emergency.

### Federal Budget: NEA 2024 Funding Awaits Action in Congress

Congress returned to Washington DC during the second week of January following a lengthy holiday recess. They are now working with a tight timeline to fund the federal government for the remainder of the federal fiscal year 2024 (which began on October 1, 2023, and ends on September 30, 2024). You may recall that when Congress [extended current funding](#) for the federal government in November, it chose to fund some agencies only until January 19; the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is one of the agencies that has funding in place until February 2.

At the time of writing, a solution might be challenging given the deep divides between the two sides. The crux of the disagreement is based on the fact that Democrats—and Senate Republicans—feel that the top-line number should be the figure already signed into law as part of the [bipartisan debt-limit deal](#) passed last year. Republican leadership in the House, however, is seeking even deeper reductions.

Also, as pointed out by our colleagues at the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA), negotiations are further complicated by a debt-limit agreement provision that garnered little attention at the time of its passage: It says that if Congress has not passed all 12 funding bills by April 30 of this year, a mandatory spending reduction of 1% (known as sequestration) would be put into effect. At the time of the bill’s passage, the risk of such a scenario seemed low, but given the relentless discord, it remains a possibility. Fortunately, a bipartisan group of senators is urging Congress to support the previously agreed upon spending levels, so that Congress can set about finalizing the appropriations process. If they prevail, it is likely that we would see level funding maintained for the NEA. As well as being much better than a cut, a vote to maintain the

NEA's funding at FY2023 levels would also be indicative of the support the agency enjoys in a bipartisan way for its work and impact.

### Travel: Australia Study and Trade Mission:

Immediately following the October board meeting, I set off for Australia and Tasmania as part of an International Trade Mission organized by the Governor and his office. There were around 50 delegates including Governor and Trudi Inslee and executive members of his staff. Other delegates included representatives from the Port of Seattle, Port of Everett, the Department of Commerce, Seattle Chamber of Commerce, the Clean Tech Alliance, the University of Washington, Washington state University, the Directors of SeaTac airport and Paine Field, Microsoft, the Washington State Women's Commission, various clean energy, and high-tech specialists, and me, championing ArtsWA, the arts, culture and the creative economy. We started by leaping over time zones and moving 18 hours ahead as we made our way to Australia and our first port of call-Sydney. This spacious, coastal, welcoming city was followed by a plane ride to Hobart Tasmania for three wonderful days, and then another plane ride back to Melbourne. The format in each visited location was similar in that there were meetings that all or most delegates attended together, and others organized specifically for an individual or small group. As I was the only delegate focused on the creative economy, I had most of my meetings alone. My meetings included:

- John Wardle, Director, Australia Live Music Office
- Tracey Callinan, Director, Regional Arts New South Wales
- Meeting/Tour Sydney Opera House
- David Sudmalis, Director, Arts Tasmania
- Alex Sangston, Director, Screen Tasmania
- Mary Mulcahy, Director, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery
- Tourism Tasmania
- Paul Stephanus, Director, Australian Wooden Boat Festival
- Stuart Koop Director, Ruth Barker and team, Creative Victoria (Melbourne)
- Justice Nelson, Head, First peoples Experiences, Bunjilaka aboriginal Cultural Centre, Melbourne

### National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) Meeting: Santa Fe, NM.

Starting in 2023, the National Assembly of State Art Agencies (NASAA) switched to an Executive Forum model in alternate years. Executive Forums are smaller gatherings for the executive and deputy/assistant directors of state and jurisdictional arts agencies. These meetings are opportunities for in-depth, professionally facilitated dialogue about the most pressing issues facing state arts agencies. The emphasis is on peer learning and conversations with colleagues. This change responded to several trends:

- i. **Turnover:** The last few years have seen a lot of leadership change within the state arts agency field. Simultaneously, the pandemic disrupted organic opportunities for peer networking. To facilitate meaningful networking, NASAA's 2023 Executive Forum will

create a cohort experience that helps members connect with their counterparts in other states.

- ii. **Today's challenges:** State arts agencies are grappling with complicated and sensitive issues—the kinds of challenges that require time for reflection and deeper conversations, in a setting where candor and trust can be built. A skillfully facilitated face-to-face forum will address these needs in ways that a typical conference structure cannot.

The forum focused on the following priority issues facing executive and deputy directors in their public-sector leadership roles. It was aimed at helping state arts agencies to succeed in navigating complex issues such as:

- iii. **Today's Policy Environment:** Identify emerging policy trends affecting state arts agencies as well as strategic partnerships that can strengthen our work.
- iv. **Serving All Constituents:** Exchange ideas for the design of responsive programs and ways of reducing barriers to support.
- v. **Funding Practices:** Learn about grant-making innovations, panel adjudication practices, legislative earmarks and more.
- vi. **Management:** Find out how your colleagues in other states are coping with workforce shortages and staff burnout while building resilient staff teams.
- vii. **Emergent Issues:** The agenda allowed opportunities for discussion of topics that arose organically from the group and had timely relevance to participants.

## Cultural Access Vote for King County: Update

Cultural Access Washington, known as Doors Open in Seattle passed unanimously (9-0) through councilmanic action on Dec 5, 2023. This action imposes a .01% sales tax on residents and is anticipated to cost approximately \$40 per household per year. 4Culture will manage the monies for the next 7 years, or until the tax must be renewed. Tax collection will start in April 2024. 4Culture says that its focus for the program will be on equitable outcomes, increased accessibility, and sustained support. To manage a large addition of approximately \$75 million dollars to their budget in 2024 and closer to \$100 million dollars in 2025, 4Culture is already working to add 15-20 new staff to the agency. They have an implementation plan that is in development that is due to the Seattle City Council in July for their approval. In August, they will launch two programs – a one-time capital program and a one-time operating support program. The Council will be fairly involved this year with the two one-time endeavors. 2025 will see the launch of the full Doors Open program.

## Strategic Plan refresh and metrics review

We continue to work with Richard and Anna Linzer to refresh and further refine our 2022-2027 strategic plan. ArtsWA managers have been very involved, with Michael Wallenfels, Annette Roth and Deane Shellman playing lead roles. To streamline the task and keep things manageable, we are focused on the metrics that are needed for reporting purposes.

These include metrics relevant to the information asked for each year by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), internal focused metrics we use to populate the “dashboard” shared with the Board and metrics useful to our evolving Pro Equity Anti Racism (PEAR) work. The work continues with a managers retreat in March, as well as regular interaction with all staff. We hope to have more specifics to share in May or August.

### Billy Frank Jr., Statuary Hall Project

On January 10, a milestone was celebrated when the 4-foot version of the Billy Frank Jr., statue was unveiled by Chair Willie Frank III, Peggen Frank and Haiying Wu. This well attended event was held in the State Reception Room in the State Capitol Building in Olympia. Lieutenant Governor Denny Heck was the MC and host. Governor Inslee, Chair Frank, Artist Haiying Wu, Representative Lekanoff and others spoke about Billy Frank’s influence and impact.

Once completed, Mr. Wu’s full-scale statue design will be sent to a Washington-based foundry to be cast in bronze—twice. One statue will be sent to the National Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C., and the second will make its home at the State Capitol in Olympia, Washington. ArtsWA facilitated the artist selection process, consults on the project’s upcoming milestones, and is managing the acquisition, fabrication, and installation processes.



*Respectfully Submitted,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Hanan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Karen J. Hanan

## Welcome: New ArtsWA Staff



**Korja Giles (Budget Analyst)** joined the ArtsWA team as a budget analyst in March 2023. Prior to this, she worked for several years at a local credit union and nearly a decade at a non-profit arts organization. She's excited to bring those two worlds together and support the amazing work being done by the ArtsWA team. She holds a BA in Performing Arts from The Evergreen State College.



**Alcamy Henriksen (Conservation Technician)** joined ArtsWA in the summer of 2023 as a Conservation Technician for the Art in Public Places Program. She has been working in conservation for over a decade with private practice conservators, among them Bynon Arts Services, as well as for The Tennessee State Museum, The Museum of Fine Arts Boston, and The Notarial Archives in New Orleans. A Graduate of The North Bennet Street School in Boston she specializes in book and paper conservation and is currently pursuing another degree at The Evergreen State College. Alcamy is a classically trained bookbinder and practicing artist focusing on photography, alternative processes, and 2D art.



**Lauren Iida (Project Manager, Art in Public Places)**



**Rebecca Merkley (Project Manager, Art in Public Places)**



**Kalei Matsui (Program Coordinator, Arts in Education)** joined ArtsWA July 2023 and serves as the Arts in Education Program Coordinator. Previously, she held roles as Master Teaching Artist with Arts Corps and Director of Museum Services at the Wing Luke Museum of Asian Pacific American Experience. An artist in dance, music, and lei, Kalei is currently the Founding Leader of Polynesian Dance Troupe Huraiti Mana. Kalei views the arts as a powerful vessel for igniting cultural pride and cultivating belonging. She holds a BA in Creative Writing from Seattle University where she also studied entrepreneurship and design.



**Carina A. del Rosario (Program Specialist, Arts in Education)** coordinates the Washington Youth Arts Leadership program. Outside of her role at ArtsWA, Carina serves as faculty for the Washington State Teaching Artist Training Lab and as an independent teaching artist. Her own visual art has been presented at the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, the City of Seattle's ARTS at King Street, and in public places around King County. She was presented with the KCTS' Golden Apple Award for Innovation in Education in 2020, and the International Examiner's Individual Community Voice Award in 2013.



**Gabriella Smith (Administrative Assistant, Wellness, Arts, and the Military)** joined the Arts Commission in October 2023 as the Wellness, Arts, and the Military (WAM) Administrative Assistant. With a strong passion for the arts, coupled with a military upbringing, Gabriella brings a deep appreciation for veterans and military-connected individuals. She is a dedicated administrative professional with experience in government agencies and non-profits, holding a Bachelor of Arts in Music Business with Summa Cum Laude honors, and currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Music Industry.





**Cheryl Wilcox (Program Manager, Tribal Cultural Affairs)** joined ArtsWA in October 2023 as the Tribal Cultural Affairs Program Manager. She is working statewide to enhance Tribal Arts and Culture in and for Tribal Communities. She has more than 15 years of experience collaborating with Tribes on multiple projects. She is passionate about supporting Tribes and the development of programs that are respectful and honor cultural values, traditions, and history. Cheryl is an enrolled member of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe and is active in her own culture, traditions, ceremonies, and honoring ancestral knowledge.



**Todd Clark (Program Coordinator, Tribal Cultural Affairs)**

# Board Meeting Minutes

Washington State Arts Commission - Thursday, September 7, 2023 / Virtual

## Commissioners Present

Robin Avni  
Claudia Castro Luna  
Tony Ginn  
Ryan Hardesty  
Jasmine Mahmoud, PhD  
Tisa Matheson  
Noël Moxley  
Catherine Nueva España, Second Vice Chair  
Justin Raffa, Chair  
Charlie Robin  
Star Rush  
Krishna Thiagarajan  
Senator Lisa Wellman

## Commissioners Absent

Senator Matt Boehnke  
Lou Oma Durand  
Reinaldo Gil Zambrano  
Dr. Kelvin Frank  
Representative Jacquelin Maycumber  
Joan McBride  
Terry Morgan  
Rosanna Sharpe, First Vice Chair  
Judy Tuohy  
Representative Sharon Wylie

## ArtsWA Staff Present

Michelle Avitia, Art in Public Places (AIPP) Program Coordinator  
Daniya Baisubanova, WAM Program Coordinator  
Bryan Bales, Wellness, Arts and the Military (WAM) Program Manager  
Judy Cullen, Arts in Education (AIE) Program Coordinator  
Korja Giles, Fiscal Analyst  
Miguel Guillén Grants to Organizations (GTO) Program Manager  
Karen Hanan, Executive Director  
Linnea Ingalls, GTO Program Coordinator  
Adrienne Kerrigan, Community  
Tamar Krames, AIE Program Manager  
Britt Madsen, GTO Program Coordinator  
Leslie Pope, Executive Assistant  
Annette Roth, Community Development Manager  
Alexis Sarah, Early Learning Project Manager  
Mike Sweney, AIPP Program Manager  
Michael Wallenfels, Communications Manager

## Guests & Speakers

Dinah LeDuc, Legislative Assistant to Senator Boehnke

For a full transcript of the meeting, please view recording at: [https://youtu.be/raZfmSF\\_ils](https://youtu.be/raZfmSF_ils)

## Call to Order / Land Acknowledgement / Roll Call

Robin, ArtsWA Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. and gave the land acknowledgement. Roll call was conducted, and a quorum was verified. The public comment rules were shared.

A MOTION to approve the agenda was made by Senator Wellman, seconded by Castro Luna, and passed unanimously.

## Governor's Arts & Heritage Awards

Roth reviewed the list of panel recommended honorees (*packet pp. 1-4*). Castro Luna stated she was impressed and inspired by the choices for this year's awards. She feels a rush of pride to be a

constituent of a state and supports the arts in this way and thanked the selection committee for their work to select these nominees. Roth agreed that all the finalists were very strong, and it took deep discussion to select the final honorees.

A MOTION to approve the panel recommendations for the Governor's Arts & Heritage Awards was made by Ginn and seconded by Senator Wellman. There no conflicts of interest. The motion passed unanimously.

Only after Governor Inslee has approved the recommendations are they made official, and the results made public.

## Grants to Organizations

Guillén explained that additional funds of \$300,000 were found during the close of the fiscal year budget. Ingalls, Grants to Organizations Program Coordinator, reviewed the funding guidelines to disperse these additional funds.

A MOTION to approve the panel's recommendation for an increase of \$10,000 to FY24 Art Service Organization grants as provided in the packet was made by Ginn and seconded by Castro Luna second. One conflict of interest: Thiagarajan (Inspire WA). The motion passed with one recusal.

A MOTION to ratify the Executive Director's decision to approve the panel's recommendation for FY24 General Operation Support: Sustaining for Small and Midsize Organizations totaling \$166,000 as provided in the packet was made by Avni and seconded by Mahmoud. There were no conflicts of interest. The motion passed unanimously.

A MOTION to ratify the Executive Director's decision to approve the panel's recommendation for FY24 General Operation Support: Sustaining for Large Organizations totaling \$112,000 as provided in the packet was made by Ginn and seconded by Mahmoud. There were two conflicts of interest: Thiagarajan (Music of Remembrance), Robin (Capitol Theatre Committee) and Nueva España (Centrum). The motion passed with two recusals.

Hanan explained that at the end of the fiscal year, the budget is closed out. There were monies saved on federal monies that can be rolled forward to the next fiscal year. We cannot spend that roll over money until all bills are paid several months after June 30, 2023.

## Public Comment

No members of the public were present to make comment.

## Adjourn

Robin adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

# Board Meeting Minutes

Washington State Arts Commission - Monday, October 30, 2023 / Virtual

## Commissioners Present

Robin Avni  
Lou Oma Durand  
Reinaldo Gil Zambrano  
Tony Ginn  
Ryan Hardesty  
Jasmine Mahmoud, PhD  
Tisa Matheson  
Representative Jacquelin Maycumber  
Joan McBride  
Terry Morgan  
Noël Moxley  
Catherine Nueva España, Second Vice Chair  
Justin Raffa  
Charlie Robin, Chair  
Star Rush  
Rosanna Sharpe, First Vice Chair  
Krishna Thiagarajan  
Representative Sharon Wylie

## Commissioners Absent

Senator Matt Boehnke  
Claudia Castro Luna  
Dr. Kelvin Frank  
Judy Tuohy  
Senator Lisa Wellman

## ArtsWA Staff Presenters

Bryan Bales, Wellness, Arts & the Military Program Manager  
Miguel Guillén Grants to Organizations (GTO) Program Manager  
Karen Hanan, Executive Director  
Janae Huber, Art in Public Places (AIPP) Collections Manager  
Linnea Ingalls, GTO Program Coordinator  
Ashley Marshall, GTO Program Assistant  
Annette Roth, Community Development Manager  
Deane Shellman, Deputy Director  
Mike Sweney, AIPP Program Manager  
Michael Wallenfels, Communications Manager

## Guests & Speakers

Madeline Cooper, Project Conservator, and preventive conservation specialist  
David Foster, WESTAF Lobbyist  
Nicole Grabow, Project Manager and Director of Preventive Conservation at the Midwest Art Conservation Center, Minneapolis

For a full transcript of the meeting, please view the recording at:

<https://tvw.org/video/washington-state-arts-commission-2023101146/?eventID=2023101146>

## Call to Order / Land Acknowledgement / Roll Call

Robin, ArtsWA Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. Matheson gave the land acknowledgement. Roll call was conducted, and a quorum was verified. The public comment rules were shared.

A MOTION to approve the agenda was made by Sharpe, seconded by Nueva España, and passed unanimously.

## Board Chair's Report

Robin reviewed his report (packet p. 1). He asked that Commissioners responsibly confirm their attendance prior to the meeting so that a quorum can be assured. Responsible use of state resources also relies on an accurate headcount. Agency staff can only provide education on agency issues. Advocacy is the role of board commissioners. He reminded commissioners to be mindful that meetings are recorded and become a public record. Emails are also part of the public record. He thanked commissioners that have joined the Executive Committee (members listed on [www.arts.wa.gov](http://www.arts.wa.gov)), and Thiagarajan for assuming the role of Advocacy Chair.

## Executive Director's Report

Hanan reviewed her report (packet pp. 2-6), the budget report (packet pp. 7-18), and strategic plan dashboard update (handout). Shellman reviewed the budget report details indicating the budget is on track. The report was for information only; no action was required. The strategic plan dashboard is being updated to better reflect measurement metrics for goal accomplishment.

## Approve Consent Agenda

- Minutes of August 1-2, 2023 Board Meeting (packet pp. 19-25)
- Minutes of September 7, 2023 Board Meeting (packet pp. 26-28)

A MOTION to accept the consent agenda was made by Ginn and seconded by Thiagarajan. There were no changes to the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

## Art in Public Places

### Approve K-12 Pooling

Sweney, AIPP Program Manager, reviewed the K-12 pooling process. ArtsWA works with Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to determine all K-12 schools eligible for site-responsive art projects. ArtsWA provides eligible schools with the opportunity to apply to participate, and panelists review applications then make recommendations that are brought to the board for approval. Castro Luna was the ArtsWA commissioner serving on this panel (packet pp. 29-30). The application was simplified to increase accessibility for K-12 school participation, particularly in underserved locations. Nueva España commended AIPP for continuing to reduce barriers to participate in this process.

A MOTION to approve panel recommendations for K-12 pooling was made by McBride and seconded by Ginn. There were no conflicts of interest. The motion passed unanimously.

### Approve Deaccession

Huber, ArtsWA Collections Manager, reviewed the reasons for deaccession and its process, which ensures the artist has a voice in the decision making process (packet pp. 31-32).

A MOTION to ratify the executive director's decision to deaccession Parks Anderson's Helen's Place (1982) at the West Sound Technical Skills Center was made by McBride and seconded by Sharp. There were no conflicts of interest. The motion passed unanimously.

### Public Art Emergency Planning Pilot Project

Huber, ArtsWA Conservation Manager, provided an overview of this project (packet p. 33). This project is for information only; no motion is needed. Emergency plans are an important part of collection care. Nicole Grabow, Project Manager and Director of Preventive Conservation at the Midwest Art Conservation Center, Minneapolis explained that most public art collections presuppose that the collection is in one location. For ArtsWA, the State Art Collection resides in thousands of locations throughout the state. Madeline Cooper, Project Conservator and preventive conservation specialist, reviewed the process for inclusion in the pilot project. Pilot counties and pilot artworks are diverse and represent locations and artwork materials types throughout the State. Huber, Grabow, and Cooper have worked together to explore remote risk assessment tools to address risk management and emergency response for Washington State. If fully funded and when the project is completed, it will become a model for art collections throughout the nation.

### Creative Districts

Roth, Community Development Manager, reviewed panel recommendations to certify several new Creative Districts including Bremerton, Anacortes, and Newport (packet pp. 34-35).

A MOTION to ratify the panel recommendations approval for Creative Districts certification for Bremerton, Anacortes, and Newport was made by Avni and seconded by Ginn. The motion passed unanimously with no conflicts of interest.

### Introduction to Public Records Requests

Wallenfels, Communications Manager, is the agency's public records officer (packet pp. 36-37). All records maintained by state and local agencies are available for public inspection unless law specifically exempts them. He reviewed the process including types of records and exemptions.

### Grants to Organizations Update

Guillén provided an overview of recent grants and statistics (packet p. 38). Marshall, GTO Program Assistant, provided a comparison of requests in light of funds available. There are more requests than funds available. She reviewed one application where the request was \$12,000 and the organization scored high, but the organization could not be funded because of federal funding changes. Ingalls, GTO Program Coordinator, explained that National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) restrictions no longer allow funding fiscally responsible organizations. This impacts funding for organizations that score highly in the panel process but cannot be funded. Small and fiscally sponsored organizations typically are unable to afford the costs and staffing needs to apply for 501(c)3 status, so they use fiscal agents. With this federal restriction, this has become

an equity issue. ArtsWA is struggling to address this issue, which puts a huge strain on state funds for underserved communities.

## Wellness, Arts & the Military

Bales, WAM Program Manager, provided an overview of General Operating Support Grants FY 2024 (handout), which provides up to \$35,000 to organizations that offer arts programs to military connected individuals and communities. For the purposes of this grant, "military connected individuals" is defined as U.S. military active-duty service members, guardsmen, reservists, veterans, and their families and caretakers.

A MOTION to approve the panel's recommendation for FY 2024 WAM General Operating Support Grants as provided in the handout was made by Ginn and seconded by McBride. There were two conflicts of interest: Thiagarajan (Seattle Opera) and Morgan (Oak Harbor Music Festival). The motion passed with two recusals.

## Advocacy

Thiagarajan, Advocacy Chair, said this is going to be a very important legislative session. Hanan emphasized the \$2 per capita request is vital because the current reality of federal funding changes has created a greater need for state funds. Foster said the Governor's budget will be published in mid-December. Legislative session begins on January 8 through March 7, 2024. This is a short session with a constrained timeframe. There are two issues: 1. what commissioners do between now and when the Governor's budget is published, and then 2. advocacy during the legislative session.

Commissioners can contact the Governor's office now regarding the importance of arts sector funding and encourage support of ArtsWA decision package issues in the Governor's budget. It is important to emphasize the ongoing support that the arts sector brings in economic revenue generation throughout the State.

In this interim time, it is important to meet with legislators because relationship building prior to session has an impact on accessibility during session. Commissioners can discuss ArtsWA priorities and what is happening within their districts. Local impacts play a role in legislator decision making. These relationships can be useful for many years to come, for legislators who hold office for the next few years.

## Public Comment

No members of the public were present to make comment.

## Adjourn

Robin adjourned the meeting at 4:42 p.m.

# Billy Frank Jr. Statue Replacement Project

## Update

*Washington State passed legislation in 2021 to send a statue of activist and humanitarian Billy Frank Jr. to National Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C. The statue is currently slated for installation in 2025.*

The Subject: Billy Frank Jr.

Billy Frank Jr. was a Nisqually tribal member who fought tirelessly to ensure that the United States government would honor the promises made in the treaties with Washington tribes. His activism and perseverance paved the way for the “Boldt decision” in *United States v. Washington*, which affirmed the right of Washington treaty tribes to take up to half of the harvestable salmon in western Washington, reaffirmed tribal treaty reserved rights, and established the tribes as comanagers of the salmon resource.

The Legislation: House Bill 1372

Representative Debra Lekanoff (D-40th) introduced House Bill 1372 in 2021 to replace the statue of Marcus Whitman in National Statuary Hall with Billy Frank Jr. The legislation notes that “Billy Frank Jr. dedicated his life advocating for equality, justice, and environmental protections. He fought to protect tribal treaty rights, native cultures and traditions, and the natural resources they are based upon.

The Artist: Haiying Wu

Haiying Wu was born in China and attended the Sichuan Fine Arts Institute. He worked as a sculptor and created public artworks in China. Wu emigrated to the United States and received his Master of Fine Arts in sculpture from the University of Washington. He has created well known memorials around the Pacific Northwest, including the *Fallen Firefighters Memorial* in Seattle’s Pioneer Square neighborhood.

Where the project stands now

Mr. Wu’s maquette (a roughly half-scale model) was approved by the Billy Frank Jr. National Statuary Hall Selection Committee on January 10, 2024. The approval was followed shortly by a public unveiling at the Washington State Capitol.

The maquette must next be approved by the Architect of the Capitol. Washington State will send the Architect of the Capitol a document with photos of the maquette and a description of the intended final statue design.

After the maquette is approved, Mr. Wu will begin work on the full-scale statue. He will work at South Puget Sound Community College for 4-6 months to complete the clay design, which will then be cast into bronze by a foundry.

ArtsWA and Nisqually Indian Tribe are working together closely to communicate this project to the public. Our media contractor, Children of the Setting Sun, will release the first in a series of videos in late February, and we are in early discussions with NWPB for extended journalistic coverage of the project. We produced an interpretive display for the Lieutenant Governor’s



office, where the maquette is currently on display, in addition to a trifold brochure. We have surveyed the coming 18 months for event and educational opportunities. We maintain an ever-expanding and ever-deepening website that details the story and milestones of this project.

This statue project is a once-in-a-generation effort. ArtsWA is honored to collaborate with the Nisqually Indian Tribe on this incredible opportunity.

*Submitted by:*

Michael Wallenfels, Communications Manager

February 1, 2024

## Wellness, Arts, and the Military

### FY24 Self-directed Art Program recommendations

See Reference on following page for program details.

January 2024

A total of 52 applications were submitted for review during the application period (10/16/2023 – 11/27/2023) The Panel recommended 41 of the 52 applications for funding in December 2023.

On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, the Washington State Arts Commission Executive Director approved the panel's recommendation for funding totaling \$109,515.

Recommendation

That the Board ratify the Executive Director's decision to approve the panel's recommendation for FY24 Self-directed Art Practice Grants as provided in the packet.

*Submitted by:*

Bryan Bales, Wellness, Arts, and the Military, Program Manager

January 19, 2024

## Reference

### Wellness, Arts, and the Military Self-directed Art Practice Grant Program Background

This grant supports U.S. military-connected individuals. SAP grant funds help you find your voice and pursue personal growth through the arts. Research shows the benefits of a committed arts practice. They help military-connected individuals transition to civilian life by promoting independence and creativity. They also relieve stress and anxiety.

The SAP Grant provides a one-time grant to pay for costs associated with taking time (up to four weeks) to practice art.

FY23 SAP Grants support project dates between January 1, 2024, and June 30, 2024. Funded projects must take place in Washington State.

#### Funding amounts

- Grants up to \$3,000
- No funding match required

#### Eligibility:

- a U.S. military active-duty service member, guardsman, reservist, or veteran
- a spouse or registered domestic partner of a U.S. military active-duty service member, guardsman, reservist, or veteran
- a child (at least 18 years old) of a U.S. military active-duty service member, guardsman, reservist, or veteran
- be a current Washington State resident
- be pursuing an art practice (Visual arts, literary arts, dance, music, theater, media arts\*, traditional/folk arts)

## Wellness, Arts, and the Military

### Self-directed Art Practice grant recommendations for funding

Per WAC 30-12-015, recommendations not to exceed \$5,000 can be approved by the Executive Director and require ratification by the Board before they are official. Direct any public inquiries to staff.

Please review this list per WAC 30-08-090 for any conflicts of interest to be declared prior to voting on the motion at the Board meeting.

### Recommended for Ratification

Recommended for Funding	County	Request	Grant
John K. Cummings	Whatcom	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Teanna Kurtz	Spokane	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00
Thomas Roberts	Wahkiakum	\$2,850.00	\$1,248.00
Rachel Harrington	Clark	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Donald Smith	Pierce	\$2,999.00	\$2,999.00
Brett Townsend	Jefferson	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Jordan Topai	Mason	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Tanisha Medina	Pierce	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Andrew Nicolls	Island	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Julia Oliver-Clifner	Snohomish	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
John Obermuller	Pierce	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Maeve Griffith	Spokane	\$3,000.00	\$2,800.00
Natasha Terry	King	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Thomas Borges	Spokane	\$3,000.00	\$1,259.00
Izzy Cadillac	King	\$2,650.00	\$2,650.00
Chris Leibrant	Snohomish	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Jesse Joel M Palacios	King	\$1,915.00	\$1,915.00
Cori Bryant	Whatcom	\$3,000.00	\$1,800.00
Donna Williamson	Pierce	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Will Montoya	Thurston	\$2,709.00	\$2,709.00
Sarah Andrews	King	\$2,260.00	\$2,260.00
Sharon Sinclair	Jefferson	\$2,945.00	\$2,945.00
Elizabeth Snell	Stevens	\$2,245.00	\$2,245.00
John Pestinger	Thurston	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00
James Doyle	Pierce	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Mary Rothlisberger	Whitman	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Jacob Dailey	Lewis	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00

Juliet Kennedy	Okanogan	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Robin Clawson	King	\$2,742.00	\$2,742.00
Anne Evenson	Whatcom	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Jayden Ferrier	Snohomish	\$554.00	\$554.00
Tracy Clark	Jefferson	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Steven Sauder	Kitsap	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Jen Alcala	Pierce	\$2,996.00	\$2,996.00
Craig Milam	Thurston	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Brandi Reyna	King	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Christine Wisdom	King	\$2,893.00	\$2,893.00
Peter Sessum	Snohomish	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Saul Velez	King	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Andrew Holstine	Stevens	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Carson Maestas	King	\$2,300.00	\$2,300.00
<b>Total Request</b>	<b>\$115,758.00</b>		
<b>Total Recommended</b>	<b>\$109,515.00</b>		

### Self-directed Art Practice Grant – Applications not recommended for funding

Not recommended for funding	County	Request
Lauren Feringa	Skagit	\$3,000.00
Shawn Evenson	Whatcom	\$2,986.00
Ingrid Pavia	Spokane	\$2,940.00
Ashlie Topai	Mason	\$2,994.84
Deirdre Catlin	Spokane	\$3,000.00
Amber Pestinger	Thurston	\$3,000.00
Daniel Villa	Pierce	\$3,000.00
Angeliquee Sumpter	King	\$3,000.00
Violet Velazquez	Kitsap	\$3,000.00
Shannon Jung	Clark	\$3,000.00
Shorter RaNaldo	King	\$2,723.00
<b>Total Non-Funded Request</b>		<b>\$32,644.00</b>

# Creative District Funding Recommendations

## Creative District Certification Recommendation

### Certification Program Overview

The Certified Creative Districts program helps communities turn arts and culture into economic opportunities. The program was launched in January 2018. There are currently sixteen certified Creative Districts across Washington State. The City of Ellensburg recently applied for consideration. ArtsWA convened a panel to review their application.

### Certification Review Criteria

- **Creative District Information (30% of score):** Applicant demonstrates: strength of organizational structure, feasible budget, well-defined Creative District boundaries, comprehensive goals, strong mission/vision/values.
- **Creative District Characteristics (40% of score):** Applicant demonstrates: strength of competitive advantage, understanding of community history, broad appeal to visitors, sense of place, walkability, ancillary activities.
- **Community Buy-In (30% of score):** Applicant demonstrates: support from local government, participation from community members and partners, outreach to community, advancement of overall community goals, economic data, cohesiveness with existing economic development goals.

### Panelists

- Michael Cade, Thurston Economic Development Council (Thurston)
- Miguel Guillen, Grants to Organizations Manager, ArtsWA (Thurston)
- Tamar Krames, Arts in Education Manager, ArtsWA (Thurston)
- Jasmine Mahmoud, ArtsWA Commissioner (King)
- Justin Raffa, ArtsWA Commissioner (Benton)
- Charlie Robin, ArtsWA Commissioner (Yakima)
- Mike Sweeney, Art in Public Places Manager, ArtsWA (Thurston)
- Leslie Wolfe, Department of Commerce (Thurston)

### Process

ArtsWA received Ellensburg's application on December 1, 2023. The panel convened on January 16, 2024. The panel followed all applicable rules for Conflict of Interest. There were no conflicts of interest.

The panel recommended that Ellensburg adjust their workplan to address minor gaps in their application and voted unanimously to certify them.

### Recommendation

That the Board ratify the application panel's approval for Ellensburg Creative District certification.

# FY24-25 Creative Districts Capital Project Grant Pool

## Program Background

For fiscal biennium 2024-25, ArtsWA received funding to provide certified Creative Districts funding to install small-scale capital projects within the boundaries of their Districts. These projects are intended to provide tangible and visible benefits to their districts. Creative District administrative organizations were eligible to apply. The funding pool is \$633,831.69.

Each District is eligible to apply for up to \$200,000 total in funds for projects. Additionally, districts that do not currently have state branded Creative District highway signage through WSDOT were eligible to apply for up to \$7500 in funding to defray their portion of the cost. All Districts were required to provide matching funds according to grant program guidelines. Funds that go toward WSDOT signage are not subject to match requirements.

To ensure equity amongst Districts, this grant program has a match reduction component built into it. Organizations in communities with a median household income relative to the state median are eligible for this match reduction. The amount of match reduction is built on a sliding scale, calculated as a percentage of the full match amount. Communities that have median household incomes greater than the state median are not eligible for the match reduction. Twelve of the sixteen Creative Districts that applied are eligible for match reduction. Funds that

## Review Criteria

Because the policy intention is that all districts can be funded in this project, all districts are eligible to apply if they have eligible projects. Eligibility was determined based on project type and feasibility, matching fund requirements and project timeline. If Districts demonstrated capabilities in all three categories, they were eligible to be funded.

## Project Type and Feasibility

- Project fits within parameters of fundable projects, as described in grant guidelines.
- Project description demonstrates benefit to Creative District and/or organizational goals.

## Matching Funds Requirements

- Grant applicant demonstrates and certifies they have required matching funds, according to program guidelines.
- Project is right sized for requested funding amount. In the event the project cost exceeds the combined amount of grant plus matching funds, applicant has demonstrated their ability to cover additional costs.

## Process

ArtsWA received 16 applications by the deadline of December 18, 2023, totaling \$819,094.00 in grant requests. Applications were reviewed by ArtsWA staff to ensure compliance with the grant criteria. Projects that did not meet grant criteria were not funded.

A list of all applications and their recommended funding amounts is on the next page.



## FY24-25 Capital Grant Request Calculations

WSDOT grant requests

**\$75,000.00**

**\$75,000.00**

Community	Grant Request	Eligible for funding	fund Amount %	Final Grant Amount	
Anacortes	\$23,000.00	\$20,000.00	100.00%	\$20,000.00	
Bainbridge	\$48,750.00	\$23,000.00	80.00%	\$18,400.00*	
Bremerton	\$0.00	\$0.00	100.00%	\$0.00	only WSDOT funds
Burien	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	75.00%	\$75,000.00	
Chewelah	\$52,144.00	\$52,144.00	75.00%	\$39,108.00	
Edmonds	\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00	75.00%	\$60,000.00	
Issaquah	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	75.00%	\$112,500.00	
Langley	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	75.00%	\$75,000.00	
Moses Lake	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	100.00%	\$25,000.00	
Olympia	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00	75.00%	\$56,250.00	
Port Townsend	\$0.00	\$0.00	100.00%	\$0.00	only WSDOT funds
Rainier Valley	\$0.00	\$0.00	100.00%	\$0.00	only WSDOT funds
SoCo	\$10,000.00	\$9,900.00	100.00%	\$9,900.00	
Tenino	\$33,700.00	\$32,700.00	80.00%	\$26,960.00	
Twisp	\$36,500.00	\$36,500.00	80.00%	\$29,200.00	
Newport	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	100.00%	\$10,000.00	
				<b>\$557,318.00</b>	
	Project grant request total	Grant Eligible total		Final grant awards	
	\$744,094.00	\$714,244.00		<b>\$632,318.00</b>	includes 75K for WSDOT signs

TOTAL GRANT REQUEST	Total Eligible	Amount Available	Gap
\$819,094.00	\$789,244.00	\$633,831.69	\$155,412.31

\*some projects did not meet grant criteria

Recommendation

That the Board ratify the recommendations for FY24-25 Capital Project funding.

Submitted by:

Annette Roth, Community Development Manager  
February 8, 2024

# Arts in Education: FY24 AIE Project Grants

## FY24 Arts in Education Project Grant

This Arts in Education (AIE) Project Grant supports arts and cultural programming that is accessible to a diversity of PreK-12 students and families across Washington State. AIE Project Grant funds support community partnerships that increase youth access to arts learning.

## Grant Applications and Funding Requests

The FY24 AIE Project Grant application deadline was March 2, 2023. Panelists discussed criteria-based evaluations of applications and made funding recommendations in April 2023. The Board approved panel recommendations for this grant on May 2 and August 1, 2023. (See ArtsWA May and August Board packets.) Board members can also review FY24 AIE Project Grant awards [here](#).

An award in the amount of \$10,500 granted to Richard Hugo House (DBA Hugo House) was declined by awardee due to program and staffing changes in October 2023. Newly available funds were awarded to two organizations previously declined funding. Percentage of requested amounts were decided based on original panelist scores and demarcations in the ranking order. New awards were approved by Karen Hanan in October 2023.

## Award Declined by Organization

Applicant Organization Name	County	Average Score	Grant Request	Award %	Grant Amount
Richard Hugo House (DBA Hugo House)	King	88.00	\$ 15,000.00	70%	\$10,500.00

## FY24 Arts in Education Sustaining Project Grants Recommended for Ratification

Applicant Organization Name	County	Average Score	Grant Request	Award %	Grant Amount
BAAY	Whatcom	79.50	\$ 14,200.00	35%	\$ 4,970.00
Oregon Performing Arts Academy DBA Metropolitan Performing Arts Academy	Clark	78.75	\$ 15,000.00	33%	\$ 4,950.00

**Recommendation:** That the Board **ratify** additionally funded Arts in Education (AIE) Sustaining Project Grants approved by Karen Hanan.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tamar Krames, Arts in Education Program Manager  
January 19, 2024

# Tribal Cultural Affairs Program (TCA)

## Executive Summary

### Introduction

Tribal Cultural Affairs Program (TCA) is a program of the Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA). The program exists to support Tribal communities throughout the state of Washington. It provides an opportunity for Tribal communities that want to focus on their creative economy to bring greater recognition to Tribal arts and culture. Expanding the Tribal creative economy supports Indigenous jobs, and increased economic, educational, and cultural opportunities for Tribal members as well as the larger community in the state. TCA launched in 2023.

The primary role of this program is to expand and encourage Tribal arts and culture, and Tribal participation in the creative economy in Washington. The Arts Commission will provide a robust suite of services as well as ongoing technical assistance and support to Tribal communities before, during, and after the provision of co-created grants and programs.

Tribal communities will have the opportunity to promote their unique cultural values, teachings, art, and history. Tribes will be able to highlight and support Tribal entrepreneurs in the development of the arts, creative and maker spaces, and in the exhibition of Tribally created art and historically significant artifacts.

### Program Background

In FY2022, ArtsWA's Executive Director and its Board of Commissioners convened a Native American Ad Hoc Committee (NAAC). The committee was led by Dr. Kelvin Frank (Chippewa Cree), Community Development & Planning Manager, Quinault Indian Nation, and Linley Logan (Tonawanda Seneca), Director of the Northwest Heritage Program, Longhouse Education and Cultural Center, Evergreen State College. Both are present or past members of ArtsWA's Board of Commissioners.

As a result of their work and a concentrated campaign to build understanding and support, the Washington State legislature approved funding for TCA. This included funding for staff, program development, grants, and arts and culture-related services for Tribal communities. Funding and services will also support and guide arts and creative organizations serving Tribal constituencies.

### Financial Projections

Washington's TCA program is currently funded each biennium with a budget of approximately \$1,375,00. This budget is expected to grow commensurate with demonstrated Tribal needs and aspirations and the anticipated positive impact of TCA.

### Organizational Summary

Established in 1961, the Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA) and staff work together to support communities, organizations, and individuals in bringing art and creativity into the lives of

all those who live in Washington State. ArtsWA administers a growing number of programs designed to help bring arts and culture and the benefits of the creative economy to the public, including:

- Art in Public Places
- Arts in Education grants and programs
- Grants to Organizations
- Creative Districts certification program
- Wellness, Arts, and the Military
- State Poet Laureate program (produced in partnership with Humanities WA)
- Poetry Out Loud
- Governor's Arts and Heritage Awards
- The Center for Washington Cultural Traditions (produced in partnership with Humanities WA)
- Creative economy and other arts related research and data
- Tribal Cultural Affairs

Two key organizational principles are support for diverse forms of artistic expression and access to arts and arts education for all individuals in Washington State. ArtsWA believes that the arts can and should play a role in addressing inequities, modeling inclusion, and teaching empathy.

### How TCA Supports ArtsWA's Mission and Vision

The mission of ArtsWA is to be a catalyst for the arts, advancing the role of the arts in the lives of individuals and communities throughout the state. TCA supports this mission by partnering with Washington State's tribes to provide specific programming for Tribal communities to advance Tribal arts and culture in the lives of Tribal people.

ArtsWA's vision: Art and creativity are essential to wellbeing, woven into the fabric of vibrant communities throughout Washington State. TCA will support this vision by providing resources and a support system for Tribal communities who want to enhance their arts and culture programming. It will also support creative organizations and individuals that currently serve, or aspire to serve, Washington's Tribal communities. Culture is wellbeing and ArtsWA will partner with Tribes in support of Tribal culture.

#### Program Goals and Objectives

The goals of the program work in tandem with the goals of ArtsWA. The program is designed to support Indigenous/Tribal communities by:

- Encouraging Indigenous entrepreneurs and artists to engage in the creative economy, infusing new energy and innovation, and enhancing the overall economy and capital of Tribes and Indigenous peoples.
- Providing a focal point for celebrating and strengthening a Tribal community's unique identity and showcasing cultural arts, traditions, knowledge, and language; and

- Strengthening and enhancing Indigenous/Tribal programming and economic presence in Washington State through investments in staff, professional development, community partnerships and strategic planning

#### Program Milestones: Year One

- October-December 2023: Program planning, outreach to communities, initial promotion of program
- January 2024: Grant program launch, initial applications
- February-June 2024: Technical assistance, grant implementation.
- June 30, 2024: End of year 1 Tribal Arts Grant
- August 31, 2024: Year-end reports due from grantees

#### Program Services

TCA grants will support Tribal artist-directed cultural, arts, and creative programs. Grants will support programs, organizations, and individuals that are either on Tribal lands, engaged in work that supports Tribal artistic and cultural development, or both. Grants will focus on arts and creative programs and services that operate in rural and underserved Tribal locations to encourage enterprise through arts and culture.

TCA seeks to ensure that the gains from more robust participation in the creative economy by Native American artists, arts organizations and culture-bearers will better support Native American communities.

#### Marketing, Communications & Outreach

Marketing, outreach, and communications will be a major component of program activities.

Three main areas of activity include:

- Marketing the program as an economic and cultural development tool to Washington Tribes throughout the state of Washington
- Outreach to Tribal communities about grant funding, and other service opportunities for collaboration, and ongoing partnerships designed to expand the impact of Indigenous arts and culture across the state.
- Communications to Tribal Governments, colleges, schools, arts organizations, including legislators, interested communities, partner agencies, peer organizations, and more.

#### Advocacy and Partnerships

TCA will act as an advocate for Tribal communities who want to expand or change their cultural programming. Advocacy to the legislature will be an ongoing endeavor closely tied to TCA's marketing and communication activities.

#### Management Team

The team is comprised of a TCA program manager, who oversees the development, management, and execution of the program, with support and guidance from ArtsWA's Executive Director, Deputy Director, and Communications Manager. The team includes a TCA

Coordinator who assists with grants management, technical assistance, and engagement. TCA will soon hire an additional program staff member to provide administrative and logistical support.

## Communications Plan

Because this is a new program, the communications and marketing activities must promote awareness of the program to the Tribes, Tribal schools, Tribal communities and to organizations and individuals statewide that support and serve them.

### Target audience analysis

The Tribal Cultural Affairs program has many potential audiences. Below is a list of the audiences and a description of how they will affect or be affected by this program.

#### Tribal Communities

Tribes, Tribal communities, Tribal leaders, Tribal artists, Tribal historians, and Tribal elders will have valuable input regarding the design and implementation of the program for the initial year and for future program growth. This is a new program, so it may take some time for Tribes to trust ArtsWA and the idea that funding and services are truly for them, in support of their art and culture.

#### Legislators

Legislators decide whether to fund the program at increased levels in future biennial budgets. It is important that enough (preferably all) legislators see the value and impact the program is having on communities, particularly in disadvantaged and rural areas. The messages TCA prepares for them should contain data and stories – fiscal impacts, job creation, revitalization of communities, personal-impact stories – that are tangible and measurable. In addition, it is important to educate legislators about the importance of the cultural arts and their critical impact on the state's creative economy and long-term prosperity of Washington State. TCA must demonstrate how a strong creative economy, and strong Tribal participation in the creative economy benefit our state and its people. Increased funding for TCA and the agency over time will be a critical component of the program's success.

#### Media

The media can help ArtsWA communicate successfully about the program. Regular communication with members of the press and media will encourage positive associations with the program, leading to a greater likelihood of stories being picked up and shared.

#### ArtsWA Board

The 23-member Board of ArtsWA, with guidance from ArtsWA's Executive Director and executive staff, oversees the policy activities of the organization and advocates on behalf of the Agency and its programs. Board members are ambassadors for ArtsWA and the communities they are part of and/or serve. Board members are a primary resource for grant selection panels, committee work and funding development. TCA can leverage the status of the Board members to educate and inform legislators and the public about the importance of the program to the

economic and cultural health of Washington State communities. Messages to the Board should include program benchmarks and activities, success stories, and opportunities for advocacy and partnership.

#### ArtsWA staff/programs

Several of Arts WA's programs - such as the Creative Districts program, the Arts in Education and Grants to Organizations programs, the Center for Washington Cultural Traditions (CWCT), and the Wellness, Arts, and the Military (WAM) program - work in concert with other programs in the agency to better fulfill the mandates and mission of the organization. There may be opportunities for these and other agency programs to partner with TCA to broaden the reach of their respective programs and/or provide ancillary services. Simultaneously, TCA can broaden understanding of other ArtsWA program services and opportunities in the communities that it serves. Messages to other staff should include information and updates on programmatic activities and services, success stories, funding and partnership opportunities, and points of connection between programs and the people they serve.

#### Grant funders

Grant funders are an important component in the success and viability of the program long-term. A well-planned, highly functional program with strong results will inspire funders to invest in the TCA program as it works to lift Tribal arts and culture, and Native participation in Washington's creative economy. Messages to funders should include information about the program and agency operations, wage, job, and economic growth data, personal success stories of arts and creative economy workers in Tribal communities and the impacts of revitalization and redevelopment.

#### Key message

The program exists to support Indigenous/Tribal communities as they grow their creative economies and promote the arts, culture, and traditions important to their communities.

#### Communication Channels

The communications channels for the program will include: ArtsWA's website and social media channels, newsletters, email, direct outreach, public relations, Washington State-based and national media outlets, white papers/briefings, PowerPoint and/or Prezi presentations. If time and budget allow, additional channels could include videos, documentaries, and books.

#### Communications/Marketing Goals

##### Year 1

- Outreach/presentation to at least 1 community per month regarding TCA.
- Increase unique visits to the TCA section of ArtsWA's website by 10% per quarter.

## Strategic and performance outcomes

Requested funds directly align with Results Washington statewide goals including:

- Goal 1: World-class education: Providing every Washingtonian a world-class education that prepared him or her for a healthy and productive life, including success in job or career, in the community and as a lifelong learner. The TCA will foster educational opportunities for Native youth and will guide entrepreneurs to employment opportunities in the creative sector.
- Goal 2: Prosperous economy: Fostering an innovative economy where businesses, workers and communities thrive in every corner of our state. TCA will ensure that Native communities can participate more fully in Washington's creative economy, which is one of the state's strongest economic sectors.
- Goal 3: Healthy and safe communities: Fostering the health of Washingtonians from a healthy start to safe and supported future. Research shows that increasing arts and cultural learning experiences and active participation builds well-rounded individuals, supports social and emotional development, develops valuable life and career skills, and strengthens community and civic engagement. By fostering these opportunities, TCA will improve health outcomes and wellbeing of individuals and ensure communities are safe and sustainable.

The TCA program supports the following ArtsWA (Washington State Arts Commission) strategic plan aspirational framework objectives:

- Equity: Embody a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion that serves all Washingtonians
- Practice: Strengthen policies and practices to effectively support and grow constituent services
- Programs: Evolve agency programs and grant making to increase constituent opportunity and access to the arts.

## Performance outcomes

For the TCA program to be successful, it requires input from our Tribal nations to inform its current and future programmatic activities. We anticipate the following outcomes after the first biennium:

- Increased collaboration with Washington's tribes, Tribal artists, culture bearers, and organizations.
- Co-creation, development, and implementation of creative arts and cultural programs that support and focus on Tribal communities statewide. Programmatic activities could include Tribal-centered training programs, workshops, or webinars.
- Capacity development to prepare arts practitioners and organizations with the necessary cultural competencies to work with or for Tribal artists, culture bearers, and populations.



- Development and implementation of ArtsWA grant programs designed specifically for Tribes, Tribal artists, creative organizations, and external organizations and partners that serve Tribal communities through the arts.

Metrics include:

- Tracking number of grants awarded to Tribes, Tribal artists, culture bearers and Tribal arts and creative program providers annually.
- Tracking number of Tribal participants/communities served annually.
- Tracking number of services and training programs, workshops, and webinars developed and offered annually.

### Other collateral connections

Intergovernmental

The TCA program will aim to impact all our state's Tribal governments, as we seek to create partnerships with these entities to do this work. There may be some additional impacts to other state agencies, such as the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs (GOIA), and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), as TCA seeks partnerships to expand its service offerings and amplify relevant work other agencies may be doing in Tribal communities.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

Cheryl Wilcox, Tribal Cultural Affairs, TCA Program Manager

January 17, 2024

# Art in Public Places: Program Updates

## Overview

Art in Public Places (AIPP) purchases and cares for artworks in state buildings, colleges, universities, and schools throughout Washington. The [State Art Collection](#) includes more than 5,000 artworks located where people study, work, and live. The public selects and owns the Collection. 2024 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AIPP, with legislation signed by Governor Evans on May 5, 1974. AIPP is celebrating this milestone while remaining focused on new initiatives and growth. Below are some recent accomplishments and ongoing projects.

## Staff Changes

Conservation Technician Alcamy Henriksen joined our Collections team this summer. Along with Conservation Leads Gabriel Brown and Jonathan Hickerson, both hired in 2022, and Conservation Lead Jared Moore, she is now part of an incredible hands-on crew equipped to care for existing works in the Collection under the direction of Conservation Manager Adam Fah.

Starting February 16, we will welcome two new public art Project Managers. Lauren Iida will be based in Olympia and the other manager, Rebecca Merkley will be based in Eastern Washington. Along with Ade Abatan, hired in 2022, they will be supervised by Marissa Laubscher who officially became AIPP's Senior Project Manager on January 16. Project managers oversee artwork acquisitions, partnering with local committees, artists, and curators.

## Collections

The increase in our Collections staff has already paid dividends. The team tackled ambitious projects including the complete removal and reinstallation of Kay Kirkpatrick's exterior sculptures at Puget Sound Skills Center and the restoration of Garth Edwards' benches at Airway Heights Correctional Center. Jonathan is based in Walla Walla, allowing AIPP to be more responsive to the needs of our partners in Central and Eastern Washington. We recently secured a space for Jonathan to perform work and temporarily house artworks from the Collection.

Collections Manager Janae Huber completed an emergency planning pilot project for the Collection through a partnership with Midwest Art Conservation Center, funded via a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Last month we received the great news that its success has been rewarded with NEH funding for the full statewide plan.

## Acquisitions

AIPP saw an increase in new acquisitions from 2022, with 16 commissions and 6 curated collections installed across the state. In addition to new works for higher education and public schools, which make up the majority of our projects, we acquired artworks for more challenging locations including the School for the Blind and Eastern State Hospital. Indeed, non-educational facilities will be an increased focus of our work: we are nearing the completion of projects for the

Green Hill School and the School for the Deaf and are in the early stages of major projects for the Capitol Campus in Olympia and Western State Hospital.

In August, the ArtsWA board approved the addition of 206 artists and artist teams to the Public Artist Roster. This was our first ever midterm call, providing an opportunity for those who may have missed the 2021 application or who may not have been ready to apply. They join the 476 artists and teams currently on the Roster, and their terms will end in August 2025. For the first time, we offered the application guidelines in Spanish, expanding our accessibility efforts. We also added Spanish versions of our committee guidelines and artist handbooks. Program Coordinator Michelle Avitia has been leading this ongoing effort.

*Submitted by:*

Michael Sweney, Art in Public Places Program Manager

January 26, 2024

## Arts in Education | Creative Start

### ArtsWA partners with Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts

State support for arts and early learning

In 2019 the Washington State Legislature requested that ArtsWA build a program focused on arts integration and early learning. The Creative Start program was intentionally designed in partnership with key programs from our state's Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and the Department of Children, Youth, And Families (DCYF).

What is arts integration?

Arts integration is an approach to teaching that combines traditional school content (such as math, science, literacy) with arts content (dance, media arts, theatre). It enhances understanding of shared concepts and supports student success in both arts and core content learning standards. Watch in 3 minutes or less: <https://youtu.be/PcH48w01BJc>

Constituent needs

Creative Start, now in its fourth year, continues to focus on expanding arts integration methods in early learning classrooms. The program includes project grants, professional development, and arts integration resources on our studio webpage.

Creative Start grantees (schools, districts, and early learning programs) have expressed limited capacity to design and implement arts integration initiatives without direct logistic support and a clear professional development structure for teachers.

Overview of Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts

For over 40 years, the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts (Wolf Trap Institute) has collaborated with early childhood educators nationwide, offering training and tools to use the arts for teaching. They harness the power of **performing arts** to provide high-quality professional development, creating joyful learning experiences for kids from birth to first grade.

- **Music** builds memory and fluency.
- **Dance** improves movement abilities and control.
- **Theatre** expands imagination and communication.
- **Puppetry** encourages social interactions.
- **Storytelling** fosters emerging literacy.

Professional teaching artists trained in the Wolf Trap model deliver in-class residencies supporting development in language, literacy, math, science, and social-emotional skills. Wolf Trap works through a network of affiliates, reaching thousands of children, educators, and parents. Washington State Wolf Trap is the newest affiliate.

### Affiliation

ArtsWA's Arts in Education staff have been exploring the pathway to join the Wolf Trap affiliate network since December of 2019. This has involved observing residencies, hosting demonstration residencies here in Washington, developing a feasibility report, and visiting the Foundation headquarters in Virginia. In October 2023, the partnership was officially announced. Washington State Wolf Trap joins a network of 26 affiliates.

### Regional launch & scaling up

Launching in the 2023-24 academic year, Washington State Wolf Trap will include multi-week classroom residencies, family workshops, and educator workshops. The program will focus on scaling up in Educational Service Districts (ESD) starting with ESD 123, expanding annually.

This ESD-focused scaling up will allow us to develop strong partnerships, support service district's needs, and reflect regional-level teaching artist talent. Our residencies will initially focus on ArtsWA's Eastern region and move west.



Map of WA Educational Service Districts (ESDs)

### Teaching artist regional representation

To ensure our Washington State Wolf Trap teaching artists are connected to the communities they serve, recruitment will prioritize ArtsWA's Central and Eastern regions for the first three years. As our residencies expand into other ESDs and regions, we will expand our roster and recruit from those regions.

Selected teaching artists are paid contractors with ArtsWA. They will receive training in the Wolf Trap model and will deliver in-class residencies and workshops.

### Funding and support

Washington State Wolf Trap is underwriting the entire cost of teaching artist training, classroom residencies and any associated workshop development.

Washington State Wolf Trap is currently supported through a combination of maintained state funding for Creative Start and a private grant from the Laird Norton Family Foundation.

### Additional information

- [www.arts.wa.gov/wa-state-wolf-trap/](http://www.arts.wa.gov/wa-state-wolf-trap/)
- [www.wolftrap.org/education](http://www.wolftrap.org/education)
- [www.arts.wa.gov/creative-start-studio/](http://www.arts.wa.gov/creative-start-studio/)

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