



New Jersey State Council on the Arts Resources for Community Revitalization

The mission of the **New Jersey State Council on the Arts** is to support, encourage and foster public interest in the arts; enlarge public and private resources devoted to the arts; promote freedom of expression in the arts; and facilitate the inclusion of art in every public building in New Jersey.

- Units of government and non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for Arts Project Support for single arts events, such as a concert, theatre production, exhibition or dance performance.
- The Council can connect you with your County Arts Agency, local arts groups and artists <https://www.nj.gov/state/njsca/index.html>
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Community Development through the Arts

The Council has placed increased emphasis and focus on the importance of the arts as a powerful tool for economic and community development. In addition to its funding programs that encourage community cultural planning and other means of connecting the arts to communities, the Council is now more actively publishing articles, engaged in speaking appearances and organizing panel presentations to local officials by working closely with the New Jersey League of Municipalities, New Jersey Planning Officials, and the NJ Chapter of the American Planning Association to encourage cities and towns everywhere to make the arts and culture central to their plans for economic and community vitality.

Creative placemaking happens when artists and arts organizations join their neighbors in shaping their community's future, working together on place-based community outcomes. It's not necessarily focused on making places more creative; it's about creatively addressing challenges and opportunities. Success is measured in the ways artists, formal and informal arts spaces, and creative interventions have contributed toward community outcomes. Creative placemaking at its best is locally defined and informed and about the people who live, work and play in a place.

Creative Placemaking Resources & Links

1. **ArtPlace** is a ten-year collaboration among a number of foundations, federal agencies, and financial institutions. They began their work as an organization in 2011, and will finish in 2020 with a mission to position arts and culture as a core sector of community planning and development. Their website has many examples of successful creative placemaking projects throughout the country. <https://www.artplaceamerica.org/>.
2. **National Consortium for Creative Placemaking** (located in New Jersey) helps grow more sustainable, prosperous, equitable, inclusive, and resilient communities with webinars, workshops, Knowledge Exchanges, Summits, Community Coaching and Strategy Labs. <https://www.cpcommunities.org/>

3. **The National Endowment for the Arts** has information on creative placemaking and offers Our Town Grants for creative placemaking projects. <https://www.arts.gov/artistic-fields/creative-placemaking>
4. **Sustainable Jersey** is a nonprofit organization that provides tools, training and financial incentives to support communities as they pursue sustainability programs. There are a number of Arts and Creative Culture actions that can earn your municipality points including: Establishing a Creative Team, Creative Assets Inventory, Creative Placemaking Plan, Municipal Commitments to Support Arts and Creative Culture and Utilizing Your Creative Assets. <http://www.sustainablejersey.com/actions-certification/actions/>

The Public Building Arts Inclusion Act of 1978

Brief on the Act and the Council's role in fulfilling the Public Building Arts Inclusion Act

Since the passage of the Public Building Arts Inclusion Act on September 17, 1978, the New Jersey Public Arts Inclusion Program has led to the commissioning and installation of hundreds of artworks in state-financed construction projects. Per the act, up to 1.5% of the construction budget of any state-financed project is designated for the inclusion of fine arts in public buildings. Fine arts is carefully defined in the act to include “sculpture, murals, mosaics, bas reliefs, frescoes, tapestries, monuments, fountains and other ornamentation or displays which are intended to complement the artistic quality and esthetic effect...The term does not include the incidental hardware or functional structural elements” of the building(s).

Whenever a new public building is to be constructed at the expense of the State, the contracting officer shall, together with the architect who s/he has engaged, consult with the Council regarding the elements of fine arts to be included or incorporated in the design of such building(s). In this capacity, the Council assists State agencies and State Universities in the selection of artists for all projects including those for NJ Transit's Transit Arts Program and such major projects as the WW II Memorial. Currently the Council utilizes an online system called, “[Called For Entry](#)” or “CAFÉ”, to maintain a fair and transparent process for the selection of artists to undertake state-funded public art commissions. Announcements of NJ Public Arts Inclusion projects are listed under the “Public Art” category on the CAFÉ website, and artists can respond with an expression of interest to be considered for the project. This free service allows the project selection committee, which includes a designated Council staff member, the project architect, building users and agency stakeholders to view and vote on work samples submitted, and ultimately to select the artists to create public art.

New Jersey State Council on the Arts Local Arts Program (LAP)

Since 1979 the New Jersey State Council on the Arts has worked in collaboration with the complete network of 21 officially designated County Arts Agencies (CAAs) to provide the people in all corners of the state with access to quality arts experiences in their communities. The Council awards multi-year Local Arts Program Grants to the CAAs to support their local arts development programs, activities, planning, administration and professional development; and to regrant funds to community-based arts organizations and projects, which have local Impact. Over 550 such grants are made annually under grant programs designed and administered by the respective CAA.

County Arts Agency	Location	Phone	Website
Atlantic County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs	Mays Landing	609-909-7309	atlantic-county.org/cultural-affairs
Bergen County Division of Cultural & Historic Affairs	Hackensack	201-336-7274	https://co.bergen.nj.us/cultural-historic-affairs/about-cultural
Burlington County Office of Cultural Affairs & Tourism	Eastampton	609-265-5858	co.burlington.nj.us/1346/Arts-Culture
Camden County Cultural & Heritage Commission	Camden	856-374-4283	camdencc.edu/Community/culturalandheritagecommission
Cape May County Division of Culture & Heritage	Cape May Courthouse	609-463-6415	http://cmcculture.net/
Middlesex Office of Arts & History	New Brunswick	732-745-4489	http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/About/artsculture/Pages/default.aspx

Cumberland County Cultural & Heritage Commission	Bridgeton	856-453-2175	http://cumberlandnjart.org/
Essex County Division of Cultural & Historic Affairs	Verona	973-433-7469	https://www.essexcountyparks.org/cultural
Gloucester County Cultural & Heritage Commission	Sewell	856-464-5214	https://www.rcgc.edu/Cultural/Pages/default.aspx
Hudson County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs	Jersey City	201-459-2070	http://www.hudsoncountynj.org/office-of-cultural-affairs-and-tourism/
Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission	Flemington	908-237-2010	http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/depts/c&h/c&h.htm
Mercer County Cultural & Heritage Commission	Trenton	609-278-2712	http://www.mercercounty.org/departments/culture-and-heritage
Monmouth Arts	Red Bank	732-212-1890	https://www.monmoutharts.org/
Morris Arts	Morristown	973-285-5115	http://www.morrisarts.org/
Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission	Toms River	732-929-4779	http://www.co.ocean.nj.us/ch/

Passaic County Cultural & Heritage Council	Paterson	973-684-5444	http://pccc.edu/cultural-affairs/pcchc
Salem County Cultural & Heritage Commission	Salem	856-935-7510 ext. 8384	https://www.salemcountynj.gov/departments/cultural-heritage-commission/
Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission	Somerville	908-231-7110	https://www.co.somerset.nj.us/government/public-works/cultural-heritage
Sussex County Arts & Heritage Council	Newton	973-383-0027	https://www.scahc.org/
Union County Office of Cultural & Heritage Affairs	Elizabeth	908-558-2550	http://ucnj.org/parks-recreation/cultural-heritage-affairs/
Warren County Cultural & Heritage Commission	Oxford	908-453-4381	http://www.wcchc.org/index.html