



February 13, 2018

TO: Members of the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development

FROM: Karen S. Mittelman, executive director  
Vermont Arts Council

RE: FY2019 budget submission

As the new executive director of the Arts Council, I'm pleased to submit the enclosed materials regarding our FY2019 budget submission. You'll find a copy of our proposed budget, reflecting level funding; a list of our FY2018 grants, which delivered outstanding arts programming to every county in Vermont; and data on the economic power of the creative sector in our state.

We know that the arts and creativity are a vital part of nurturing the talents of the next generation and building healthy, livable communities. Over the past five years, the Council awarded more than \$3.2 million in 823 grants that supported artists and performers, brought creative experiences to students across the state, and revitalized public spaces, from downtowns to public libraries and parks.

In the coming year, the Council will deepen our commitment to expanding access to the arts for all Vermonters, by prioritizing grantmaking in economically challenged communities and supporting arts experiences for at-risk groups. We are also committed to investing in Creative Placemaking projects that revitalize downtowns, villages or regions through the arts, animating public spaces and bringing new energy and inspiration to local businesses and neighborhoods. Arts and culture are key ingredients in making Vermont communities places where people want to live and raise their families.

We are grateful for the ongoing support of the state of Vermont, and I look forward to working with each of you.



## Proposed FY19 Budget

### Revenue and Expense Summary

Major Category	FY17 ACTUAL	FY18 BUDGET	VAC FY19 Budget
<b>REVENUE</b>			
State Appropriation	\$675,307	\$675,307	\$717,735
State - office rental & internet access subsidy/in-kind	47,700	38,150	0
Other State Contracts, capital funds			
Art in State Buildings - capital funds	4,000	50,000	50,000
Cultural Facilities Grants - capital funds	224,628	200,000	200,000
Federal Grant: National Endowment for the Arts	718,800	708,900	708,900
Private funds: Grants, contributions, misc revenue	104,281	75,900	85,540
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 1,774,716</b>	<b>\$ 1,748,257</b>	<b>\$ 1,762,175</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Services:			
Grant programs			
"Animating Infrastructure" projects	74,904	-	-
Art in State Buildings projects	4,000	45,000	45,000
Artist Projects and Professional Development	35,952	35,000	50,000
Arts Organizations Projects and technical assistance	67,490	63,200	65,000
Arts Education grants to schools	123,800	77,500	77,500
Cultural Facilities grants to towns, nonprofits	224,628	200,000	200,000
Partnership/operating grants for nonprofits	174,750	154,000	130,000
Subtotal Grants	\$ 705,524 39.8%	\$ 574,700 32.9%	\$ 567,500 32.2%
Workshops			
Accessibility workshops, technical assistance	12,527	6,000	6,400
Artists Business & marketing workshops	10,862	10,000	5,500
Arts organizations workshops	44,364	20,800	20,000
Poetry Out Loud (national high school program)	19,856	17,500	17,500
Teaching artists training workshops	5,023	500	0
Partnership Projects			
Cultural Data Project (to assist nonprofits)	2,500	5,000	2,500
Publications, Marketing, VT Creative Network Services	84,577	66,907	58,600
Recognition and awards, other services	14,758	15,000	15,000
Staffing for program services	505,390	528,059	538,624
Program services operating expenses	60,341	92,746	91,176
Subtotal Services	\$ 760,201	\$ 762,512	\$ 755,300
Subtotal Grants and Services	\$ 1,465,725	\$ 1,337,212	\$ 1,322,800
Fundraising & Administration			
Staffing	363,295	311,545	326,513
Phone, postage, printing, rent, travel, other operating	98,044	99,500	112,862
Subtotal Fundraising & Administration	\$ 461,339	\$ 411,045	\$ 439,375
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 1,927,064</b>	<b>\$ 1,748,257</b>	<b>\$ 1,762,175</b>
<b>NET GAIN/(LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ (152,348)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

Total Staffing Costs	868,685	839,604	865,137
Council Investment	152,348		-
Change in Anticipated Revenues		\$ (26,459)	\$ 13,918
Increase (Decrease) Direct money to Grants		\$ (0)	\$ (7,200)
Increase (Decrease) Direct money to Services			\$ (7,212)

# Vermont Arts Council FY2018 Grants

To date in FY2018, the Vermont Arts Council has awarded 115 grants totaling \$525,358.

**Arts Impact Grants** support organizations, municipalities, and schools in their efforts to create a more vibrant quality of life by providing equal and abundant access to the arts.

**18 grants totaling \$41,313**

**Art in State Buildings** grants promote the work of Vermont artists by placing works of art in public buildings.

**2 grants totaling \$6,000**

**Arts Partnership Program** advance the annual operations of Vermont arts organizations through three-year grants.

**29 grants totaling \$158,800**

**Artists in Schools Grants** support in-class artist residencies for Vermont schools.

**28 residencies totaling \$50,850**

**Cultural Facilities Grants** help nonprofit organizations and municipalities enhance, create, or expand the capacity of an existing building to provide cultural activities to the public.

**16 grants totaling \$209,095**

**Creation Grants** support the creation of new work by Vermont artists.

**10 grants totaling \$30,000**

**Head Start Arts Integration Grants** fund partnerships between local arts organizations and Head Start agencies to support early arts education programs.

**6 grants totaling \$21,500**

**Technical Assistance Grants** help Vermont arts organizations strengthen their capacity to serve constituents.

**4 grants totaling \$4,550**

**Director's Discretionary Grants**

**2 Arts in Education grants totaling \$3,250**



# Vermont Arts: Sparking Growth and Moving Vermont Forward

## The Creative Sector Drives Economic Growth and Spurs Investment

In 2015, Vermont's nonprofit arts organizations **provided 4,268 jobs** and **generated more than \$9.8 million in revenue to local and state governments** (Arts & Economic Prosperity 5). The arts are a key part of Vermont's creative sector, which in 2015 accounted for more than 39,000 jobs or 8.6% of the job market (FutureWorks, June 2016).

**Vermont's share of creative workers is the largest in New England**, representing jobs in nearly every field, from media and marketing to architecture, engineering, and electronics (Economic and Public Policy Research Group, UMass, June 2017).

Without Arts Council support and funds, communities would struggle to keep cultural facilities open and accessible to both Vermont residents and tourists. **Arts Council grants enable communities to leverage additional private funds**, promoting significant economic investment in our communities. Grantees leverage more than \$10 for every dollar of Arts Council funds.

## Arts and Cultural Heritage are Vital to Vermont's Unique Identity

**The arts drive tourism.** 70% of visitors who came to Vermont for a cultural event in 2015 said it was their primary purpose for visiting our state. On average, tourists spent \$46.35 while residents spent \$23.45 (excluding ticket cost).

**Cultural tourists and residents spent a total of \$44 million** at cultural events in 2015. Festivals, performances, and museum exhibits across the state attract tourist dollars and support the leisure and hospitality sector.

**The arts build livable communities.** Hundreds of local theaters, museums, cultural centers, and music halls connect residents more deeply to their communities, convincing people to build lives here.

- The new Northern Stage theater in White River Junction (supported by several Arts Council grants) is one of 6 arts-related construction projects completed in Vermont in the last 2 years, providing hundreds of construction and engineering jobs for Vermonters. Northern Stage has sparked investment in downtown businesses and promoted development of new restaurants, shops, and housing for seniors in an economically challenged region.
- An innovative partnership between the Arts Council, the Agency of Transportation, and the town of Danville resulted in a successful re-development of a part of U.S. Route 2 that runs through the center of Danville. Artists collaborated with traffic engineers, town leaders, and stakeholders to upgrade the roadway. Together they designed new traffic patterns, outdoor sculpture, and signage that revitalized the village center of this small, close-knit community.

**The rich and vibrant cultural landscape across Vermont shapes who we are, where we live, and how we chart Vermont's future together.**

