

# Seattle Office of Arts & Culture

Sustainability, City Light, Arts & Culture Committee  
Friday, February 16, 2024

*Presented by:*  
Director Gülgün Kayim

2/14/2024

ARTS



City of Seattle



- Mission and Vision
- Our Commitment to Racial Equity
- Programs
  - Public Art
  - Partnerships, Education, and Grants
  - Cultural Space
  - Facilities
- Funding Streams
- Seattle Arts Commission
- 2024 Budget and Priorities





We activate and sustain Seattle through arts and culture.

*Greatness Starts Here*  
by Ulises Mariscal





We envision a city driven by creativity that provides the opportunity for everyone to engage in diverse arts and cultural experiences.

DIARAMA, 2018





# Our Commitment to Racial Equity

We commit to an anti-racist work practice that centers the creativity and leadership of people of color—those most impacted by structural racism—to move toward systems that benefit us all.

Detail from *Together We Rise*  
by Matika Wilbur



# Our Commitment to Racial Equity

We seek new solutions that use arts as a strategy to drive, not only our office but the City as a whole, toward racial equity and social justice.

*Never Again Is Now*  
by Erin Shigaki





# Public Art

Our Public Art program gives people opportunities to encounter art in their daily lives.

*"Dancer's Series: Steps"*  
by Jack Mackie





# Public Art

When former Mayor Wes Ulman and the Seattle City Council created the program in 1973, they cited a city's **responsibility** to expand the public's experience with art, stating that **art in public places enables people to better understand their communities and their lives.**





# Partnerships, Education, and Grants (PEG)

Our PEG programs make meaningful impacts by expanding access to arts and culture for residents and visitors of all ages throughout the city and build capacity of individual artists and arts organizations.



*Here Lies Love*  
Funded by  
Civic Partners



# Arts Education - The Creative Advantage

We partner with Seattle Public Schools, the Seattle Foundation, and community arts organizations to reinvest in Seattle's students and our community's economic and creative future.





# Grants

Our funding of cultural organizations and individual artists makes Seattle more vibrant and spurs economic growth.

Guelaguetza  
Funded by Arts in Parks







# Cultural Space



# Facilities

## Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute (LHPAI)

(partnership  
between Parks  
and ARTS)





# Facilities

ARTS partners with the nonprofit orgs LANGSTON, Central District Forum for Arts and Ideas, and the Historic Central Area Arts and Cultural District to steward African American arts and culture at LHPAI.



© Naomi Ishisaka

*The Every 28 Hours Plays*



# Facilities

ARTS at King Street Station is a cultural space in the heart of the city, dedicated to increasing opportunities for communities of color to generate and present their work.





# Facilities





# Facilities

Denny  
Substation  
(partnership between  
ARTS and City Light)





# Funding Streams: 1% for Art

The 1% for art ordinance funds our Public Art programming and mandates capital construction departments to include “an amount for works of art equal to at least one percent (1%) of the total cost of any such construction project.”

*Engine 32½*  
by Sean Orlando





# Funding Streams: Admissions Tax

*Carmina Burana*  
Spectrum Dance Theater

The admissions tax funds arts and cultural programming and operations.

ARTS uses these resources to build and sustain the creative sector.





# Seattle Arts Commission

The Seattle Arts Commission supports the City by advocating for arts policy, creating access for equitable participation in the arts, and fostering and enriching arts engagement for all residents.





# 2024 Adopted Budget

Budget Summary Level	2024 Adopted Budget
Arts & Cultural Programs	\$12,319,962
Public Art	\$4,873,618
Cultural Space	\$986,750
Leadership & Administration	\$4,723,234
<b>Total 2024 Adopted Budget</b>	<b>\$22,903,564</b>
Total FTE Count: 41.34	





# 2024 Priorities

- Downtown activation:
  - King Street Station
  - Denny Substation
  - Strategic Hope Corps investments
- Preparing for the 2026 World Cup
- Planning and policy development:
  - ARTS strategic planning
  - Preparing for a City-wide cultural plan

