

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Sitting/Acting as (if applicable)
Policy Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: 5/11/21 **Approx. Start Time:** 2 p.m. **Approx. Length:** 1 hr.

Presentation Title: Clackamas County Arts Alliance (CCAA) and Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) Program, Results & Updates

Department: Tourism & Cultural Affairs

Presenters: Samara Phelps, Executive Director of Tourism
Dianne Alves, Executive Director of CCAA
Carol Tatch, Director of Philanthropic Innovation (attending virtually)

Other Invitees:

Kevin Yell, President of CCAA Board
Alex Stoehr, Associate Director of CCAA
Cindy Knapp, Chief Financial Officer for RACC (attending virtually)
Mario Mesquita, Manager of Advocacy & Engagement for RACC (attending virtually)

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

Informational only, no action requested

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

A session to better understand the work of CCAA and RACC and their benefit to Clackamas County was requested by the BCC at County Administrator Issues/Updates on March 9.

The nonprofit arts and culture sector is a \$14.8 million industry in Clackamas County, supporting 417 full-time equivalent jobs and generating \$1.2 million in local and state government revenue. According to the most recent data, they spent \$5.8 million during fiscal year 2015. They also leveraged \$9 million in additional spending by cultural audiences. (Arts & Economics Prosperity 5, 2017).

Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners invests in the arts and culture community through general fund distributions to CCAA and RACC for arts programs, grants to artists and organizations, coordination and advocacy. Work from these partners resulted in the following benefits to Clackamas County residents in recent years.

CCAA results in Fiscal Year 2021

- Installed exhibits from 139 individual artists, artists groups and special exhibits.
- Served 25 youth, and counting, at a middle school, nonprofit facility and the Clackamas County Juvenile Department through the arts education program Youth Arts for Change.
- Distributed over \$2.25 million in Coronavirus Relief Funds for Cultural Support program to 59 organizations.
- Distributed over \$38,000 in grants to 19 recipients as the Grants Administrator and Fiscal Agent for the Cultural Coalition.
- Restructured for organizational effectiveness.

- Facilitated County support for Young Audiences of Oregon provided innovative arts education programming to 6,300 students in 22 Clackamas County schools that is valued at \$279,569.

CCAA upcoming work:

- Complete 2022 Strategic Direction planning with newly implemented committees of arts stakeholders.
- Continue to diversify funding strategies
- Collaboration with the County on special art projects
- Partner with Young Audiences to expand arts-integrated residency program to as many school districts and classrooms as possible.
- Work with Tualatin Valley Creates to provide shared educational and professional development opportunities to artists.
- Partner with RACC to provide funds directly to local artists and arts organizations, function CCAA does not currently provide.

RACC in Fiscal Year 2020:

- Invested over \$303,000 in Clackamas County. RACC contributed \$203,000 in addition to the \$100,000 in funding they received from Clackamas County.
- Created a COVID-19 Arts Impact Survey. Losses added up to over \$816,000 for the 99 Clackamas County individuals and organizations that responded.
- Provided \$500 emergency relief grants to 20 Clackamas County artists.
- Advocated for and created funding opportunities to ensure Clackamas County artists, organizations and small business had support through the pandemic
- In addition, created and delivered 200 art kits to families displaced by wildfires.

RACC current and future work in Clackamas County includes:

- Provide essential and transformational support grants to artists and arts organizations with the County's FY21 allocation. Of the \$62,050 provided by the County, \$56,050 is dedicated to grants.
- Working together to expand support for artists and arts organizations.
- Participation in national data initiative with the goal of expanded student access to the arts in public schools by providing a data and mapping platform artlook®
- Investing in our future by delivering at least 200% return on the County's future investments

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):

Is this item in your current budget? X YES NO

What is the cost? \$254,455 Total (\$165,405 CCAA \$27,000 Young Audiences, \$62,050 RACC)

What is the funding source? General Fund

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

- How does this item align with your Department's Strategic Business Plan goals?
Tourism acts as a pass through on behalf of the county for the arts funds. This is not part of Tourism's business plan.

- How does this item align with the County's Performance Clackamas goals?

This aligns with growing a vibrant economy.

LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS: none

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION: n/a

OPTIONS: n/a

RECOMMENDATION: n/a

ATTACHMENTS:

Presentation
Arts Alliance Annual Report
RACC Clackamas County Memo

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval _____
Department Director/Head Approval _____ SP _____
County Administrator Approval _____

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Samara Phelps @ 971-334-9479

Clackamas County Arts Alliances | Regional Arts & Culture Council

Arts & Culture

Clackamas County

Neither Here Nor There
Crystal Schenk and Shelby Davis

Clackamas County Artists

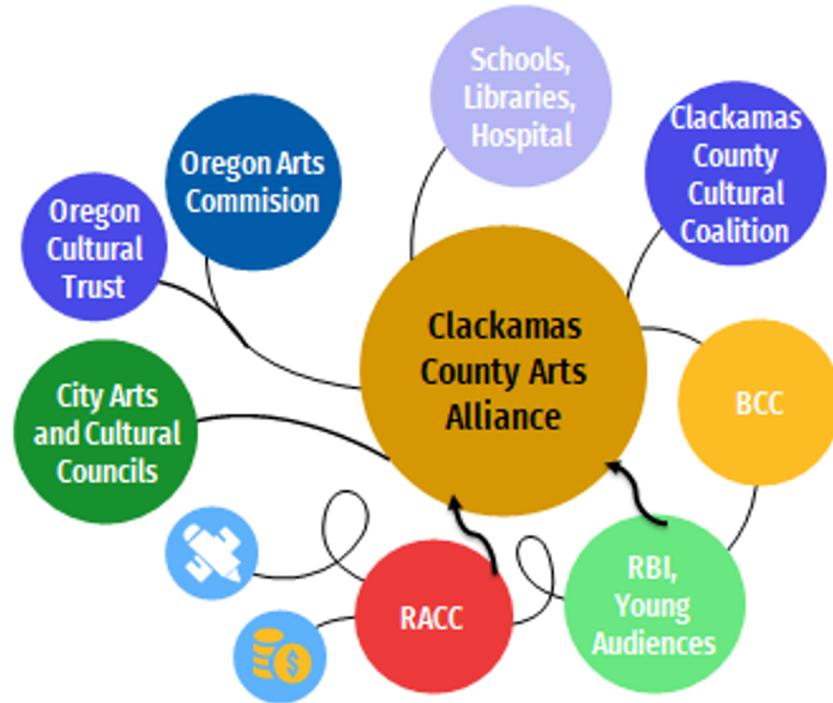




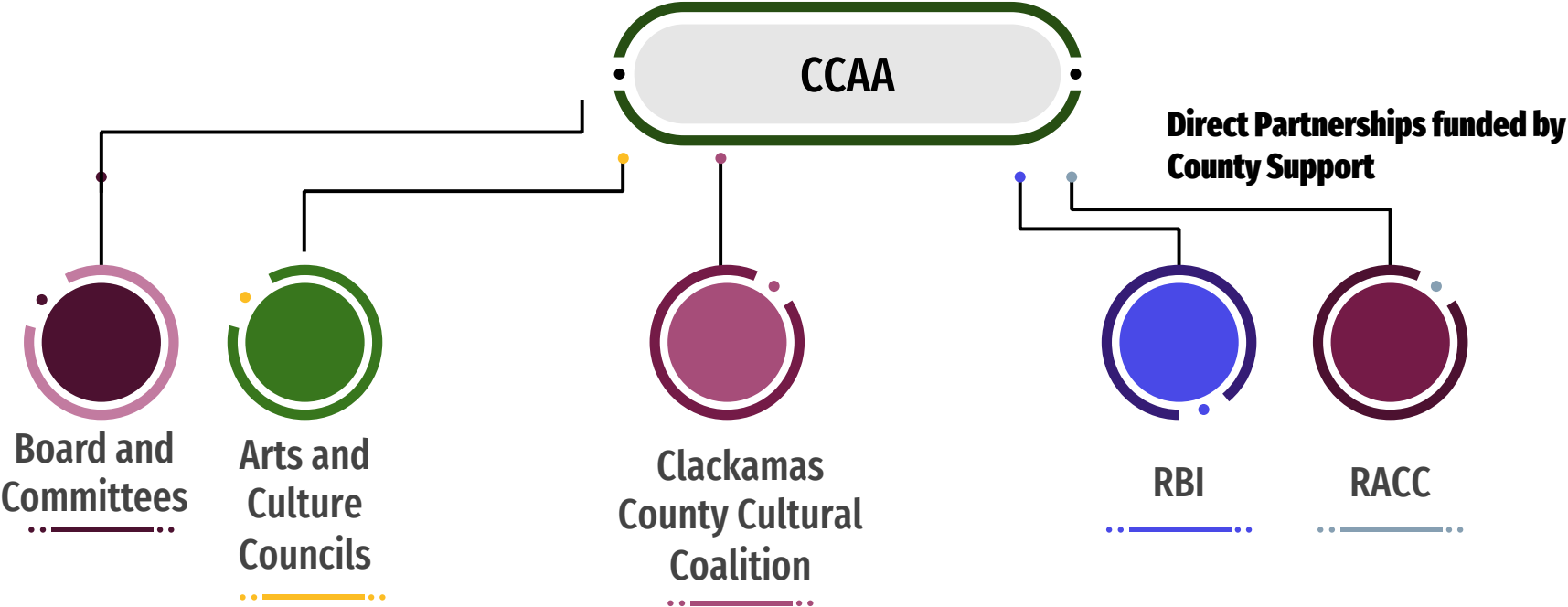
Keeping *Arts & Culture* Central To Life In Clackamas County

Clackamas County Arts Alliance

Amplifying the Voice of Arts and Culture



Role of Clackamas County Arts Alliance

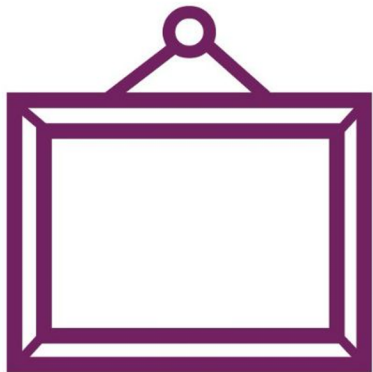




Keeping *Arts & Culture* Central To Life In Clackamas County

OUR IMPACT | BY THE NUMBERS

Artist Exhibit Program



59

**GALLERY
EXHIBITIONS**

139

individual artists, artist groups, and special exhibits were installed.



689

pieces of art exhibited.



Youth Arts for Change



25 youth (and counting!) were impacted by art education programs that took place at a **middle school, nonprofit facility and Clackamas County Juvenile Department.**

Cultural Coalition

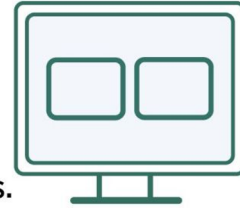
(Fiscal Agent/Management)

\$38,000+

distributed in the 17th cycle of grant-making to 19 recipients as Grants Administrator and Fiscal Agent.

COVID RESPONSE

10 **VIRTUAL CLASSES** created that contained stand-alone teaching lessons.



\$2,253,325

DISTRIBUTED TO

59 organizations through the federal Coronavirus Relief Funds for Cultural Support program!

Communications

+4% mailing list growth with **1,821 total subscribers**

Subscribe!



Facebook: +16%



Twitter: +7%



Instagram: +50%

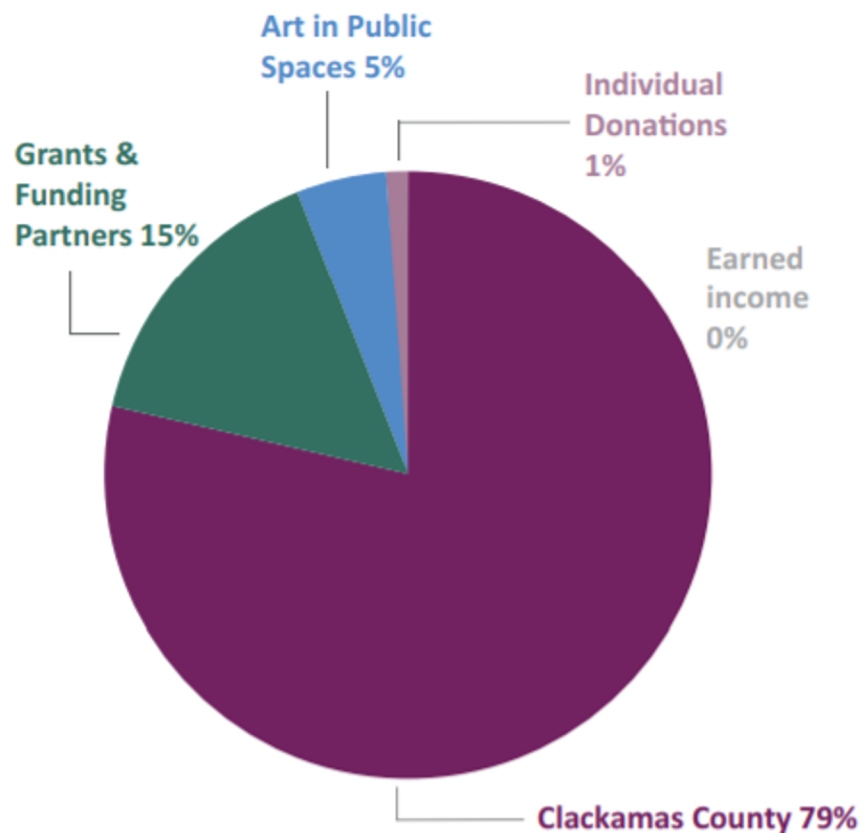
Clackamas County Arts Alliance

Income

July 2020 - June 2021

Budget

Clackamas County	254,455.00
Grants & Funding Partners	50,050.00
Art in Public Spaces	15,500.00
Individual Donations	3,650.00
Earned Income	125.00
Other	
TOTAL	\$323,780.00

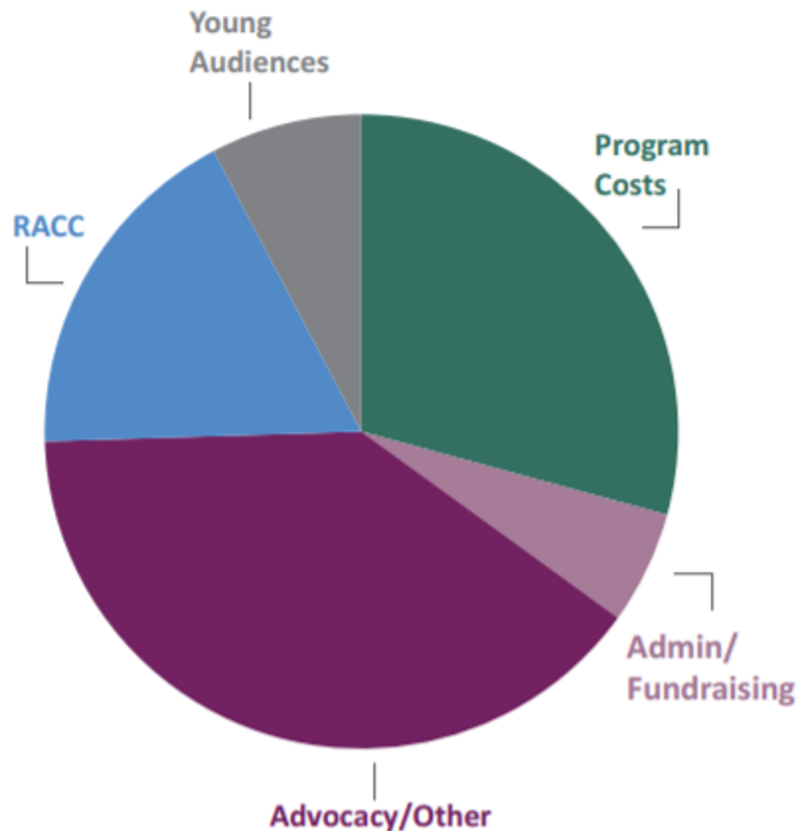


Clackamas County Arts Alliance

Expenses

July 2020 - June 2021

	Budget
Program Costs	102,120.00
Admin/Fundraising	20,100.00
Advocacy/Other	138,080.00
RACC	62,050.00
Young Audiences	27,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 349,350.00



Strategic Direction

1. **2022/23 Strategic Direction Planning**
2. **Diversification of Funding Strategies**
3. **Expand Collaborations with Clackamas County, Community Arts Councils and Artists and Partners**

Partnerships

1. **Young Audiences. Right Brain Initiative** serving students throughout Clackamas County
2. **Tualatin Valley Creates** sharing educational opportunities for Artists
3. **Regional Arts & Cultural Council (RACC)** supporting artist with direct grants





Regional Arts & Culture Council



ARTBACK Artist Cooperative, Grant Recipient
Mural 2018



About RACC

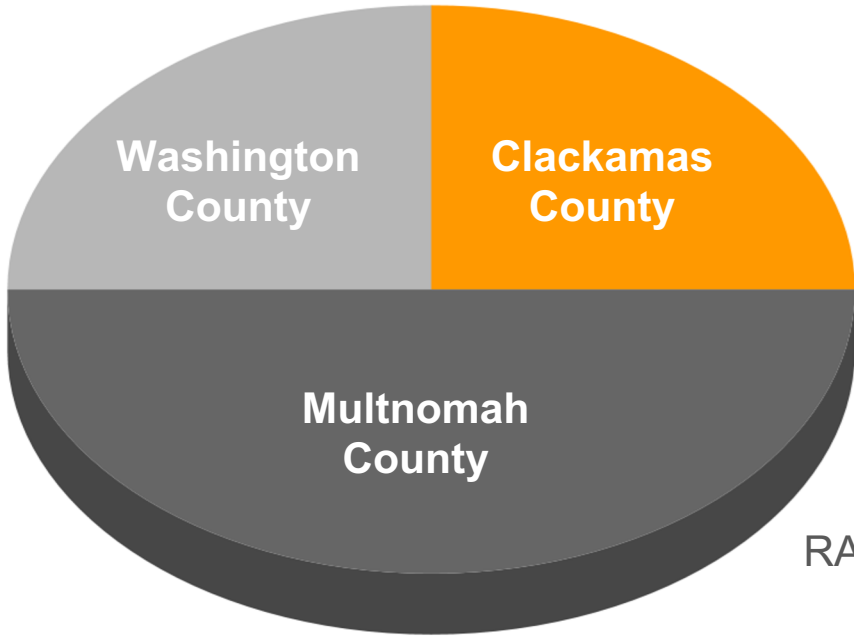
An independent nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization

Our mission is to enrich our communities through art and culture.

What We Do

*Advocate, Fund, Listen, Learn, and Lean Forward;
Leverage and invest private and public dollars to create
a thriving region powered by creativity with arts and
culture in every neighborhood.*

We connect artists and creatives to
opportunities and access.



25%

Clackamas County made up almost a quarter of RACC's area of support at a higher growth rate than neighboring counties.

In 2020, we responded to increased requests for grants and technical support from artists throughout Clackamas County.



Based on 2020 population.

Arts & Culture

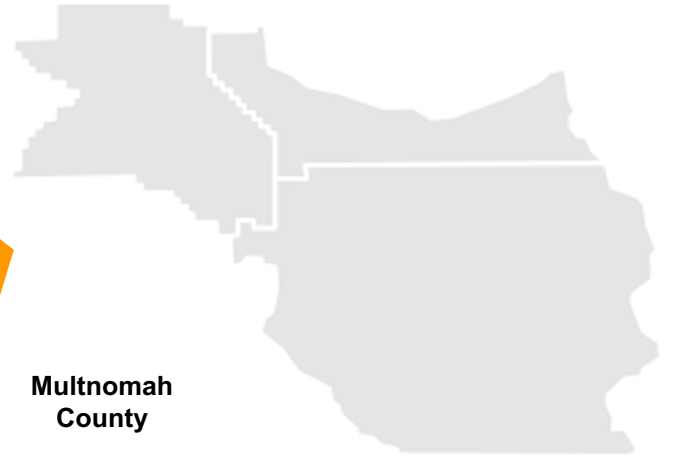
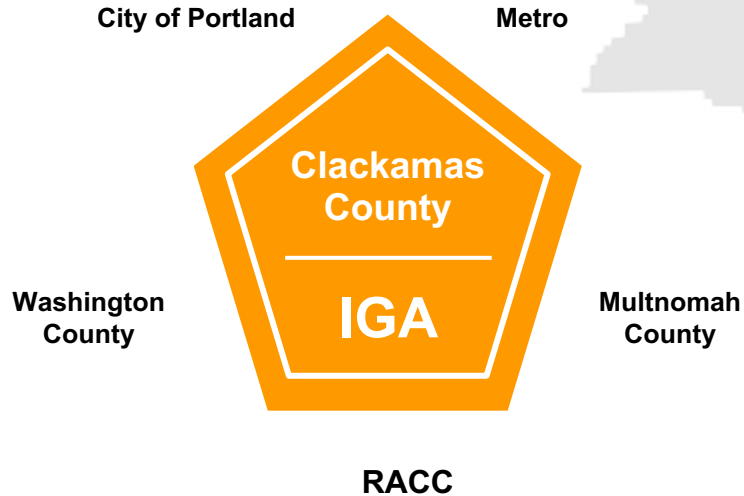


COUNTY PRIORITIES

Vibrant Economy

Healthy Communities

Safe Neighborhoods



Our Shared History

RACC became the designated arts service provider for the region in 1995 through an IGA. The IGA was revised in 1999 when Clackamas County joined.





Recipient Highlight: Wilsonville Arts & Culture Council

Wilsonville Arts & Culture Council re-purposed their Project Grant to offer quarterly programming in 2021, including virtual and smaller in-person events.

The pivot allows for continued opportunities for the community to engage in art throughout the pandemic.

Some of the plans include:

WINTER - *“Dream Beyond COVID”* a virtual, inclusive, juried group exhibition featured on their new website.

SPRING - The *“Wilsonville Community Portrait Project”* is a presentation with eight four-sided portrait “towers” including nominated community members.

SUMMER - One-day outdoor music festival.

FALL - *Día de los Muertos Festival* - partnered with Wilsonville High School to explore where and how to engage the greater population.

Clackamas County Artists Are Creating With Support from RACC and the County



Award: Wilsonville Arts & Culture Council – Wilsonville
(Award Amount: \$3,200)

Project: *Wilsonville Festival of Arts*



Recipient Highlight: Gabriel Espinosa

Audio Engineer Gabriel Espinosa was awarded a Catalyst Grant for “*Hail's Recording Arts Residency*” program.

A two-fold project, he worked to record two full-length albums with Hail going beyond simply capturing the band's distinct live sets. He also contributed to an unreleased compilation album.

The Catalyst Grant helped the recipient learn about the grant writing process, including budgeting and planning for the blossoming residency. Many issues were faced due to COVID-19 and valuable lessons were learned.

Clackamas County Artists Are Creating With Support from RACC and the County



Award: Gabriel Espinosa, Lake Oswego Artist
(Award amount: \$3,000)

Project: *WinterBeast Recording Art Residency*

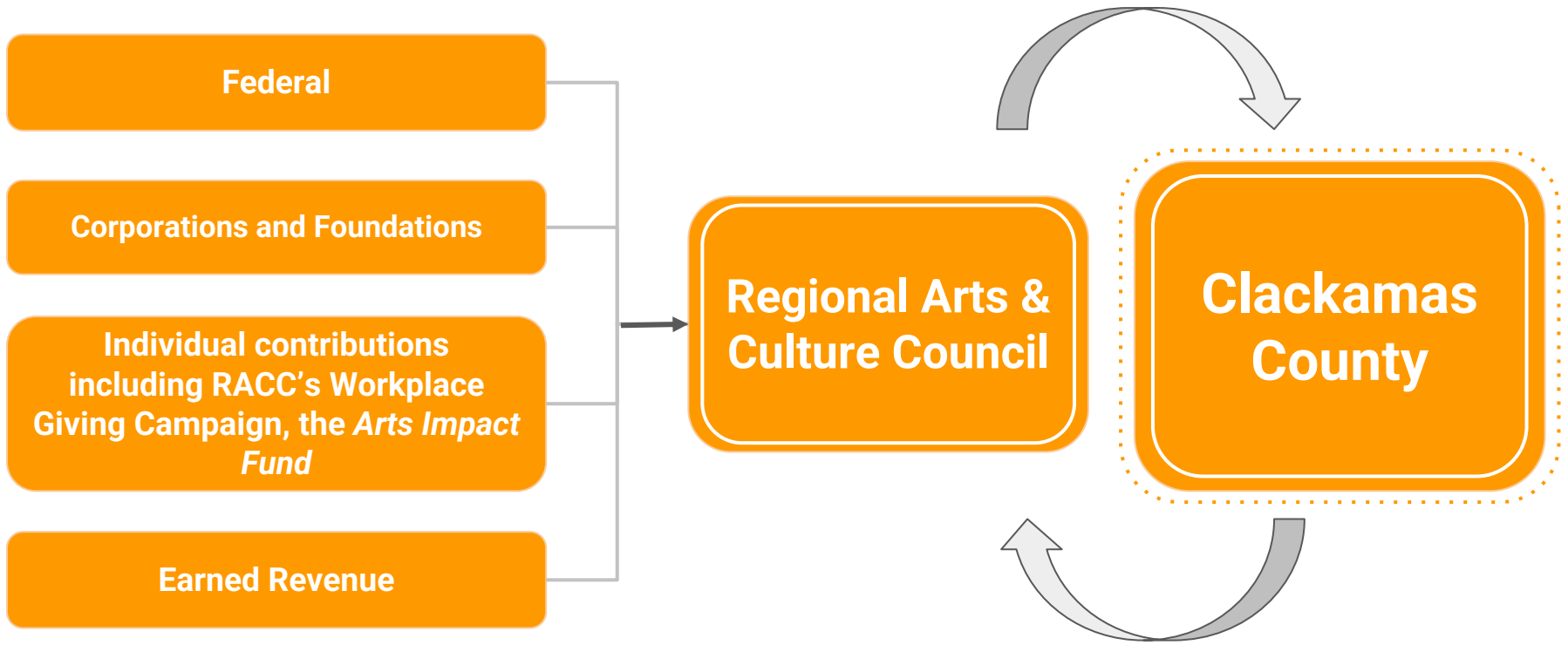
		Impact of Organizations	Impact of Audiences	Total Economic Impact
1	Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Jobs Support	255	162	417
2	Household Income Paid to Residents	\$4,356,000	\$3,671,000	\$8,027,000
3	Revenue Generated to Local Government	\$254,000	\$237,000	\$491,000
4	Revenue Generated to State Government	\$128,000	\$580,000	\$708,000

ECONOMIC IMPACT: CLACKAMAS COUNTY

Spending by Arts and Cultural Organizations and Their Audiences

The Economic Impact of Nonprofit Arts and Cultural Organizations in Clackamas County, Fiscal Year 2015
 Arts & Economic Prosperity®5, A Project of American for the Arts

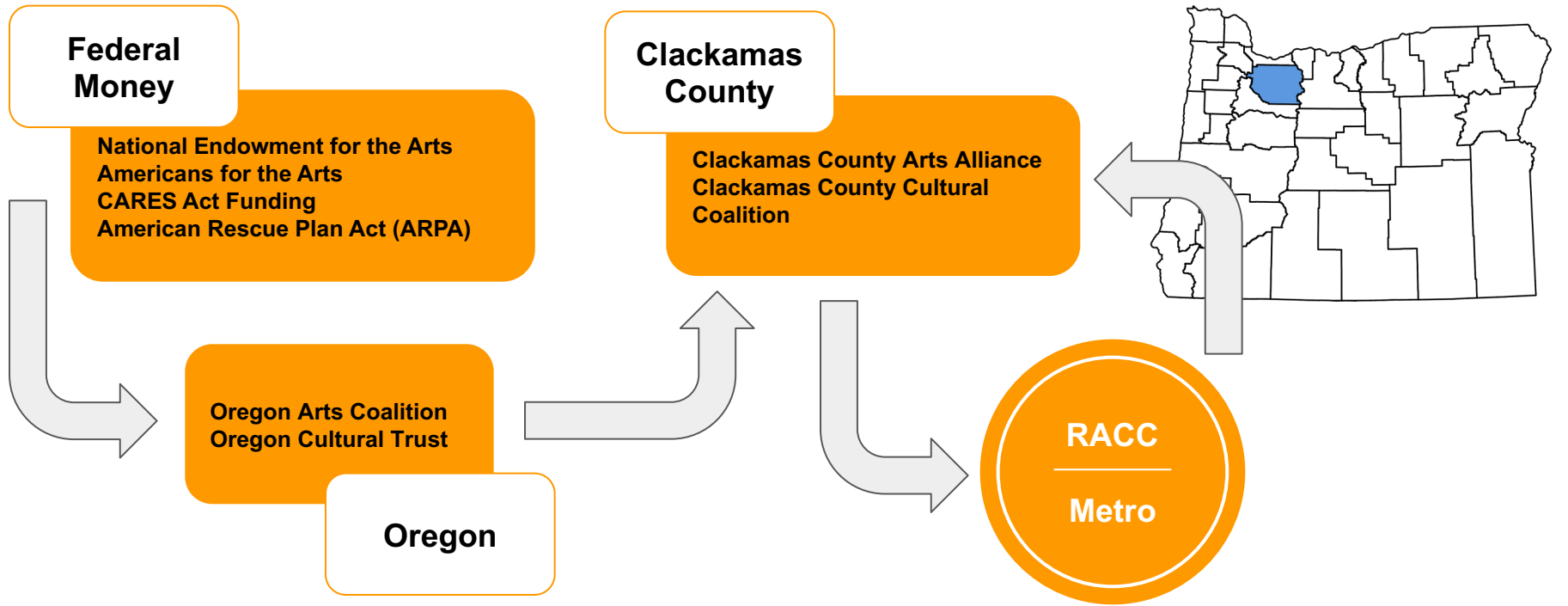




FUNDING FLOW

Community access and opportunity that supports arts and culture in Clackamas County.



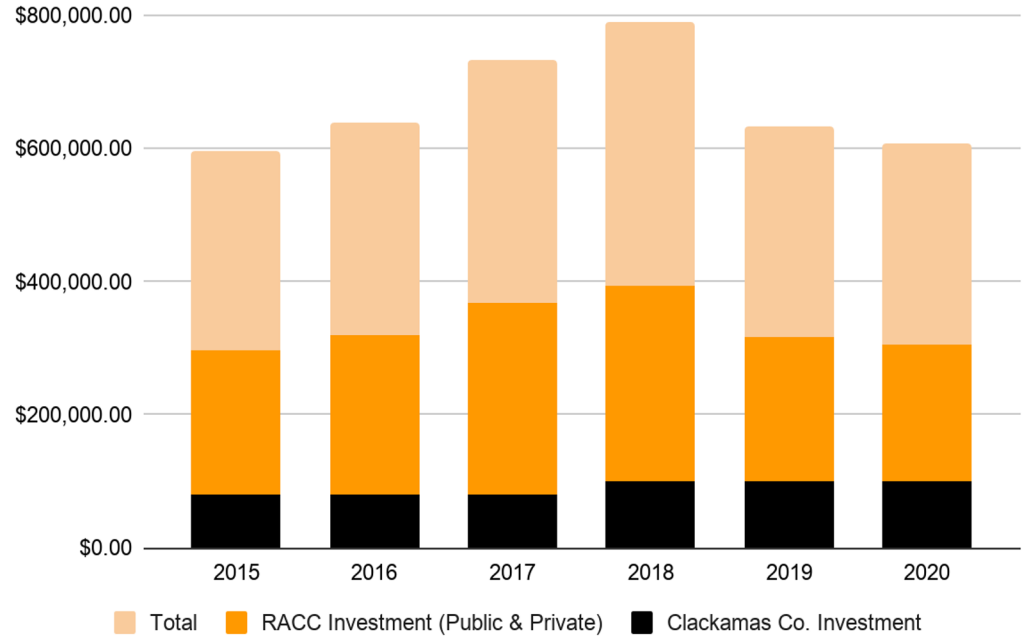


GUIDING PRINCIPLES

45 cultural coalitions across the state allocate directed funds and may use fiscal partners/agents to get funds out. Clackamas County Arts Alliance serves as the fiscal agent for its Cultural Coalition.



Year	Clackamas Co. Investment	RACC Investment (Public & Private)	Total
2015	\$80,000	\$218,000	\$298,000
2016	\$80,000	\$239,000	\$319,000
2017	\$80,000	\$287,000	\$367,000
2018	\$100,000	\$295,000	\$395,000
2019	\$100,000	\$217,000	\$317,000
2020	\$100,000	\$204,000	\$304,000
TOTAL OVER TIME	\$540,000	\$1,460,000	\$2,000,000



Investments and Services Summary: How RACC leverages Clackamas County community investment (ROI)

RACC leverages Clackamas County's initial investment almost 300% to support the arts and culture community.





Working Together

We Are Better

Estacada Summer Celebration 2018
Estacada Area Arts Commission, Grant Recipient



Clackamas County



**Clackamas County
Arts Alliance**



**Clackamas County
Cultural Coalition**



**Regional Arts &
Culture Council**

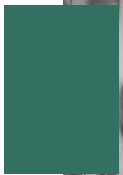
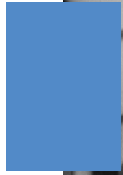
Thank you for your consideration of re-investment.
We are honored to be in partnership with you,
serving artists and arts organizations throughout
Clackamas County and the region.



CLACKAMAS
COUNTY
Arts
ALLIANCE

FY 2021

IMPACT REPORT

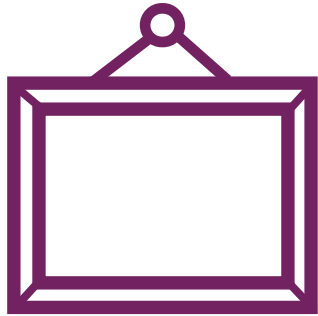




Keeping Arts & Culture Central To Life In Clackamas County

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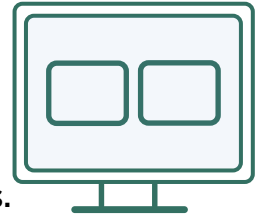
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A Message from Our Board Chair

The last year for the Clackamas County Arts Alliance reflected the challenges and opportunities of the world around us and as befits our vocation as artists, I'm very pleased to say that we leaned into that reality to sustain our traditional work and also create something new and life-giving for the wider community.

From pivotal changes in Alliance leadership followed by the local impact of world-wide pandemics, to changes in funding models and the shift from live to virtual reality, we have grown and balanced our well-established programs for individuals and groups in the County with new outreaches and opportunities. Importantly, we have also begun the work of renewal for the organization itself to meet this "new world."

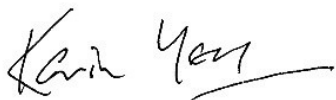
This June (2021) will see the end of 9 years on the Board for me and therefore my stepping down. Over that time "things have changed," as they say, as we celebrated 25 years of service with and for the County. And yet, in many respects, nothing has changed at heart. The arts and culture have a way of speaking, bridging divides, and working that gives voice to the deepest hopes and desires of a community. Between them they reflect the diversity of our neighborhoods, offer inclusion to our different stories and traditions, and strive to provide an equal opportunity for expression to all, and especially those without access to a microphone or podium.

This is what we mean when we say our work is ***Keeping arts and culture central to life in Clackamas County.***

We can do all these things because we, as creators and supporters of culture and the arts, are spread across the whole County. From Government Camp to Lake Oswego, from Happy Valley to Wilsonville, individual artists (in all disciplines: visual, literary, performing and digital,) arts groups and companies, together with our audiences and supporters cross every divide and boundary that might otherwise separate us.

And yet the benefit does not stop there. Every piece of research, (local, statewide and national,) confirms time and again that the arts and culture have an incredibly positive and important impact on an area's economic development, supporting local restaurants, hotels, parks, and even housing and schools.

In short, the arts and culture make neighborhoods better places to live and our economies more vibrant. We are grateful to be able to continue this work with and for our neighbors in Clackamas County.



Kevin Yell
President, Clackamas County Arts Alliance



A Message from Our Executive Director

For over 25 years, the Clackamas County Arts Alliance (CCAA) has been the hub for all things art-related as stated in our mission – “Keeping arts and culture central to life in Clackamas County.” The purpose of our work is to support, develop, and promote access to arts and culture in every community throughout the county.

With a budget of just \$323,780 of contributed revenue and public investment CCAA achieves a wide variety of arts activities and cultural enhancements. The scope of work for the Clackamas County Arts Alliance continues to grow in response to county-wide demands. Whether benefitting at-risk youth, delivering school programs, enhancing tourism initiatives, facilitating community beautification, or using art as a healing tool in healthcare environments, the value of the arts in our communities cannot be understated. Arts and culture are increasingly essential to the social and economic well-being of our county.

More importantly, the arts reflect a community’s vitality, its values, and its humanity. Now more than ever, investment in artists and arts organizations is so important to post-pandemic healing and recovery in Clackamas County.

There is no denying the influence and power of the arts in attracting visitors. Arts travelers are ideal tourists — they stay longer and spend more. **79.5 percent of nonresident visitors indicated that the primary purpose of their visit to Clackamas County was “specifically to attend an arts/cultural event.”** This finding by the Arts and Economic Prosperity 5 report demonstrates the power of the arts to attract visitors to the community. Lively and attractive communities draw people from surrounding areas and beyond, attracting investment in local businesses and invigorating the Clackamas County economy. Those who reside in Clackamas County echo this sentiment in surveys. “Access to the arts and cultural amenities” consistently ranks as a key element to a “Complete Community.”

Our network of artists, art supporters, and partners actively communicate the impact of the Clackamas County Arts Alliance and our work throughout the area. As a result, we consistently attract the people and resources necessary to leverage and deliver on our promise to keep arts and culture central to life in Clackamas County.

We invite you to review all that we proudly accomplished during a year of unprecedented challenge, as well as unexpected inspiration. As you’ll see from the numerous letters of support from our partners, the Clackamas County Arts Alliance is keeping arts and culture alive in our communities.



Dianne Alves
Executive Director
Clackamas County Arts Alliance



IMPACT REPORT

Economic Impact of Arts and Culture in Clackamas County

The nonprofit arts and culture sector is a \$14.8 million industry in Clackamas County, supporting 417 full-time equivalent jobs and generating \$1.2 million in local and state government revenue. Nonprofit arts and cultural organizations are flourishing businesses in their own right. According to the most recent available data, they spent \$5.8 million during fiscal year 2015 to employ people locally, purchase goods and services from local establishments, and attract tourists. They also leveraged a remarkable \$9 million in additional spending by cultural audiences, pumping vital revenue into restaurants, hotels, retail stores, parking garages, and other local businesses.

This study puts to rest a misconception that communities support arts and culture at the expense of local economic development. In fact, communities that support the arts and culture are investing in an industry that supports jobs, generates government revenue, and is the cornerstone of tourism. The Arts & Economic Prosperity 5 study shows conclusively that the arts mean business in Clackamas County!

CLACKAMAS COUNTY ARTS ALLIANCE PROGRAMS

Artist Exhibit Program (AEP)

The CCAA Artist Exhibit Program (AEP) rotates original artwork through 17 exhibit spaces in 10 public gallery venues in Clackamas County. From public and government buildings to libraries, hospitals, health centers, and even Oregon City's City Hall, we share art throughout the County. Individual artists and artist groups working in all mediums are encouraged to apply to be part of this educational and commission-free program.

AEP has three main goals:

- Increase public exhibit opportunities for Clackamas County artists
- Provide local artists with skill-building and gallery-readiness training
- Encourage public appreciation for the work of County artists

VENUES: We provide this program at no cost in all County buildings but charge a nominal fee for other businesses. In 2020, to streamline operations and improve upon our existing processes, we created a new pricing structure for all existing galleries based on size, number of artworks, and the potential cost of the ARAKAWA Hanging System. This not only helps us ensure we are adequately and appropriately pricing to meet program expenses, but also provides new venues with up-front packaging and pricing to make the correct choice for their space. We have already begun rolling out this standardized sizing and pricing for current gallery contracts with the hope that all venues will be moved to the new pricing structure and calendar-year contract period by the end of 2021.

ARTISTS: Program artists were thrilled to see the AEP continue despite having most venues and gathering places closed by the pandemic. We made the decision that all 2020 program artists would be granted automatic selection for the 2021 program to provide them with another chance to exhibit (in different venues). As we move forward from a programmatic year that was heavily impacted by COVID-19 closures, our hope is that they will have the opportunity for more "in-person" viewing of their work in 2021.

COVID-19 IMPACTS: Due to safety protocols put in place at the onset of the pandemic, there were no

installations in April of 2020, and a complete rescheduling of galleries was undertaken as closures inevitably occurred. All galleries were adjusted to fit their contracted annual artwork rotation. Artists and venues were very accommodating and flexible throughout all of the necessary changes.

BY THE NUMBERS: 59 gallery exhibitions, featuring 139 selected individual artists, artist groups, and special exhibits were installed, for a total of 689 pieces of artwork displayed in 2020!

Total value to Clackamas County: \$15,000



Exposure, exposure, exposure! The AEP provides opportunities for us to show our work in galleries within our own communities, and with no commission on sales. That is an extraordinary benefit to us all and makes owning a piece of art very affordable for most people. I am gratified to be able to continue to participate and refer other artists to the AEP since it is such a worthwhile community program.

– Martha Parisi Dirksen, AEP Artist

I love this program! Great exposure in many different venues...this rotating three-month art exhibit offers plenty of time to visit or revisit a favorite selection. It offers the artist unlimited opportunity for sales in which there is no commission taken – a win for art lovers and artists alike. Quality art exhibitions are evidence for CCAA’s program. An artist can gain experience planning a cohesive and arty display in large, well-lit spaces. This empowers the artist with confidence for the next professional exhibition. I always get positive feedback and lots of it. It makes me want to do more.

– Cheryl Butterfield, AEP Artist

Youth Arts for Change (YAC)

Since 2011, the Youth Arts for Change Program (YAC) of the Clackamas County Arts Alliance has engaged vulnerable and underserved youth in programs that harness the power of creativity to promote positive expression. In the unprecedented era of COVID-19, CCAA’s mission to bring programming to youth did not waiver, but rather evolved. Continuing to reach youth through programming meant not only to engage them creatively but also provide opportunities for positive connections with caring adults and peers.

YAC maintains the following seven program goals for participating teens:

- Build positive relationships and teamwork
- Boost confidence, communication and creative thinking
- Connect with the community
- Discover hidden strengths and talents
- Experience a safe setting to learn new skills and grow
- Explore creative outlets and career opportunities
- Share what matters with an appreciative audience

For five sessions over two weeks in the summer of 2020, CCAA continued our longstanding Youth Arts for Change partnership with the Clackamas County Juvenile Department (CCJD) to offer a new and unique arts program for their youth.

Operating in a markedly different landscape than in previous years due to COVID-19, YAC demonstrated continued strength in its ability to evolve to meet partner needs and offer unique youth-centered programming that engaged young participants in creative outlets promoting positive expression through artistic projects. The focus of the program was for the youth to create a Zentangle piece of art based upon the theme “community.”

The program engaged students through 3 main avenues: (1) pre-recorded instructional videos discussing Zentangle and providing instructional guidance through demonstrations; (2) handouts with examples sent to students; and, most critically, (3) one-on-one Zoom meetings with the youth and the instructor, with a CCJD staff member present. With this multifaceted approach, youth received creative instruction in the videos and handouts that aligned with the program goals of positive and intentional self-expression. This allowed the individual Zoom meetings to be succinctly focused on each youth and their ideas, providing constructive and encouraging real-time feedback. To eliminate any reluctance and/or barriers to participation, youth were provided all materials by CCAA.

Of the five students that started the program, four saw it through to the end, and three of the student’s art was displayed in a county government building. We were extremely pleased with overall youth engagement and based upon conversations with CCJD staff, we believe that the strength of the program was the unique opportunity of having one-on-one meetings with the youth, allowing trust and dialogue to develop in a fun and supportive atmosphere.

Fall/Winter 2020-2021 – Baker Prairie Middle School Book Project

Youth Engaged: 8

In this 14-session online program, youth met twice weekly with our YAC arts educator to discuss and informally write about the “theme” of the day. The youth then used these writings as a jumping-off point to create visual art in a variety of media to pair with their writing. The themes and projects for the youth were autobiographical and designed to encourage introspection and creativity that was personal and highlighted the uniqueness of each student. Photos of the prose and artwork were then emailed to the instructor, and each student will be receiving a book of the work they did, further highlighting the autobiographical underpinning of the program and validating their work.

The program was very successful, exceeding attendance expectations for an online program. Youth and partner feedback provided insight into the highly impactful nature of this program.

Winter/Spring 2020-2021 – Parrott Creek Ranch Program

Youth Engaged January Class: 13

Youth Engaged Spring 2021: Program still ongoing at the time of this report

Due to COVID-19, Parrott Creek Ranch, an alternative to a detention facility for adolescent boys, could not allow outside instructors onsite, and the youth were already maxed out with online instruction. CCAA responded to their needs, designing a new multifaceted program that provided their youth with opportunities for creativity while providing maximum flexibility for our partner to select projects that would best suit their youth.

- CCAA created a new menu of 10 standalone art projects specifically developed to serve youth from various ages, art experiences, and interests. Parrott Creek Ranch instructors selected eight projects. The menu contained overviews of each project, a materials list as well as an example of the work to be created. All projects were designed to be completed within 45-minutes to one hour, and likely to create a high-satisfaction final product for youth to share with pride.
- Once selections were made, partnering staff were provided with written lesson plans/instructions, and a link to an instructional video that walked them through each project so they could administer each art project independently.
- CCAA ordered, packaged, and delivered the art supplies needed for each selected project for up to 20 youth plus one staff member to engage in the selected project.
- CCAA provided all aspects of this program – including educational materials and project instruction - absolutely free of charge to Parrott Creek Ranch.

COVID-19 IMPACTS: CCAA sought to remain flexible adapted to the unprecedented impact of the pandemic, while still providing youth with creative opportunities throughout 2020 and into 2021.

Early on, we recognized the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Clackamas County youth and how it closed off opportunities for them to engage creatively at a time when those outlets are needed most. In response, CCAA pivoted with innovative approaches to address mental health issues and other negative impacts, developing opportunities for:

- Positive and creative expression
- Arts as an outlet and means of mindfulness
- Creative activities providing youth with a real-world hands-on experiences that avoids additional online/screen time
- Provision of art supplies for youth to eliminate barriers to participation and encourage continued creative endeavors

CCAA prioritized each of these partnerships despite sustaining an almost 25% cut to our budget in 2020. Acknowledging this challenging time of disruption and isolation, our Board and staff has remained committed to honoring these long-standing relationships and it was our priority to provide positive creative outlets for youth.

BY THE NUMBERS: Over **25** youth (and counting!) and **3** partner organizations have benefitted from Youth Arts for Change programming throughout the year.



Thank you for having me be a part of the Zentagle art class. It's been a wonderful experience being a part of it and I'm hoping that we can continue to have these kinds of art classes in the Fall and future. Especially since the high school students will continue to be taught digitally and most will not have an opportunity to have this creative outlet. I know most high schools will be focusing mainly on core classes, and I'm not sure if there will be electives for the students. Therefore, I feel that having this creative outlet is even more important.

I feel like overall the Zentangle class has been a success for many reasons. The first reason is because of Lisa. Lisa, is an amazing teacher to teach this class. You can feel her dynamic energy through the zoom calls. She's gifted in teaching, reading each student's emotional and physical needs, attentively listening, being present for each zoom call, relatable to what the student needs, excitement and genuineness. I can go on and on but I hope you get the point. She's the perfect teacher to be teaching future digital art classes.

Second, I believe the format of the Zentangle class is perfect. I think the one-on-one 15 minute, two to three times a week is perfect for the students that are involved with the juvenile department. It's plenty of time to get the instructions from Lisa, and enough time to have the students express their thoughts without it feeling uncomfortable for them. Also having the one on one class time for 15 minutes does not require too much of their time. The two to three times a week is also a benefit for students.

It's not an everyday commitment and gives them time to work on their homework. After seeing the students yesterday, you can sense that some of them are really sad that it's only a 5-day art class. It almost feels like another day or two more classes is needed.

The most important reason to have other art classes is the journey the students take during the classes. It's so amazing how they are willing to share their story and experiences through art and how Lisa guides them with that. Even the students who said they were not good at art, are trying and amazing themselves to what they can do. One youth expressed that she has found peace in art when things are crazy in her life right now. Another youth has disclosed her personal struggles and how she wants to show it through art. Another youth was able to verbally give us an insight to the actions that are most important to her. When I was calling one of the youth today she was sad that it was the last class.

I truly hope that the Juvenile Department and Arts Alliance can continue our partnership and have future art classes. Even the youth that were referred and was skeptical about the art class, their view and mannerism changed as the class progressed and you can sense their personal journey beginning.

- Clackamas County Juvenile Department Program Liaison

COUNTY WORK & ADVOCACY

Clackamas County Cultural Coalition

AGREEMENT: For the past 17 years CCAA has served as the fiscal agent for the Clackamas County Cultural Coalition. Working with the Coalition in 2020, we created a new agreement in which they assumed responsibility for more of their organizational and board support. The estimated savings to the Arts Alliance was 245 labor hours. This new agreement not only makes the Coalition stronger but gave CCAA the ability to shift priorities during this unprecedented year, allowing us to make more funds available not only to Clackamas County but Washington County too.

GRANTMAKING: Serving as Grants Administrator and Fiscal Agent on the Coalition’s behalf, CCAA distributed \$31,688 in the 16th cycle of grant-making to 17 recipients.

COVID-19 IMPACTS: Due to the effects of the pandemic, we processed 10 project grant waivers, in which the grant recipients were allowed to postpone their projects to 2021.

CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS FOR CULTURAL SUPPORT (CRFCS): In partnership with the Oregon Cultural Trust, CCAA managed the grant process to administer and distribute federal Coronavirus Relief Funding for cultural organizations in both Clackamas and Washington Counties. While we typically serve in this role for the Clackamas County Cultural Coalition, when Washington County’s Cultural Coalition was unable to distribute their allocated funds, we were able to step in and serve as fiscal agent for 32 very thankful organizations in their county as well.

Through this program, the Arts Alliance managed the administration and distribution of \$2,234,112 for 61 cultural organizations in both Clackamas and Washington Counties. Of the 621 awards totaling \$25.7 million state-wide, the CCAA managed the administration and distribution of almost 10% of total awards and almost 9% of total funds!

BY THE NUMBERS: \$2,291,325 in grants was distributed to **78** organizations through both the annual Cultural Coalition Project Grant program as well as through the CRFCS funding! We provided an additional **145** hours of administrative and fiscal agent support.



If only I had words that truly could express my feelings right now. I woke up today with a dreaded feeling because moratoriums are being lifted and an email from property managers to pay rent.....I was deciding how best to go about shutting down everything that I worked so hard for the last 12 years without any support whatsoever from anywhere. This email is making me cry. Happy tears.....lots of happy tears.

You all make me believe that when you do good, good happens eventually. Our communities need more vibrant cultural celebrations and COVID stepped in and took away some of the possibilities with crippling financial debt. This gives me renewed energy to pivot and shift to ensure that 2021 is definitely more vibrant and more joyful than this year has been and that we can do programming that celebrates us and our resilience. Thank You for helping me fulfill my vision in sharing my Indian Heritage and Arts with all of us. Yayyyy.

**– Sushmita Poddar, Founder & Owner, Bollywood Movez;
Washington County CRFCS Grant Recipient**

Advocacy & Community Partnerships

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL POSTER CONTEST: CCAA partnered with Clackamas County Safe Routes to School (SRTS). The program aims to make communities safer, healthier, and more fun by combining route improvements, traffic safety promotion, and educational activities to encourage students to walk, ride, or roll. SRTS's goal is to build awareness of the benefits of being physically active and utilizing active transportation while promoting safety among all road users.

In the spring of 2020, Clackamas County SRTS held the first annual countywide poster art contest celebrating walking, riding, and rolling to school. K-8 students were asked to draw the benefits of walking or biking to school. The Alliance provided consulting and communications assistance throughout the contest. Then, through our Artist Exhibit Program, we installed a special exhibit of the poster submissions from Ms. Wright's 4th-grade class at Hallinan Elementary School in the Lake Oswego School District. The exhibit was on display at the Clackamas County Public Services Building from October through December 2020.

> **VIEW** our Artist Exhibit Program installations on social media. Follow the Arts Alliance on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

VIRTUAL ART CLASSES: In response to COVID-19 challenges experienced by artists, CCAA created the opportunity for them to safely share their skillset with the community. For a \$200 stipend, artists were asked to produce a short video lesson, teaching in a medium of their choosing. We received ten submissions in total and shared the classes with the community through our website and in several e-mail blasts. Classes ranged from watercolor painting to origami, creating improv characters to wet felting, collage, color theory, kid-friendly projects, and more!

We were thrilled to be able to not only support artists at this time but also give people in the community a creative way to process any stress they might be experiencing as a result of the pandemic and other catastrophic and tumultuous events of 2020.



VIRTUAL ART CLASSES: In response to COVID-19 challenges experienced by artists, CCAA created the opportunity for them to safely share their skillset with the community. For a \$200 stipend, artists were asked to produce a short video lesson, teaching in a medium of their choosing. We received ten submissions in total and shared the classes with the community through our website and in several e-mail blasts. Classes ranged from watercolor painting to origami, creating improv characters to wet felting, collage, color theory, kid-friendly projects, and more!

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> **VIEW** a list of our virtual classes on our website at [ClackamasArtsAlliance.org](https://www.clackamasartsalliance.org)

RESTRUCTURE AND COMMITTEES CREATED: To be better positioned to respond to arts and culture needs throughout the county, as well as advocate on behalf of arts and culture interests to the county, CCAA created a new committee structure to inform our work.

The mission and goals of the Clackamas County Arts Alliance remain unchanged under this new structure, as we seek the most effective way to support, develop, and promote access to arts and culture in all our communities through information, resources, and leadership.

In this new structure, we see the following statements as guiding principles for our work in the county:

- Clackamas County's creative artists contribute to our collective strength, vitality, and community health.
- The arts are crucial to a complete education for all children, and integrating arts into our schools transforms learning, strengthens communities, and increases academic success.
- The unique cultural heritage and history of Clackamas County must be preserved and celebrated.
- The synergy that takes place when organizations and individuals share resources leads to a thriving arts and culture environment.

As such, CCAA remains committed to serving as the connection point, lending expertise and consultation in support of the county's goals for arts and culture and the representation of the county's arts and culture community. This will be accomplished with the following three-fold approach.

- Clackamas County Arts Alliance seeks to serve as both liaison and advocate for the county arts and culture community, providing leadership, resources, and direction as well as functioning as the convener for individual artists (by discipline,) in addition to the various arts and culture groups throughout Clackamas County.
- CCAA seeks to advise local businesses and Clackamas County city governments in need of arts and culture expertise, always looking for ways to connect local businesses or government with the county's arts and culture community for collaboration in support of local economic development and cultural tourism.
- CCAA seeks to support the County in a proactive way by enabling them to understand the various needs as well as the positive impact of the arts and culture community in the county.

To best accomplish these goals, the following **committees have been established:**

- **Visual Arts**
- **Performing Arts**
- **Literary Arts**
- **Local Arts Organizations/Councils**
- **Advocacy**

Each committee have a degree of autonomy with the ability to set goals and structure for their respective group. Committees will liaise both within their disciplines/ local communities and with CCAA's Board of Directors. The ultimate goal is for each committee to be empowered to identify advocacy needs and points of collaboration, working to accomplish at least one major project each year.

INFORMATION POINT: CCAA continues to serve as the touchpoint for artists, community members, cities, and county government, all seeking arts and culture expertise and guidance as they incorporate arts into public spaces county-wide. We are proud to engage in conversation and collaboration as we work toward the common goal of beautifying our public spaces with art and enhancing tourism and economic health through the positive incorporation of cultural programs and opportunities.

Below is a small sampling of projects for which CCAA was consulted:

- Public Art for the new Oak Lodge and Gladstone Community Project
- Artwork for the new City of Gladstone City Hall
- A COVID art installation for Clackamas County honoring county victims
- The City of Happy Valley's Sculpture Garden
- New Clackamas County residents hoping to open an art gallery in Canby

Unless a project comes under contract, CCAA provides all guidance, expertise, and resources at no cost to the inquirer. This is just another way that the Clackamas County Arts Alliance serves as the hub for all things art-related throughout Clackamas County.

PLATFORM: The Clackamas County Arts Alliance consistently provides a broad platform for arts and culture events, interests, and opportunities throughout Clackamas County. We also showcase Clackamas County artists to increase their visibility and expand professional opportunities. Through our website, social media presence, and regular emails, we seek to amplify the voices of individual artists as well as arts organizations. Hosting open studios for local theatre groups allows visibility as they perform plays and provides exposure for various other arts and culture events. We also actively source and share grant opportunities, calls for artist submissions, workshops, classes, and other beneficial opportunities for our community.

BY THE NUMBERS: 20 people signed up for committees and as new board members

OPERATIONS

Organizational Effectiveness

RESTRUCTURING: With a new Executive Director on board in 2020, Clackamas County Arts Alliance made staffing adjustments with a focus on maintaining full programmatic operations with a drastically reduced budget and staff. Operating as lean and nimble as possible, CCAA employs two .5 FTE and one .25 FTE employees, as well as two independent contractors.

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS: Throughout 2020, CCAA worked to implement and standardize administrative processes, including hosting a weekly staff meeting, revamping the monthly staff report (which will aid in grant/programmatic effectiveness metrics), organizing information, data, files, etc.

Communications

STRATEGY: CCAA maintained our robust and consistent communication strategy, including weekly event emails, monthly newsletters, website updates, press releases, and special announcements. With all the changes to

events and opportunities resulting from COVID-19, we worked to remain nimble and responsive to community needs. Outreach to individuals kept them informed and involved during times when in-person arts events and performances had all been canceled.

COVID-19 IMPACTS: As our arts and culture partners continued to pivot to virtual events, CCAA pivoted along with them, continuing to provide a voice, sharing virtual events and video production, and seeking to amplify their individual voices to our larger audience county-wide.

BY THE NUMBERS: +4% for 1,821 total subscribers to the mailing list
SOCIAL MEDIA AUDIENCE GROWTH BY THE NUMBERS: Facebook: **+16%**, Twitter: **+7%**, Instagram: **+50%**



The Clackamas County Art Alliance calendar and communications is an excellent resource for any artists wanting to stay in touch with local art opportunities and in getting the word out about their current art endeavors.

I enjoyed participating in the (AEP) Artist Exhibit Program for two years. This last year I found the Art Alliance communication invaluable in promoting my art exhibitions at the Buckley Center Gallery, U of P; and the Chehalem Cultural Center; along with generating interest in my art talks / virtual receptions. Thank you, Clackamas County Arts Alliance!

- Lisa Brinkman

We highly value the extra communication exposure we gain at Cascadia Center for Arts & Crafts through the Clackamas County Arts Alliance efforts using the event calendar listings and social media/email coverage. During the Covid pandemic smaller arts organizations need even more communications when our potential audience is uncertain as to whether programming continues; which it does thanks to partners such as the Arts Alliance and their hard work.

- Betsy Valian, Cascadia Center for Arts & Crafts

Here's a huge thank you to the Clackamas County Arts Alliance for your communications about current artistic events. I'm very appreciative about your publicizing our Milwaukie Poetry Series readings and look to you for information about other events in the County. Your publicity on the events calendar, social media and email greatly supports the arts as well as more deeply integrating them into our community. You're invaluable! Keep up the good work.

- Tom Hogan, Milwaukie Poetry Series

Forecast for 2021-2022



According to Arts and Economic Prosperity 5 report, arts and creative industries offer a powerful spark for states and localities aiming to reignite economic growth.

In addition to providing hope, solace, and even joy during turbulent times, the arts can rekindle economic recovery following a period of hardship. The arts and arts organizations provide jobs and produce revenues. They also help other sectors blossom by stimulating economic activity, invigorating tourism, and creating a climate conducive to business development.

Clackamas County Arts Alliance has identified the following priorities through 2022:

Strategic Direction

1. Complete 2022 Strategic Direction planning with new committees and board members from around the County, creating a stronger and more diverse organization.
2. Continue diversification of funding strategies to be a stronger partner with Tourism and the County, with the plan of leveraging more art funding with our Partners.
3. Collaborate with County on special art projects like “Cranes in Memory” commemorating COVID deaths.

Partnerships

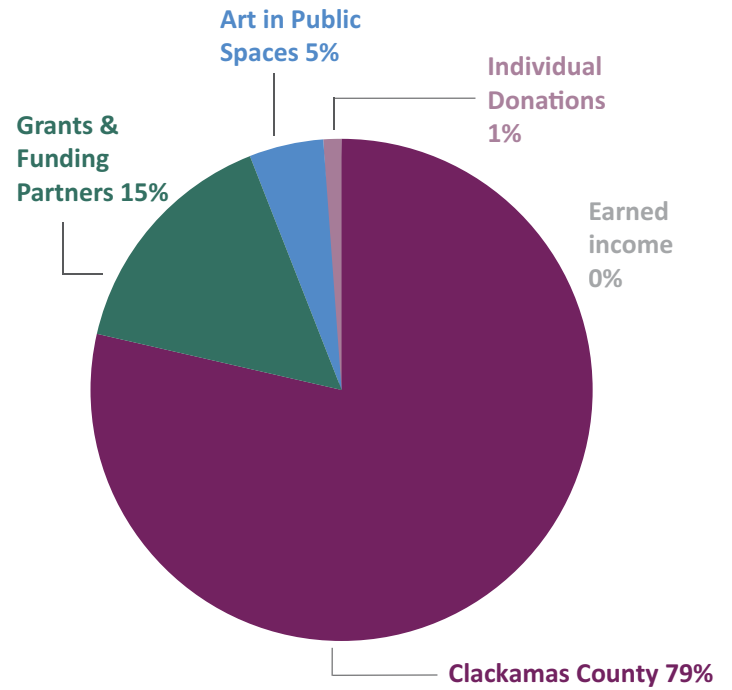
1. Partner with Young Audiences (YA) to grow the number of school districts, teachers, and students (K-8) supported by the Right Brain Initiative. CCAA will collaborate with NEA, state and local funding partners, and YA to expand this arts-integrated residency program to as many school districts and classrooms as possible.
2. Explore collaboration with Tualatin Valley Creates to provide shared educational and professional development opportunities for individual artists in both Washington and Clackamas Counties. By combining efforts to provide educational opportunities we will leverage more for artists in each County.
3. Partner with Regional Arts & Cultural Council (RACC) to provide funds directly to artists and arts organizations with grants, emergency support, and general operating support. This is a function that CCAA does not currently provide.

Financials

Clackamas County Arts Alliance

Income
July 2020 - June 2021

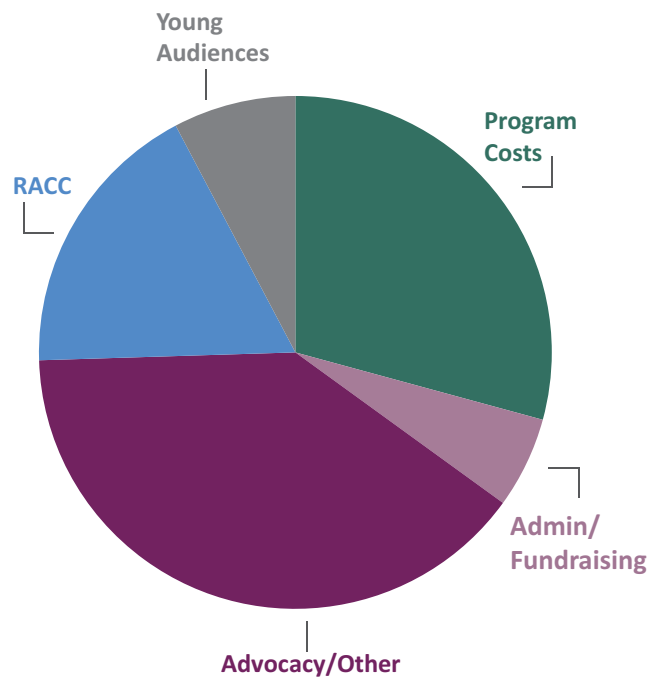
	Budget
Clackamas County	254,455.00
Grants & Funding Partners	50,050.00
Art in Public Spaces	15,500.00
Individual Donations	3,650.00
Earned Income	125.00
Other	
TOTAL	\$323,780.00



Clackamas County Arts Alliance

Expenses
July 2020 - June 2021

	Budget
Program Costs	102,120.00
Admin/Fundraising	20,100.00
Advocacy/Other	138,080.00
RACC	62,050.00
Young Audiences	27,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 349,350.00



Partner Reports





DATE 3/15/2021

TO **Dianne Alves**, Executive Director, Clackamas County Arts Alliance, **Samara Phelps**, Executive Director of Clackamas County Tourism & Cultural Affairs & **Gary Schmidt**, Clackamas County Administrator

CC Cynthia Knapp, Chief Financial Officer, RACC & Carol Tatch, Director of Philanthropic Innovation, RACC

FROM Madison Cario, RACC Executive Director & Parker Lee, RACC Board Chair

RE Budget presentation for FY22

Thank you for the opportunity to share information about the Regional Arts & Culture Council looking ahead to FY22. From the suburban centers of Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, and Oregon City to rural communities in Colton and Molalla, artists and arts organizations generate economic benefits, build vibrant neighborhoods, and improve public education for everyone in Clackamas County. It is our honor and privilege to partner with you in supporting the county's artists, innovators, and creatives.

OVERVIEW

As an independent nonprofit organization, the Regional Arts & Culture Council supports the region's creative economy by providing funding and services to artists and art organizations; managing and supporting a regional public art program; and developing long-lasting public and private partnerships. We connect artists and creatives to opportunity and access. With the population of Clackamas County making up almost one quarter of RACC's area of support and a higher growth rate than either Multnomah or Washington County in 2020, continued internal and external investments are essential to building an even more sustainable and healthy community.

Using arts and culture as our tools, RACC is working together with our key County partners (Clackamas County Arts Alliance & the Clackamas County Cultural Coalition) as well as State (Oregon Arts Commission, the Cultural Advocacy Coalition & the Oregon Cultural Trust) and National (Americans for the Arts) partners to address key County priorities – a vibrant economy, healthy communities, and safe neighborhoods. RACC's unique role in this collaborative effort includes leveraging the county's investment with funds from other public and private partners; advocating for additional resources, and by providing grants and technical assistance for artists and arts organizations whose projects and audiences cross county lines.

HISTORY

It all starts in an IGA. In 1995 (and revised in 1999), five government partners – the City of Portland, Clackamas County, Multnomah County, Washington County, and Metro – entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) supporting a new Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) that works to ensure strong and cohesive support of arts and culture in the tri-county region. As an

independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, RACC leverages the investments of our jurisdiction partners with private sector contributions to support the region’s arts and culture goals.

FUNDING, REPORTING & GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW

Funding: Clackamas County has funded RACC since its inception.

- 1995-97: \$35,000/year
- 1998-00: \$50,000/year
- 2001: \$88,000/year
- 2002-05: \$50,000/year
- 2006: \$70,000/year
- 2007-12: \$100,000/year
- 2013-17: \$80,000/year
- 2018-20: \$100,000/year
- 2021: \$62,050/year

Budgeting and Reporting: RACC submits its annual budget request to the Executive Director of Clackamas County Tourism & Cultural Affairs and to the Executive Director of the Clackamas County Arts Alliance. RACC also produces annual reports that describe our services, share our audited financial statements, and list all of the investments we make in grants, technical assistance, and public art purchases. Reports for the last 8 years can be found at <http://annualreports.racc.org>.

Liaisons: As a nonprofit organization with regional representation on its board, RACC traditionally collaborates with Clackamas County officials to identify prospective board members. With several representatives recently completing their board service, only one of our board members is currently designated as an official liaison to Clackamas County: Milwaukie resident [Octaviano Merecias-Cuevas](#). We look forward to collaborating with you on identifying additional Clackamas County residents who can represent the County’s interests on RACC’s board.

Year	Clackamas County Investment	RACC Investment (Public & Private)*	TOTAL
2015	\$80,000	\$218,000	\$298,000
2016	\$80,000	\$239,000	\$319,000
2017	\$80,000	\$287,000	\$367,000
2018	\$100,000	\$295,000	\$395,000
2019	\$100,000	\$217,000	\$317,000
2020	\$100,000	\$204,000	\$304,000
TOTAL	\$540,000	\$1,460,000	\$2,000,000

* Does not include in-kind

FY20 Investments

Program	Grantee	County Investment	RACC Investment	Total
General Operating Support Grants:	Lakewood Center for the Arts	20,000	23,000	43,000
Professional Development Grants:	Olando Lin	1,200	-	1,200
	Anne-Louise Steery	-	1,600	1,600
	Susan Schenk	300	700	1,000
Project Grants:	Canby Pioneer Chapel Performing Arts	1,000	2,000	3,000
	Quincy Woo	1,530	4,530	6,060
	Stephen Cohen	100	900	1,000
	Andy Dunn	1,059	1,941	3,000
	Gabriel Espinosa	1,500	1,500	3,000
	RiRi SynCyr	100	2,900	3,000
	SoulPatch Music Productions	100	5,850	5,950
	Big Horn Brass	2,891	289	3,180
	Oregon Adventure Theatre	4,020	530	4,550
	Wilsonville Arts & Culture Council	1,200	2,000	3,200
COVID Response Emergency Grants:	20 Individual Artist and Creative Workers received \$500 grants	-	10,000	10,000
Work for Art:	Leveraged match of County support from local businesses	11,000	11,000	22,000
Arts Education & Arts Integration	Continued arts education advocacy & fundraising and additional support directed to Young Audiences to continue the Right Brain Initiative	27,000	93,695	120,695
Partner Support	Direct Pass-Through payment to Clackamas County Arts Alliance	20,000	-	20,000
Grants Management and RACC General	Management of awards; RACC management, advocacy, fundraising, communications, and planning.	7,000	41,367	48,367
TOTAL		100,000	203,802	303,802

FISCAL 2020

COVID-19 RESPONSE

No one anticipated this past year's highlights including a global pandemic, devastating wildfires and the largest social justice movement of the past generation. RACC responded with significant program changes to support community needs, including pausing some programs during this unprecedented year allowed the team to create, develop, and deliver emergency and federal CARES funding opportunities.

Advocacy & Community Engagement

When Governor Brown and local officials began restricting crowd sizes and implementing stay-home orders in response to COVID-19, RACC quickly responded.

Our first step was to create the Oregon COVID-19 Arts Impact Survey. This survey helped paint a picture of the impact of these measures on the arts community, estimating losses from March to May 2020 for individuals working in the arts as well as for arts organizations. They reported \$56M in lost revenue for a single quarter from lost contracts, shows, and teaching work cancelled in order to comply with restrictions on group sizes, gatherings, and requirements for social distancing. Our survey results provided much of the data needed to advocate for relief from both private and public sector funders. **For Clackamas County, these losses added up to over \$816,000 for the 99 individuals and organizations that responded to the survey.**

COVID-19 Relief Funding

Our second step was to provide emergency relief to individual artists. RACC awarded three rounds of Emergency Grants to Artists and Creative Workers in Spring 2020. \$200,500 in grants of \$500 each went to 401 individuals. Of these, 20 awards of \$500 were made to Clackamas County artists and creative workers for a total investment of \$10,000.

Our third immediate action was distributing nearly \$800,000 to arts organizations from the Arts Education & Access Funds held in a "rainy day" reserve. These funds were for General Operating Support and Capacity Building partner organizations.

And finally, RACC advocated for, and has created, one-time and sustainable funding opportunities to ensure Clackamas County artists, organizations, and small businesses had support through this pandemic. RACC's advocacy, in partnership with local and state entities, resulted in:

- Federal, state, and local COVID-relief (CARES) funds for artists, arts, and culture organizations
- State and federal CARES funding for performance venues, including small businesses with public performance spaces
- More than \$3 million in statewide pooled funding for responsive grants to arts organizations, administered by the Oregon Community Foundation
- Additionally, to help mitigate the economic disruption caused by the pandemic on our community, we secured new funding for our programs from the National Endowment for the Arts, Oregon Arts Commission (OAC), and SeaChange while also maintaining continued investments from Oregon Cultural Trust, OAC, and the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation.

- Created and delivered **200 art kits** (in the bright yellow bags) to a supply drive for families displaced by wildfires at Theophilus Church, in Milwaukie, OR. [picture adjacent]



How Clackamas County dollars are leveraged and spent: Of Clackamas County’s allocation of \$62,050 the majority of the funds for FY21 (\$56,050) are directed to provide transformational and essential support grants to artists and arts organizations in Clackamas County, with the remaining \$6,000 going towards supporting RACC’s advocacy, development and general operations.

GRANTS: RACC leverages Clackamas County’s investment with funding from Metro, the City of Portland, the State of Oregon, and other private donations to yield an additional **\$50,000** in cash grants for artists and arts organizations in Clackamas County. In FY20, our efforts to increase awareness of the funding opportunities for Clackamas County-based artists and arts organizations has been so successful that we have dozens more applicants than we can currently support – this is a great opportunity for us to seek additional outside funding for the region. Following is a list of grants awarded last fiscal year (FY19/20):

- General Operating Support Grants (TOTAL \$43,000): Lakewood Center for the Arts: \$43,000
- Professional Development Grants (TOTAL \$3,800): Orlando Lin: \$1,200; Anne-Louise Steery: \$1,600; Susan Schenk: \$1,000
- Project Grants (TOTAL \$36,540): Canby Pioneer Chapel Performing Arts: \$3,000, Quincy Woo: \$6,060, Stephen Cohen: \$1,000, Andy Dunn: \$3,000, Gabriel Espinosa: \$3,000, RiRi SynCyr: \$3,000, SoulPatch Music Productions: \$5,950, Big Horn Brass: \$3,180, Oregon Adventure Theatre: \$4,550, Wilsonville Arts & Culture Council: \$3,200
- Emergency Grants: (TOTAL \$10,000) 20 Artist and Creative Workers received \$500 grants

TOTAL Direct Investments in Clackamas County FY20: \$93,340

RACC’s ONLINE REACH

6,008 Art Notes (e-newsletter) subscribers
 7,249 Facebook followers
 4,912 Instagram followers
 Doubled our community engagement from 2K to 4K monthly (organic) engaged members

35 blog posts
 626,380 racc.org website page views
 210,409 racc.org website sessions
 113,707 racc.org new users

Stories from the Field: What some Clackamas County artists are creating with support from RACC and the County

Award: *Wilsonville Arts & Culture Council – Wilsonville*
(Award Amount: \$3,200)

Project: *Wilsonville Festival of Arts*

The Wilsonville Arts & Culture Council unfortunately had to cancel the twenty-first annual festival, the 2020 Wilsonville Festival of Arts. They will re-purpose the RACC Project Grant for new, quarterly, programming for 2021. The Council has begun planning smaller, virtual, and smaller in-person offerings that parallel some of the key amenities they planned to bring to the community in 2020. Plans are underway for these quarterly events for 2021: Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall. This strategic pivot allows for the WACC to continue to provide opportunities for the community to engage in art as the pandemic continues to impact in-person gatherings.

Some of the plans include:

WINTER - “*Dream Beyond COVID*” a virtual, inclusive, juried group visual art exhibition featured on their new website. Artist participants will include: young and old, student, enthusiast, amateur, and professional.

SPRING - The “***Wilsonville Community Portrait Project***” is an eight four-sided portrait “towers” (each side 8’H x 4’W) that would punctuate the festival grounds at Town Center Park with portraits of beloved community members nominated by the community.

SUMMER - A one-day outdoor music festival featuring the **Be About Love Festival** artists and others, whose body of work reflects the theme.

FALL - The Wilsonville High School ***Día de los Muertos Festival*** WACC wants to partner with the high school and find where and how we can engage the greater population with spaces and amenities for cultural events and celebrations involving visual arts, Mexican art traditions, dance, food, and music to honor loved ones who have passed away.

Award: *Gabriel Espinosa, Lake Oswego Artist (Award amount: \$3,000)*

Project: *WinterBeast Recording Art Residency*

Audio Engineer Gabriel Espinosa was awarded a Catalyst Grant for first time grant recipients for “Hail’s Recording Arts Residency”. It was a two-fold project: create a metal album and a noise album that goes beyond simply capturing the band’s distinct live sets. Because Hail’s live shows are experimental and are quite performative in nature, making albums that remove these elements posed a challenge. He used different recording methods for accomplishing the goals. This included designating certain pieces, portions of songs, etc. for live recording and others strictly for overdubbing. Under quarantining and sheltering-in-place, he worked with Hail while providing an extended residency for them. They were able to record two full-length albums worth of material and contribute to an unreleased compilation. In the middle of their residency, Hail seized an opportunity to submit one of their songs for a tape compilation of alternative soundtracks to Tarkovsky films. The Catalyst Grant helped the recipient learn about the grant writing process, including budgeting and planning for the blossoming residency. Many issues were faced due to COVID-19 but valuable lessons were learned.



FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Strategic Framework

After reorganizing and adopting a new [Strategic Framework](#), RACC is building a stronger advocacy, community, and philanthropic engagement team with an intentional focus on improving and expanding region-wide support for artists, arts organizations, local arts councils, and creatives of all kinds. With increased requests for grants and technical support coming to RACC from artists in all parts of Clackamas County, we are keenly interested in working with you to expand support for artists and arts organizations in our community.

Arts Education: Access & Equity

The tri-county region was one of nine sites selected by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to participate in a three-year national data initiative supported by the U.S. Department of Education. The goal of the project is to further expand student access to the arts in public schools by providing each participating community with a data and mapping platform known as artlook®, which was developed by Ingenuity, a Chicago-based arts nonprofit in collaboration with Chicago Public Schools. An interactive mapping data base, artlook® allows school districts, teachers, parents, and community partners a new way to understand their local arts landscape with the intention of creating more equitable and accessible arts education opportunities for all students. We are ensuring both school districts and arts organizations know about the new platform and contribute information to make it as valuable as possible to users. Learn more about artlook® [here](#). Although COVID-19 has slowed all of us down a bit, we look forward to bringing Clackamas County arts education specialists and all the arts education partners on board in FY21 and FY22.

An Investment in our Future

RACC's goal for FY22 is to deliver at least a 200% return on the County's \$62,050 investment, to include a wide variety of technical assistance services and online resources that create additional value for Clackamas County artists, arts education specialists, and arts organizations.

Thank you for your consideration of re-investing in the Regional Arts & Culture Council next year. We are honored to be in partnership with you, serving artists and arts organizations throughout Clackamas County and the region. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any ideas or questions regarding our partnership. Our partnership fuels the creativity and productivity of Clackamas County creatives and artists.

BETTER TOGETHER





Young
Audiences
Arts for
Learning
Oregon & SW Washington

January 29, 2021

Dianne Alves
Executive Director
Clackamas County Arts Alliance
PO Box 2181
Oregon City, OR 97045

Dear Dianne,

The Right Brain Initiative (RB) has been serving Clackamas county schools and students for 13 years. RB is a collaboration between the arts community, classroom teachers, school districts, federal, state, and local governments, corporations, foundations, and non-profit organizations that seeks to transform education by bringing creativity into the classroom via arts integration - combining arts with core curriculum as a way to engage students and help them learn.

With classrooms closed this year, The Right Brain Initiative teamed up with district staff to deliver art kits to all 6,300 K-5 students in the North Clackamas School District. These kits and the accompanying art lessons are aligned with the district's social-emotional learning goals and designed by professional teaching artists and education experts. Kits are customized by grade levels and the arts lessons are translated into the top five languages used by students in the district. The teacher professional development in arts integration that RB is known for will continue to be offered via a video workshop series available to educators at the time of their choosing. In the Oregon Trail School District, virtual artist residencies have been delayed due to the wildfires this fall, but planning for spring professional development for educators is currently underway. Deep Creek Damascus Elementary School chose to pause this year's participation in The Right Brain Initiative. While student enrollment is down and one school is pausing for the year, it's notable that RB will serve more students in Clackamas County than ever before because the North Clackamas School District expanded The Right Brain Initiative to all of their elementary schools.

The funding model of RB is unique in that it brings a variety of organizations together to support students - school districts, city, county and state municipalities, foundations and corporations. Through this private/public model we are able to maximize limited public dollars.

When schools are open, school district dollars go directly to arts-integrated residency experiences with teaching artists. This year, those dollars went to support art kits and lessons designed by teaching artists appropriate for each grade level. The balance of our funds provide ongoing training and professional development for over 2,100 teachers in the region, as well as our teaching artist roster. Our goal is to imbed best practices of arts-integration in schools throughout the school year, not just during an arts experience. Classroom teachers report that through using arts

integration strategies, they observe increases in students' engagement, creative thinking, critical thinking and ability to access core content. This is especially true for our emerging bilingual students.

A History of The Right Brain Initiative in Clackamas County

Schools Served in 2020-21

North Clackamas School District

Ardenwald Elementary
 Bilquist Elementary
 Beatrice Morrow Cannady Elementary
 Happy Valley Elementary
 Linwood Elementary
 Lot Whitcomb Elementary
 Milwaukie El Puente Elementary
 Mount Scott Elementary
 Oak Grove Elementary
 Oregon Trail Elementary
 Riverside Elementary
 Scouters Mountain Elementary
 Seth Lewelling Elementary
 Sojourner School
 Spring Mountain Elementary
 Sunnyside Elementary
 View Acres Elementary
 Verne Duncan Elementary

Oregon Trail School District

Kelso Elementary
 Naas Elementary
 Oregon Trail Academy (K-5)
 Welches K-8

Young Audiences raises money from local school districts (\$41,142 from Clackamas County schools), state and national agencies (\$453,706), and the private sector (\$431,925 from businesses, foundations individuals) to leverage the county's \$27,000 investment, resulting in more than \$279,000 in direct services and arts integrated learning for more than 6,300 students in 22 schools in the North Clackamas and Oregon Trail School Districts.

	2019-20	2020-21
Schools	16	22
Students(*estimate)	6,265	6,300
Classroom Teachers(*estimate)	426	458
School District Funds	\$93,975	\$41,143
State & National Agencies	\$17,659	\$38,996
Private Sector	\$109,580	\$172,430
Clackamas County Funds	\$27,000	\$27,000
Total Funds	\$248,214	\$279,569
Total Funds per Student	\$41	\$44

School Projections for 2021-21

North Clackamas School District

Ardenwald Elementary
Bilquist Elementary
Happy Valley Elementary
Linwood Elementary
Milwaukie El Puente Elementary
Riverside Elementary
Scouters Mountain Elementary
Spring Mountain Elementary
Sunnyside Elementary
View Acres Elementary
Verne Duncan Elementary

Oregon Trail School District

Kelso Elementary
Naas Elementary
Oregon Trail Academy (K-5)
Welches K-8

Gresham Barlow School District

Deep Creek Damascus (K-8)

The goal of RB is to transform learning for all K-8 students in the Portland tri-county area through the arts, creativity, innovation and whole-brain thinking. Through residency collaborations with teaching artists and professional development for classroom teachers, we are transforming learning for over 30,000 students. Our research shows students are more engaged as they are better able to access content, think critically, and think creatively.

With many Oregon school districts projecting to reduce class size in the 2021-22 school year, we anticipate we will serve more Clackamas County classroom teachers with professional development and ongoing training next year, while serving approximately the same number of students as we did in 2019-2020

As schools re-open this year and next, RB will continue to provide arts-integrated residencies for all students in Clackamas County RB schools as well as teacher training for those schools. We anticipate growth to the Canby School District in the 2021-22 school year.

We respectfully request an investment of \$30,500 from Clackamas County for this important program that serves the county's most important constituency - its children. These funds will be matched 3:1 by investments from foundations, businesses, and caring individuals who support the transformational power of The Right Brain Initiative.

If you have any questions about The Right Brain Initiative or how we're operating this year, please contact Catherine Hayes at (503) 568-5239 or via email at catherine@ya-or.org.

Sincerely,
Catherine Hayes
Development Director

Letters of Support





March 31, 2021

Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
2051 Kaen Road
Oregon City, OR 97405

Dear Commissioners,

The Oregon Arts Commission extends our enthusiastic support for Clackamas County Arts Alliance and encourage Clackamas County to continue their contractual relationship with the Arts Alliance to ensure economic recovery and resilience of communities throughout the county.

The Oregon Arts Commission is the state-agency for the arts that works to enhance the quality of life for all Oregonians through the arts by stimulating creativity, leadership and economic vitality. We worked with the Arts Alliance for dozens of years and in multiple capacities including: awarding competitive grants, providing technical assistance, and utilizing their robust network to share opportunities to artists and arts organizations.

The Clackamas County Arts Alliance plays a pivotal and unique role for the county. Founded as a committee of Clackamas County, the Arts Alliance eventually grew into a nonprofit regional arts council. The National Endowment for the Arts created the model of arts councils in the 1970s to ensure local artists, organizations, and schools are supported by an “umbrella organization” in the region. Arts councils are essential partners to local municipalities, states and federal government, and broadly serve a region through multiple programs and services.

Clackamas County Arts Alliance is a leader among its peers for innovated and sustained work supporting:

- An active, engaged network of artists, organizations and patrons across the county;
- Robust partnerships with other nonprofits, businesses and governments, adding value to each other’s work advancing arts access for residents and visitors;
- Effective advocacy to increase public investment in arts as a vital element of strong communities.

Brian Rogers Executive Director
971-209-5385
Brian.rogers@oregon.gov

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 200
Salem, OR 97301-1280

Local municipalities often contract arts councils to address community needs including community and economic development through arts events, mentoring artists to build entrepreneurial skills to support the workforce, and connecting young people to arts education so they can access their inherent creativity and problem-solving skills. The Arts Alliance demonstrates exemplary use of county funds and provides an efficiency for the county who might not be able to do this work for the same investment.

The Arts Alliance is an essential partner with the Oregon Arts Commission and Americans for the Arts in collecting Arts and Economic Prosperity data. In this study in 2015, we learned that the nonprofit arts and culture sector is a significant industry in Clackamas County—one that generates \$14.8 million in total economic activity. This spending—\$5.8 million by nonprofit arts and cultural organizations and an additional \$9 million in event-related spending by their audiences—supports 417 full-time equivalent jobs, generates \$8 million in household income to local residents, and delivers \$1.2 million in local and state government revenue. This economic impact study sends a strong signal that when we support the arts, we not only enhance our quality of life, but we also invest in Clackamas County's economic well-being.

According to recent research from National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, the arts are key in economic recovery in communities. When communities invest in the arts, multiple industries benefit, including retail, food and beverage, and hospitality. The arts creates a sense of place, build community identity, increases economic activity, while increasing cultural tourism.

According to national data, public funding for arts and culture is a high-return investment that leverages \$9 in private funds for every public dollar invested. Your investment in the Arts Alliance will have an exponential impact in economic vitality of communities, while helping communities reconnect as we emerge from the pandemic. Your investment in the Arts Alliance is an investment in the entire county.

The Oregon Arts Commission highly supports the County's continued support of Clackamas Arts Alliance. Thank you for considering contract renewal and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Brian Rogers
Executive Director



culturaltrust.org
775 Summer Street NE, Suite 200
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-986-0088

March 31, 2021

Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
2051 Kaen Road
Oregon City, OR 97405

Dear Commissioners,

The Oregon Cultural Trust extends our heartfelt support for the Clackamas County Arts Alliance (CCAA). We encourage Clackamas County to continue their contractual relationship with the Arts Alliance to ensure its role in the immediate economic recovery and long term resilience of each community within the county.

The Clackamas Arts Alliance serves as the home and fiscal sponsor for the Clackamas County Cultural Coalition. Created in 2001 by the Oregon Legislature, the Trust is a testimony to how much Oregonians value culture. No other state provides a 100 percent tax credit to inspire cultural giving. As uniquely Oregonian as public beaches and the bottle bill, the Oregon Cultural Trust was established 20 years ago by the Oregon Legislature as an ongoing funding engine for arts and culture across the state.

As the fiscal sponsor for the Clackamas County Cultural Coalition, the CCAA plays a critical role in distributing state funds directly to the cultural nonprofits serving the county's citizens. In 2020 Oregonians gave over \$5 million to the Cultural Trust. Our three grant programs fund our five Statewide Partners, 45 County and Tribal Coalitions (including Clackamas) and qualified cultural nonprofits through competitive Cultural Development Grants.

In its history, the CCAA has supported the Clackamas Cultural Coalition's distribution of over \$635,000 in grants throughout the county. None of this would be possible without the time, expertise, community connections, and administrative support of the CCAA. Each grant requires matching funds from the community, resulting in over \$1.2 million total investment for the county's museums, libraries, school programming, cultural tourism, and arts programming. Annual funding continues to grow and the Cultural Trust relies on the volunteer-led Coalition and the CCAA to administer these funds through a transparent and accessible grant program.

The Clackamas County Arts Alliance also enjoys the profound gratitude of the Cultural Trust and the Oregon Legislature for its role during the state's COVID health crisis. When the legislature announced the allocation of \$25.7 million for the

Coronavirus Relief Funds for Cultural Support (CRFCS), the staff of the CCAA and leaders of the County Coalition rallied. With their direct support, 30 cultural organizations in Clackamas County were awarded over \$620,000 in Federal Cares funds (including the Fairgrounds, Historical Society, Main Street, and arts councils). In addition, the County Coalition and CCAA also agreed to serve as fiscal sponsor for Washington County's allocation (that Coalition's fiscal sponsor could not accept the awards). Oregon's legislative leadership were delighted and thankful for the CCAA; without them, 31 awards exceeding \$1.6 million in relief funds would not have reached the organizations in Clackamas' neighboring county.

The Clackamas County Arts Alliance has earned and deserves its status as a champion for Clackamas County and a statewide leader in the arts and culture community. In the seat of Oregon's first city, the CCAA continues to drive the value of creative expression and community investment on behalf of its citizens. Your investment in the Arts Alliance will have an exponential impact in economic vitality your communities as we emerge from the pandemic. Your investment in the Arts Alliance is an investment in the entire county and the state.

The Oregon Cultural Trust strongly encourages the County's continued support of Clackamas Arts Alliance. Thank you for considering its contract renewal and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brian Rogers', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian Rogers
Executive Director
971-209-5385
Brian.Rogers@oregon.gov



Tualatin Valley Creates drives the development of inclusive, resilient, creative communities using arts, culture, heritage, and humanities.

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Leina'ala Voss
Communications &
Development Associate

March 22, 2020

Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
2051 Kaen Road
Oregon City, OR 97045

Dear Chair Smith, and Commissioners Fischer, Savas, Schrader and Shull,

I'm writing to appeal that Clackamas County Commissioners continue to support the Clackamas County Arts Alliance (CCAA) in whatever means possible. Tualatin Valley Creates (TVC) is honored to work alongside CCAA as a fellow arts service provider for the tri-county region. It is evident to us in all of our shared interactions that CCAA provides invaluable services to your community. Their ability to manage Clackamas County-specific resources, as well as coordinating public art, youth engagement opportunities, and overseeing the Cultural Coalition are assets to organizations and individuals working across both the arts- and non-arts sectors.

Now, more than ever, we are calling on our leaders to support our nonprofits. The arts will be, and already are, a vital part of Oregon's healing process from the global pandemic and ongoing social injustices. I hope that you see this value and will continue to support CCAA in the coming fiscal years.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have. I can be reached at 503-567-1713 or director@tvcreates.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raziah Roushan", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Raziah Roushan
Executive Director

PO Box 2017
Beaverton, OR 97075
(503) 567-1713
info@tvcreates.org
www.tvcreates.org

501c3 Nonprofit
Tax ID 30-0254528

TVC is the leading arts service organization for Washington County, Oregon. TVC drives the development of inclusive, resilient, creative communities using arts, culture, heritage, and humanities by increasing visibility for community engagement opportunities and by bridging resources needed to support people working in the local creative industries. Visit www.tvcreates.org to learn more.



10 February 2021

To whom it may concern,

The Clackamas County Cultural Coalition, and by extension the county, has benefited from our successful 15-year relationship with the Clackamas County Arts Alliance (CCAA). The Alliance serves as our fiscal sponsor, receiving the annual distribution from the Oregon Cultural Trust and sending checks to our grant recipients throughout the county. CCAA also serves as staff for our grant programs, managing the Submittable software platform, and communicating effectively with grant recipients and coalition board members.

CCAA services to the coalition are funded by a small percentage of our annual trust distribution; their work and dedication far outweigh the small sum they receive (15%).

Since its inception in 2005, the Clackamas County Cultural Coalition has provided funding of over \$535,208 to 304 local arts, heritage and humanities projects and needs. Funding is made possible through the Oregon Cultural Trust which is an innovative, statewide private-public program that raises money to support and protect Oregon's cultural activities and interests.

This long-term impact on the cultural successes across our wide-spread county can be quantified in the number of performers and artists funded, the number of attendees to events and the total number of citizen lives touched and enriched by these creative organizations. What cannot be quantified is joy. The joy of seeing murals every day, of neighborhoods enjoying street art, children and families experiencing arts festivals, artists seeing their work publicly displayed, and public art projects enriching Clackamas County communities large and small.

There are historic houses, farms and cabins that have had infrastructure and educational kiosks funded; there are small volunteer-led historical societies resolutely working to preserve local heritage specific to this county; the impact of these grants is varied and wide and powerful.

We would not be doing this work at this high level without the services of the Alliance. Our long-standing partnership has provided enormous benefits for the cultural health and richness of the entire county. Thank you for your continued support of this vital county arts organization- they really do make a difference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Bryk", is written on a light-colored rectangular background.

Katinka Bryk
Chair, Clackamas County Cultural Coalition

Mayor
Honorable Tom Ellis



City Manager
Jason A. Tuck, ICMA-CM

February 17, 2021

Chair Tootie Smith
Clackamas Board of Commissioners
2051 Kaen Road
Oregon City, OR 97045

Re: Clackamas County Arts Alliance (CCAA)

Dear Chair Smith,

As Clackamas County reviews its budget contribution for the Clackamas County Arts Alliance, I want to take a moment to highlight the partnership the City of Happy Valley has had with the Alliance. For over a decade, with financial contributions from the City, the Alliance has actively served in the Happy Valley community, convening stakeholder tables, performing project management, and providing a suite of technical support services.

With the Alliance's support, many spaces in Happy Valley enjoy publicly accessible art. Some of these community assets include the 172nd roundabout sculpture ([2010](#)), silhouette sculptures and a bike shelter at Happy Valley Library ([2013](#)), bench sculptures at Scouters Mountain Nature Park ([2014](#)), and the Happy Valley Fred Meyer community mural ([2016](#)). The Alliance also assists in the Happy Valley [Sculpture Garden Program](#) and has facilitated rotating art at Happy Valley Library through the [Artist Exhibition Program](#).

Whereas our community has been positively impacted by the Alliance's partnership, so has our organization. Our staff is particularly grateful for the Alliance's relationship and expertise as we seek to grow and mature local arts programming. We hope others throughout Clackamas County continue to find value in the programs and services provided by the Alliance and look forward to partnering with them in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jason A. Tuck'.

Jason A. Tuck, ICMA-CM
City Manager

16000 SE Misty Drive, Happy Valley, Oregon 97086-4288
Telephone: (503) 783-3800 Fax: (503) 658-5174
happyvalleyor.gov

To: Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
From: Sarah McIntyre, Library Director - Sandy and Hoodland Libraries
Re: Clackamas County Arts Alliance
Date: 12 March 2021

Dear Board of County Commissioners,

Please accept this letter of support for the Clackamas County Arts Alliance (Artist Exhibit Program, Clackamas County Cultural Coalition Grants program, and Youth Arts for Change Program). These programs along with many others help to explore and share the arts with numerous Clackamas County residents.

Long before I started as Library Director for the City of Sandy in 2013, the Libraries had a contract with Clackamas County Arts Alliance to bring local art into the libraries. This simple contract makes it possible for approximately 170,000 visitors to our building each year to see beautiful art created by residents who live and work in their own County. The staff member who coordinates the hanging of the art is very easy to work with. They give us plenty of notice for art change out days and oftentimes move their date and time of the art change out to meet the needs of the library. During the pandemic, they regularly checked in with us to see what our status was (open or not) and we worked together to show the art in the buildings when we were closed to the public. Since March 1st, we have been open for limited browsing, and it is great to once again see people stop along the ramp wall to view the art.

In addition to taking advantage of their Artist Exhibit Program, the Sandy Public Library was a recipient of a Clackamas County Cultural Coalition Grant in 2017. The Coalition awarded us \$1501 for programming support for our Total Eclipse Program. This program was part of our Summer Reading Program in 2017, and included programs at both Sandy and Hoodland Libraries to create eclipse viewers and performances of the Sandy Actors Theatre's play *Rendezvous with Darkness*, specifically written and produced by the Sandy Actors Theatre for our young audiences. It culminated in a final program in Bluff Park on the day of the eclipse, where we had entertainment, handed out eclipse viewers, and had over 350 people attend. This large scale program would not have been possible without additional grant funding from the Cultural Coalition.

In addition to these two experiences as a host library and recipient of grant monies, I have had the pleasure of attending the Youth Theatre for Change program held at Clackamas Community College in 2018. This program was a wonderful way to showcase the brave and creative youth in our community. I found the performance to be a snapshot of how youth today perceive the world. It was wonderfully creative and thought provoking.

Arts education and advocacy in Clackamas County would not be what it is today without the Clackamas County Arts Alliance. They touch so many lives and bring joy to so many of the almost 400,000 residents in our communities.

Sincerely,





CHRISTINA MCMAHAN
DIRECTOR

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

JUVENILE INTAKE AND ASSESSMENT CENTER
2121 KAEN ROAD | OREGON CITY, OR 97045

April 8, 2021

Clackamas County Arts Alliance
Christine Toth, Youth Arts for Change Coordinator
PO Box 2181
Oregon City, OR 97045

Dear Ms. Toth:

I am writing to thank the Clackamas County Arts Alliance (CCAA) and the Youth Arts for Change (YAC) Program for its support over the years of justice-involved youth. The Juvenile Department has partnered with CCAA and the YAC Program since 2011. This strong, long-standing partnership has given some of our county's most vulnerable youth the opportunity to create and experience art as a restorative mechanism for healing, growth, change. Though some youth may be reluctant participants at first, they enjoy the classes, reflect on their lives as they participate, and are proud of their efforts and art work.

Most recently, over the course of 5 sessions for 2 weeks in the summer of 2020, CCAA's Youth Arts for Change continued in partnership with the Clackamas County Juvenile Department (CCJD). Facing a markedly different landscape than in previous years due to COVID-19, YAC demonstrated its ability to evolve to meet partner needs, maintain unique youth-centered programming, engage our youth in creative outlets, and promote their positive expression through artistic projects.

The summer program engaged students through 3 main avenues: (1) pre-recorded instructional videos to provide guidance through demonstrations; (2) handouts with examples sent to students; and, most critically, (3) 1-on-1 youth Zoom meetings with the instructor, with a CCJD staff member present. Arts supplies were delivered to youth at home so that they could participate in these virtual sessions. Some youth had no previous access to any kind of art supplies and were thrilled to receive what many youth take for granted. Two youth that participated in the program were part of the exhibit in the Public Service Building Plaza through early March.

In addition to the benefits to our community and the youth's growth while on probation, COVID-19 has been a challenging time with limited opportunities for youth to have access to safe and fun pro-social activities. It was nice to work in partnership with CCAA and YAC to provide an opportunity for kids to have fun during these very challenging times.

Sincerely,

Christina McMahon
Director, Clackamas County Juvenile Department



April 5th, 2021

To whom it may concern:

My name is Briana Correa and I work for a nonprofit organization called Todos Juntos. For many years we have been working together to create an art program that is accessible to all the students in Canby. The art program has always been a very successful program. The success in the program comes from the facilitators being interested in creating a plan that students are interested in and want to expand their creative side. The best part is that the facilitators create a welcoming/safe environment for each student to be okay to show their creativity no matter what level each student might be. The students have benefited so much from this program because it opens their mind to try new things, to be okay if you are not artistic, a space where they want to enjoy doing art and explore it.

The best part about working with the Arts Alliance Program is that they are open to accommodate and work with Todos Juntos on how to share this program to the students. During the pandemic, we were able to offer an art program in the fall. During that time, we had 8 committed students participating virtually twice a week. Even though we had this program virtually, we still built this amazing relationship with the students, that they wanted to keep participating. We are excited to offer this program again in the spring. We are so happy to work with the Arts Alliance Program and work together as a team to find ways and offer programs that benefit the students and the community.

Best regards,

Briana Correa

Canby PreventNet Sites Manager

Email: brianac@todos-juntos.net

Phone: (503) 878-2437

Wilsonville Boones Ferry Historical Society
8200 SW Wilsonville Road
Wilsonville, OR 97070
March 2021

Dianne Alves
Clackamas County Arts Alliance
PO Box 2181
Oregon City, OR 97045

Re: CCAA endorsement and thank you

First, the volunteer board of the Wilsonville Boones Ferry Historical Society owes a debt of gratitude to you for jump start funding of our efforts to organize our artifacts. The grant we received allowed us to consult with a professional archivist who helped us create a plan for our long neglected closet of interesting artifacts from Wilsonville history. This set us on a four year course of securing other grants to professionally assess, document and manage our archives.

In addition, CCAA set in motion a monumental citywide focus on arts, culture and heritage in Wilsonville. While serving on the CCAA Advisory Board, we held two citizen meetings to list what was working and not working to support the arts. Based on those findings, I worked with the CCAA Executive Director to apply for a Metro Community Enhancement Grant to guide the city government on how to focus limited resources on celebrating our arts and culture. That survey sparked a multiyear project which has resulted in a citizen-driven Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy adopted in 2020. The focus is on community context, assisting cultural non-profits to build capacity, creating a commission with staffing, improving inter-governmental collaboration, developing a public arts program, and creating sustainable funding mechanisms to support cultural activities, events and programs. The pandemic has slowed us down somewhat for now, but Wilsonville City Council has approved this groundbreaking project which included surveys of how 30 other municipalities support their arts and cultural assets. None of this would have happened without the impetus from CCAA.

On a personal level as a visual artist, 60 other artists and I enjoy the CCAA Artists Exhibition Program which lets us showcase our art in public places around the county, advancing our public profile.

I write this as a practicing visual artist, Historical Society officer, Wilsonville Cultural Strategy Task Force member and a former member of the CCAA Advisory Board. I have firsthand knowledge of CCAA's positive impact in many other cities in the county through my years on the Advisory Board.

Sincerely,

Susan B. Schenk



Young Audiences Arts for Learning



Oregon & SW Washington

Young Audiences of Oregon, Inc.
1220 SW Morrison Street, Suite 1000
Portland, Oregon 97205
(503) 225-5900
(503) 225-0953 Fax
youngaudiences@ya-or.org
www.ya-or.org

March 11, 2021

Dear Clackamas County Commissioners,

Founded in 1958 as an independent affiliate of the country's largest arts-in-education organization, Young Audiences has grown into a leading local provider of youth arts programs in Oregon & SW Washington. Guided by our mission—to inspire young people and expand their learning through the arts—we connect community-based artists with students to bring powerful, creative learning experiences to more than 70,000 young people each year. From our quality-assured roster of teaching artists to our planning, fundraising, and training services for educators, we provide comprehensive support for arts education in our community.

In January 2020, Young Audiences took over management of the nationally-recognized arts-integration program The Right Brain Initiative. This effective program uses professional development and artist residencies to train educators to use the arts to teach core subjects like reading and math. The Right Brain Initiative is serving 22 schools and 6,300 students in Clackamas County this school year.

Since taking over management of the program, Young Audiences has received tremendous support for Clackamas County youth from the Clackamas County Arts Alliance. Their advocacy and support has meant that this school year, every student in the North Clackamas School District received an artist-designed art supply kit to help get kids off screens while learning important social-emotional skills through the arts. And, as students return to schools later this month, The Right Brain Initiative will be there to support the students in the Oregon Trail School District with arts-integrated learning.

When educators and administrators adapted to comprehensive distance learning at the start of this school year, it was the committed support that we had from the Clackamas County Arts Alliance that convinced district administrators to move forward with continuing with The Right Brain Initiative this school year. They were honored and inspired by their community's support for their students learning goals. Young Audiences urges the Clackamas County commissioners to continue their support for the Clackamas County Arts Alliance – a creative community treasure.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to reach me at 503-568-5239 or Catherine@ya-or.org.

Sincerely,

Catherine Hayes

Development Director

Kristi Riedel

Programs Director

Kim Strelchun

Right Brain Director

Brett Kimball

Finance Director

DATE 4/30/2021

TO **Clackamas County Commissioners, Dianne Alves**, Executive Director, Clackamas County Arts Alliance, **Samara Phelps**, Executive Director of Clackamas County Tourism & Cultural Affairs & **Gary Schmidt**, Clackamas County Administrator

CC Cynthia Knapp, Chief Financial Officer, RACC, Carol Tatch, Director of Philanthropic Innovation, RACC, Octaviano Merencias-Cuevas, County representative, RACC Board of Directors

FROM Madison Cario, RACC Executive Director & Parker Lee, RACC Board Chair

RE Budget presentation for FY22

Thank you for the opportunity to share information about the Regional Arts & Culture Council as we look ahead to FY22. From the suburban centers of Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, and Oregon City to rural communities in Colton and Molalla, artists and arts organizations generate economic benefits, build vibrant neighborhoods, and improve public education for everyone in Clackamas County. It is our honor and privilege to partner with you in supporting the county's artists, innovators, and creatives.

ABOUT THE REGIONAL ARTS & CULTURE COUNCIL (RACC)

We connect artists and creatives to opportunity and access. As an independent nonprofit organization, the Regional Arts & Culture Council supports the region's creative economy by providing funding and services to artists and art organizations; managing and supporting a regional public art program; and developing long-lasting public and private partnerships. With the population of Clackamas County making up almost one quarter of RACC's area of support and having a higher growth rate than either Multnomah or Washington County in 2020, continued internal and external investments are essential to building an even more sustainable and healthy community.

Using arts and culture as our tools, RACC is working together with our key County partners (Clackamas County Arts Alliance & the Clackamas County Cultural Coalition) as well as State (Oregon Arts Commission, the Cultural Advocacy Coalition & the Oregon Cultural Trust) and National (Americans for the Arts) partners to address key County priorities – a vibrant economy, healthy communities, and safe neighborhoods. RACC's unique role in this collaborative effort includes leveraging the county's investment with funds from other public and private partners; advocating for additional resources, and by providing grants and technical assistance for artists and arts organizations whose projects and audiences cross county lines.

THE PATH TO PARTNERSHIP - OUR SHARED HISTORY

It all starts in an IGA. In 1995 (revised in 1999 to include Clackamas County), five government partners: the City of Portland, Clackamas County, Multnomah County, Washington County, and Metro, entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) supporting a new Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) that works to ensure strong and cohesive support of arts and culture in the tri-county region. As an independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, RACC leverages the investments of our jurisdiction partners with private sector contributions to support the region's arts and culture goals.

CONNECTING ARTISTS TO OPPORTUNITY AND ACCESS: STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Clackamas County artists are creating with support from RACC and the County

Award: *Wilsonville Arts & Culture Council – Wilsonville*
(Award Amount: \$3,200)

Project: *Wilsonville Festival of Arts*

While the Wilsonville Arts & Culture Council had to cancel the twenty-first annual Wilsonville Festival of Arts, they are re-purposing the RACC Project Grant they received for new, quarterly, programming for 2021. The Council has begun planning smaller, virtual, and smaller in-person offerings that parallel some of the key amenities they planned to bring to the community in 2020. Plans are underway for these quarterly events for 2021: Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall. This strategic pivot allows for the WACC to continue to provide opportunities for the community to engage in art as the pandemic continues to impact in-person gatherings.

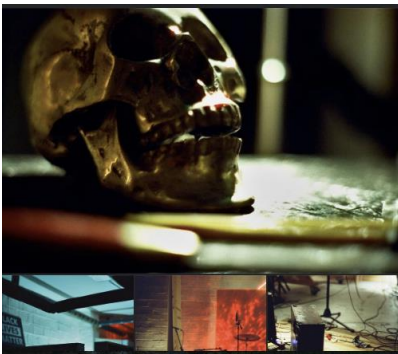
Some of the plans include:

WINTER - “Dream Beyond COVID” a virtual, inclusive, juried group visual art exhibition featured on their new website. Artist participants will include: young and old, student, enthusiast, amateur, and professional.

SPRING - The **“Wilsonville Community Portrait Project”** is an eight four-sided portrait “towers” (each side 8’H x 4’W) that would punctuate the festival grounds at Town Center Park with portraits of beloved community members nominated by the community.

SUMMER - A one-day outdoor music festival featuring the **Be About Love Festival** artists and others, whose body of work reflects the theme.

FALL - The Wilsonville High School **Día de los Muertos Festival** WACC wants to partner with the high school and find where and how we can engage the greater population with spaces and amenities for cultural events and celebrations involving visual arts, Mexican art traditions, dance, food, and music to honor loved ones who have passed away.



Award: *Gabriel Espinosa, Lake Oswego Artist (Award amount: \$3,000)*

Project: *WinterBeast Recording Art Residency*

Audio Engineer Gabriel Espinosa was awarded a Catalyst Grant for first time grant recipients for “Hail’s Recording Arts Residency” program. It was a two-fold project: create a metal album and a noise album that goes beyond simply capturing the band’s distinct live sets. Because Hail’s live shows are experimental and are quite performative in nature, making albums that remove these elements posed a challenge.

Gabriel used different recording methods for accomplishing the goals.

This included designating certain pieces, portions of songs, etc. for live recording and others strictly for overdubbing. Under quarantining and sheltering-in-place, he worked with Hail while providing an extended residency for them. They were able to record two full-length albums worth of material and contribute to an unreleased compilation. In the middle of their residency, Hail seized an opportunity to submit one of their songs for a tape compilation of alternative soundtracks to Tarkovsky films. The Catalyst Grant helped the recipient learn about the grant writing process, including budgeting and planning for the blossoming residency. Many issues were faced due to COVID-19 and valuable lessons were learned.

FUNDING, REPORTING & GOVERNANCE OVERVIEW

Funding: Clackamas County has funded RACC since its inception.

Directed Amounts to RACC	
1995-1997	\$35,000 per year
1998-2000	\$50,000 per year
2001	\$88,000
2002-2005	\$50,000 per year
2006	\$70,000
2007-2012	\$100,000 per year
2013-2017	\$80,000
2018-2020	\$100,000 per year
2021	\$62,050

Budgeting and Reporting: RACC submits its annual budget request to the Executive Director of Clackamas County Tourism & Cultural Affairs and to the Executive Director of the Clackamas County Arts Alliance. RACC also produces annual reports that describe our services, share our audited financial statements, and list all of the investments we make in grants, technical assistance, and public art purchases. Reports can be found at <http://annualreports.racc.org>.

Liaisons: As a nonprofit organization with regional representation on its board, RACC traditionally collaborates with Clackamas County officials to identify prospective board members. With several representatives recently completing their board service, only one of our board members is currently designated as an official liaison to Clackamas County: Milwaukie resident [Octaviano Merecias- Cuevas](#). We look forward to collaborating with you on identifying additional Clackamas County residents who can represent the County's interests on RACC's board.

Investments and Services Summary 2015-2020:

Year	Total Clackamas County Investment	Funds sent to RACC and distribution once received	RACC Investment (Public & Private)*	TOTAL
2015	\$80,000	RACC \$60,000, CCAC \$20,000	\$218,000	\$298,000
2016	\$80,000	RACC \$60,000, CCAC \$20,000	\$239,000	\$319,000
2017	\$80,000	RACC \$60,000, CCAC \$20,000	\$287,000	\$367,000
2018	\$100,000	RACC \$80,000, CCAC \$20,000	\$295,000	\$395,000
2019	\$100,000	RACC \$80,000, CCAC \$20,000	\$217,000	\$317,000
2020	\$100,000	RACC \$80,000, CCAC \$20,000	\$204,000	\$304,000
TOTAL	\$540,000		\$1,460,000	\$2,000,000
			*Does not include in-kind support	

FY20 Investments

Program	Grantee	County Investment	RACC Investment	Total
General Operating Support Grants	Lakewood Center for the Arts	20,000	23,000	43,000
Professional Development Grants	Olando Lin	1,200	-	1,200
	Anne-Louise Steery	-	1,600	1,600
	Susan Schenk	300	700	1,000
Project Grants	Canby Pioneer Chapel Performing Arts	1,000	2,000	3,000
	Quincy Woo	1,530	4,530	6,060
	Stephen Cohen	100	900	1,000
	Andy Dunn	1,059	1,941	3,000
	Gabriel Espinosa	1,500	1,500	3,000
	RiRi SynCyr	100	2,900	3,000
	SoulPatch Music Productions	100	5,850	5,950
	Big Horn Brass	2,891	289	3,180
	Oregon Adventure Theatre	4,020	530	4,550
	Wilsonville Arts & Culture Council	1,200	2,000	3,200
COVID Response Emergency Grants	20 Individual Artist and Creative Workers received \$500 grants	-	10,000	10,000
Arts Impact Fund, RACC's Workplace Giving Program	Leveraged match of County support from local businesses	11,000	11,000	22,000
Arts Education & Arts Integration	Continued arts education advocacy & fundraising for arts educators and in-school engagement. Starting in FY20, our arts education/integration program will no longer be the Right Brain Initiative.	27,000	93,695	120,695
Partner Support	Re-directed County payment to Clackamas County Arts Alliance	20,000	-	20,000
Grants Management and RACC General	Management of awards; RACC management, advocacy, fund-raising, communications, and planning.	7,000	41,367	48,367
TOTAL		\$100,000	\$203,802	\$303,802

FISCAL 2020: COVID-19 RESPONSE TO SUPPORT THE ARTS

No one anticipated this past year's highlights including a global pandemic, devastating wildfires and the largest social justice movement of the past generation. RACC responded with significant program changes to support community needs, including pausing some programs during this unprecedented year allowed the team to create, develop, and deliver emergency and federal CARES funding opportunities.

Advocacy & Community Engagement

When Governor Brown and local officials began restricting crowd sizes and implementing stay-home orders in response to COVID-19, RACC quickly responded.

Our first step was to create the Oregon COVID-19 Arts Impact Survey. This survey helped paint a picture of the impact of these measures on the arts community, estimating losses from March to May 2020 for individuals working in the arts as well as for arts organizations. They reported \$56M in lost revenue for a single quarter from lost contracts, shows, and teaching work cancelled in order to comply with restrictions on group sizes, gatherings, and requirements for social distancing. Our survey results provided much of the data needed to advocate for relief from both private and public sector funders. **For Clackamas County, these losses added up to over \$816,000 for the 99 individuals and organizations that responded to the survey.**

COVID-19 Relief Funding

Our second step was to provide emergency relief to individual artists. RACC awarded three rounds of Emergency Grants to Artists and Creative Workers in Spring 2020. \$200,500 in grants of \$500 each went to 401 individuals. Of these, 20 awards of \$500 were made to Clackamas County artists and creative workers for a total investment of \$10,000.

Our third immediate action was distributing nearly \$800,000 to arts organizations from the Arts Education & Access Funds held in a “rainy day” reserve. These funds were for General Operating Support and Capacity Building partner organizations.

And finally, RACC advocated for, and has created, one-time and sustainable funding opportunities to ensure Clackamas County artists, organizations, and small businesses had support through this pandemic. RACC’s advocacy, in partnership with local and state entities, resulted in:

- Federal, state, and local COVID-relief (CARES) funds for artists, arts, and culture organizations
- State and federal CARES funding for performance venues, including small businesses with public performance spaces
- More than \$3 million in statewide pooled funding for responsive grants to arts organizations, administered by the Oregon Community Foundation
- Additionally, to help mitigate the economic disruption caused by the pandemic on our community, we secured new funding for our programs from the National Endowment for the Arts, Oregon Arts Commission (OAC), and SeaChange while also maintaining continued investments from Oregon Cultural Trust, OAC, and the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation.
- Created and delivered **200 art kits** (in the bright yellow bags) to a supply drive for families displaced by wildfires at Theophilus Church, in Milwaukie, OR. [picture adjacent]



How Clackamas County FY2021 dollars are being leveraged and spent: Of Clackamas County's FY21 allocation of \$62,050, the majority of the funds, \$56,050, are directed to provide essential and transformational support grants to artists and arts organizations in Clackamas County, with the remaining \$6,000 going towards supporting RACC's advocacy, development, and general operations.

GRANTS: RACC leverages Clackamas County's investment with funding from Metro, the City of Portland, the State of Oregon, and other private donations to yield an additional **\$50,000** in cash grants for artists and arts organizations in Clackamas County. In FY20, our efforts to increase awareness of the funding opportunities for Clackamas County-based artists and arts organizations has been so successful that we have dozens more applicants than we can currently support – this is a great opportunity for us to seek additional outside funding for the region. For a complete listing of grants awarded last fiscal year (FY19/20), please see page 4 of this memo. Total direct investments in Clackamas County in FY2020 was \$162,435.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Strategic Framework

After reorganizing and adopting a new [Strategic Framework](#), RACC is building a stronger advocacy, community, and philanthropic engagement team with an intentional focus on improving and expanding region-wide support for artists, arts organizations, local arts councils, and creatives of all kinds. With increased requests for grants and technical support coming to RACC from artists in all parts of Clackamas County, we are keenly interested in working with you to expand support for artists and arts organizations in our community.

Arts Education: Access & Equity

The tri-county region was one of nine sites selected by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to participate in a three-year national data initiative supported by the U.S. Department of Education. The goal of the project is to further expand student access to the arts in public schools by providing each participating community with a data and mapping platform known as artlook®, which was developed by Ingenuity, a Chicago-based arts nonprofit in collaboration with Chicago Public Schools. An interactive mapping data base, artlook® allows school districts, teachers, parents, and community partners a new way to understand their local arts landscape with the intention of creating more equitable and accessible arts education opportunities for all students.

We are ensuring both school districts and arts organizations know about the new platform and contribute information to make it as valuable as possible to users. Learn more about artlook® [here](#). COVID-19 has slowed the roll-out of the program and we have taken that time to make sure this program meets the community where they are in these times. We look forward to bringing Clackamas County arts education specialists and all the arts education partners on board in FY21 and FY22.

An Investment in our Future

RACC's goal for FY22 is to deliver at least a 200% return on the County's \$62,050 investment, to include a wide variety of technical assistance services and online resources that create additional value for Clackamas County artists, arts education specialists, and arts organizations.

Thank you for your consideration of re-investing in the Regional Arts & Culture Council next year. We are honored to be in partnership with you, serving artists and arts organizations throughout Clackamas County and the region. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any ideas or questions regarding our partnership. Our partnership fuels the creativity and productivity of Clackamas County creatives and artists.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



For over 25 years, the Clackamas County Arts Alliance (CCAA) has been the hub for all things art-related as stated in our mission – “Keeping arts and culture central to life in Clackamas County.” The purpose of our work is to support, develop, and promote access to arts and culture in every community throughout the county. Whether benefitting at-risk youth, delivering school programs, facilitating community beautification, or using art as a healing tool in healthcare environments, the value of the arts in our communities cannot be understated. Arts and culture are increasingly essential to the social and economic well-being of our county.

As part of our commitment to Clackamas County arts and culture, CCAA also serves as the fiscal agent and grants administrator for the Clackamas County Cultural Coalition whose mission is to grow the cultural assets in the county. The Coalition’s primary function is to distribute funds from the Oregon Cultural Trust to local arts, history, heritage, humanities organizations and cultural creatives.



RACC, a regional arts agency, serves the diverse community of artists, organizations, schools, and residents throughout greater Portland. RACC’s annual direct services to Clackamas County include funds disbursed through General Operating Support, Project Grants, and arts education funding. RACC works regionally, and at the state and national levels, to advocate for funding, visibility, and other resources for the County. **RACC Online:** 6,008 Art Notes (e-newsletter) subscribers 7,249 Facebook followers, 4,912 Instagram followers, 35 blog posts, 626,380 racc.org website page views, 210,409 racc.org website sessions, 113,707 racc.org new users.

Together for

