

CREATIVE AGING INITIATIVE



"I have watched a supportive community form and bonds deepen between its members over the six months of this program."

The [Creative Aging Initiative](#) is building Vermont's capacity to support older adults while promoting health, wellness, and social engagement through the arts.

Meeting the Needs of an Aging State

[Vermont's vision for an age-friendly state](#) highlights the importance of providing accessible and affordable opportunities for older adults to share time, joy, wisdom, and talents through creative connections. Participating in the arts as one ages improves emotional well-being, supports health, and brings purpose and joy.

Grants, Training, and Partnerships

Since 2022, 20 organizations in Vermont have received grants totaling \$202,395 to support hundreds of Vermonters in arts participation and social engagement.

The Initiative emphasizes a learning model that respects the capabilities of older adults by challenging them to develop artistic skills, deepens social engagement for older adults and caregivers, and employs teaching artists to design and deliver arts programs for older adults.

The Initiative includes:

- Community-based grants to deliver skills-based creative aging activities to older adults—from photography to dance to poetry and more
- Training for teaching artists to develop skills in working with older adults
- Partnership building and connection between artists, arts organizations, area agencies on aging, and service providers

Continued Support and Expanded Arts Opportunities

Continued state, federal, and private investment in the arts is crucial to meeting the needs of older Vermonters and helping them thrive as they age. The Vermont Arts Council is committed to expanding arts engagement opportunities for older adults and deepening the statewide partnerships that will result in continued success for this vital program.

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