



Maintain Administrative Stability and Operational Continuity

Maintain core operations by addressing rising costs, staffing changes, planning needs, and funding gaps.

OPERATING BUDGET REQUEST

\$94,000

For FY27

Background: Administrative Pressures and Structural Funding Needs

As part of maintaining effective day-to-day operations, ArtsWA faces several routine but essential administrative needs.

Office lease rates have increased in line with market conditions, exceeding existing allocations. Several longtime staff are nearing retirement, requiring one-time buyouts to support smooth transitions and preserve institutional knowledge.

In addition, the agency has reached the scheduled end of its current strategic plan and needs to fund the next standard planning cycle.

Finally, two core programs—Creative Districts and Tribal Cultural Affairs—remain on temporary proviso funding, limiting stability and predictability. Transitioning these to the base budget is a necessary structural adjustment.

Maintaining Continuity Through Strategic Adjustments

This maintenance-level request ensures continuity of operations by covering increased rent costs, supporting scheduled staff transitions, and developing the next five-year strategic plan.

This request also corrects outdated budget structures by moving Creative Districts and Tribal Cultural Affairs into the agency's base funding, allowing for long-term program stability and planning.



Tribal Cultural Affairs supports cultural activities in Washington's 29 Federally-recognized Tribes. Like Creative Districts, base budget funding would significantly improve service planning. Photo courtesy of Tulalip Tribes of Washington.

What does this fund?

- » Routine rent adjustments to reflect current lease rates at ArtsWA's headquarters
- » One-time retirement buyouts to support scheduled staff transitions
- » Strategic planning consultants to lead ArtsWA's next five-year planning cycle
- » Reclassification of Creative Districts and Tribal Cultural Affairs programs from temporary proviso to ongoing base budget

These investments are necessary to preserve operational integrity, prevent disruption, and maintain consistent service across Washington's creative and Tribal communities.