



Seattle Arts Commission

Presentation for Sustainability, City Light, and
Arts & Culture Committee

Kayla DeMonte, Co-Chair
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WHO WE ARE



The Seattle Arts Commission is a 16-member citizen body made up of community volunteers appointed by the Mayor and City Council.

We represent a wide variety of sectors, institutions, districts, and disciplines.

Our current membership includes arts and cultural administrators and working artists who are embedded in communities throughout the city

WHAT WE DO



DIARAMA, 2018

- We support and strengthen the work of ARTS, bringing community perspective to ongoing and new initiatives of the Office of Arts & Culture (ARTS)
- We advocate for the arts sector, focusing on decisions or projects which will advance and positively impact the Seattle arts community
- We serve as a liaison, sharing the work of ARTS with Seattle communities
- We also support the Seattle City Council through information sharing and advocacy for a vibrant creative economy and healthy arts sector

HOW WE DO IT

- We **engage in advocacy** throughout the year in support of a strong arts sector, including during the city's annual budgeting process.
 - We **connect with and advise** city leaders on how arts & culture can be leveraged to sustain a vibrant city and economic growth
 - We engage in ongoing work through our **SAC Committees**, each supporting a core department of ARTS work
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Guelaguetza
Funded by Arts in Parks

Our Committees

Facilities & Equitable Development

Advises on the work of the ARTS Office around issues of cultural space and its impact on economic development.

Cultural Investments Committee

Provides feedback on the ARTS office's racially equitable grant processes & investment strategies and advocates for equitable, accessible, and inclusive cultural investments.

Public Art Advisory Committee

Reviews and recommends public art projects and programs, and advocates for the one percent-for-art projects in public/private partnerships.

Our Impact

Helping to launch our city's innovative Cultural Space Agency

A first-of-its-kind cultural real estate development company, designed to facilitate affordable, culturally-focused community space.

Spurring the development of the Creative Advantage Program

A city-wide initiative to establish equitable access to arts learning for all SPS students



"Dancer's Series: Steps"
by Jack Mackie

Our Impact

Supporting the maintenance of Seattle's Admissions Tax

Helping to maintain a stable funding source for critical public grants that support employment and opportunities

Supporting ARTS at King Street Station as a thriving community hub

Engaged in critical community outreach and input gathering as this new space was designed and developed

Our 2024-2025 Goals



Detail from *Together We Rise*
by Matika Wilbur

1. **Successfully advocate** for retaining Admissions Tax Revenue in 2025-2026 budget
 2. **Connect** with Seattle City Council, other Commissions, community networks, and cultural districts to coordinate advocacy, support fellow arts conveners, and grow understanding of sectoral needs
 3. **Strengthen marketing and outreach** for ARTS grant opportunities and programs focusing on under-invited artists and arts organizations
 4. **Revitalize** Commission administration and governance
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