

# Chamber of Culture

The Evolution of Seattle's work supporting  
Arts & Cultural Districts, 2014-2019





# Arts & Culture Districts In Seattle

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- Program launched in 2014
- Creative Placemaking Toolkit
- Current Districts
  - Capitol Hill Arts District (2014)
  - Historic Central Area Arts & Cultural District (2015)
  - Uptown Arts & Cultural Coalition (2017)
  - Columbia Hillman Arts District (2018)
- District Pipeline



# Toolkit Evolution

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- The Initial Creative Placemaking Toolkit
  - Pop-Up Space Activations
  - Right-of-Way District Identifiers
  - Wayfinding Cultural Space Markers
  - Busking Support
  - Art Historic Markers
  - Parklets
- Community-Driven Initiatives
  - Design Guidelines
  - Affordable Arts Workforce Housing
  - Cultural Space Incentives
  - CAP Report Advocacy
  - Public Safety





# Aligned Advocacy

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“If the Seattle Opera and the VERA Project can agree to a shared priority, that’s something we can respond to.”



# The Chamber of Culture

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- Centered in Equity
- Citywide Arts Advocacy
- Aligned, Shared Priorities Platform
- Needs and Opportunities



# The Equity Challenge

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- Each District has centered equity in their work
  - Focusing on preservation of ethnic legacies
  - Identifying existing opportunities
  - Moving from assumption to empirical evidence
  - Naming those not present and developing strategies for connecting





# Citywide advocacy

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- Sharing research and resources
- Intentional focus on creative economy – jobs creation, affordability, livability
- Sustaining arts and cultural spaces



# Shared Priorities

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- Increased capacity
- Centralized administration
- Relationship building across districts
- Shaping the built environment
- Developing a sustainable model for growth and effectiveness





# Process

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- Build cross district relationships
- Assess needs and opportunities
- Engage in shared visioning
- Develop shared proposal
  
- *Timeframe January – November 2019*

