



Spring 2016

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GOVERNOR WOLF PROPOSES MODEST INCREASES TO ARTS & CULTURE LINE ITEMS IN FY2016 –17 BUDGET PROPOSAL

By Jenny Hershour
Citizens for the Arts in PA

Gov. Tom Wolf's budget proposal, presented in early February, included a \$1 million increase in the Grants to the Arts line item bringing the line item to \$10.59 million.

The arts and culture line items represent a

very small slice of the overall state budget. The line item for arts grants accounts for .032% of the Governor's total budget proposal. Equally as small are the line items for the Council on the Arts (.0028%), Historical and Museum Commission—General Government Support (.063%) and Cultural and Historical Support (.0061%).

Department/Appropriation	FY 2015-16 Available	Governor's FY 2016-17 Proposal
Executive Offices		
Council on the Arts	\$892,000	\$903,000
Grants to the Arts	\$9,590,000	\$10,590,000
Community and Economic Development		
Marketing to Attract Tourists	\$4,264,000	\$4,291,000
Education		
Subsidies to Public Libraries	\$54,470,000	\$55,647,000
Historical and Museums Commission		
General Government Support	\$19,624,000	\$20,624,000
Cultural and Historical Support	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000

Source: Governor's Budget Office

New Report from IMLS and LISC Says Yes, the Humanities Can Make a Difference

By Mary Ellen Burd, Pennsylvania Humanities Council

A new national report by [the Institute of Museum and Library Services \(IMLS\)](#) and [Local Initiatives Support Corporation \(LISC\)](#) highlight the many ways museums and libraries collaborate with public-sector partners to address the needs of economically distressed communities.

On February 17 IMLS and LISC, with local help

from the [PA Humanities Council \(PHC\)](#), [Philadelphia LISC](#), the [Free Library of Philadelphia \(FLP\)](#), and the [Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations \(PACDC\)](#), convened PA library, museum, and community-development leaders to roll out the report findings, further discuss the topics at hand, and forge paths to greater collaboration in our PA communities.

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Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School Student Greer LeRoy Named 'Poetry Out Loud' State Champion

By Heather Doughty
Pennsylvania Council on the Arts

Greer LeRoy, a sophomore at Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School in Beaver County is Pennsylvania's 2016 Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest state champion. LeRoy will represent Pennsylvania in the national contest in Washington, D.C. on May 2-4.

The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts hosted the competition at The State Museum of Pennsylvania Auditorium in Harrisburg. Governor Tom Wolf welcomed the 14 finalists from across the state to the capital city.



Photo of the 14 Regional Finalists by Gayle Cluck

"Arts are a critical component of a young person's education. Young people need creative expression as a significant part of their educational experience," Governor Wolf said. "It's a pleasure to join in celebrating the achievements of these students competing to represent the Commonwealth at the National Finals for Poetry Out Loud in Washington, D.C."

LeRoy received a \$200 from The Poetry Foundation and an expense-paid trip to the national championship. Second place went to **KiraJayne Burkhauser**, a senior in the Hermitage School District.

Over 7,000 high school aged students participated in this year's competition from 122 schools across the commonwealth. The contest is facilitated through the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and its regional partners.

Students memorized and performed three poems selected from poetry anthologies and were judged on voice and articulation, physical presence, dramatic appropriateness, evidence of understanding, overall performance, and accuracy.

The 12 other regional finalists that competed in the PA State Finals were **Lauren Atwell**, St. Marys Area School District; **Elizabeth Catalano**, Holidaysburg Area School District; **Isabel Gonzalez**, Reading School District; **Anna Hershey**, Juniata County School District; **Mary Huffman**, Scranton School District; **Abbi Knouse**, Warwick School District; **Jessica Lehman**, Merion Mercy Academy; **Loren McCullough**, Easton Area School District; **Lillian Rauss**, Indiana Area School District; **Renee Short**, Derry Area School District; **Arianna Smith**, Bloomsburg Christian School; and **Ulysses Yarber**, State College Area School District.

Created by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Poetry Foundation, Poetry Out Loud encourages high school students to learn about poetry through memorization, performance, and competition.

For more information about the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, visit www.arts.pa.gov or call 717-787-6883. For further information on Poetry Out Loud, visit www.poetryoutloud.org.

New Report on the Humanities Cont.

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The program kicked off with a welcome from the director of the IMLS, Kathryn K. Matthew, who wrote in a follow-up blog post, "There is a movement underway to look 'outside-in' with our communities to understand how the organizational assets of museums and libraries can best be used, and it's truly exciting to watch."

"There is no amount of money that is ever going to solve all the problems that we've identified in poor neighborhoods, it's just

not there," said Chris Walker, Research Director at LISC. "But if we change the way institutions function we can change the opportunity set available to people in poor communities and that is part of our commitment."

The rich humanities experience provided by libraries and museums can act as a support for the community, but this is a resource that often goes unused. As Laurie Zierer, Executive Director at PHC, put it during the convening, "The humanities

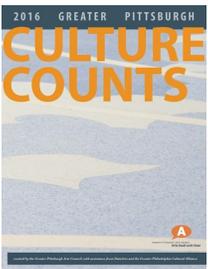
bring people together who don't normally sit at the same table to think through issues that matter."

To download the report or read a full event summary, visit pahamanities.org/IMLS-LISC.



Culture Counts in Greater Pittsburgh

By David B. Pankratz, Research & Policy Director, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council (GPAC)



Yes, **Culture Counts** in Greater Pittsburgh. The arts & culture sector annually supports 29,347 full-time equivalent jobs, \$567,655,591 in household income, and \$108,657,526 in state and local taxes.

The Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council (GPAC) wanted to know more about the health of our arts & culture sector. How does 2015 compare to 2010? How does Pittsburgh stack up against other metro areas nationwide? How do arts & culture compare with other business sectors?

Our [2016 Greater Pittsburgh Culture Counts](#) report—prepared with help from DataArts and the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance’s **Culture Across Communities: An 11-City Snapshot** report—provided answers.

The nine counties of SWPA are home to **1,054** arts & culture organizations (including parks and libraries). Why does Greater Pittsburgh have such a broad, diverse arts & culture sector?

Attendance at arts & culture events has risen 7.9% in recent years. Our 5,025,240 in paid attendance is higher than combined attendance at Steelers, Pirates, and Penguins games (3,477,267).

Subscription sales also increased - 16% in five years.

Government funding: we rank #2 among regions, thanks in part to our Allegheny Regional Asset District’s support of public assets.

Foundations: we rank #2 in per capita contributions, and our rise in foundation giving since 2009 of 35% also ranked #2.

Corporations: donations rose 17.6% since 2009.

GPAC will track these trends and will be on the lookout for changes in areas

where we fared less well in **2016 Culture Counts**. We also look forward to the June 2017 results of “Arts, Culture & Economic Prosperity 5.” In addition to data on economic impacts, GPAC is investigating intrinsic, social, and community impacts as well, all in order to provide broader evidence of the many ways the arts & culture sector serves and benefits the general public of Greater Pittsburgh, where Culture Counts.



Hill Dance Academy Theatre

PCCA’s Quilt-Barn Project

By Roger Smith, PCCA

“Thanks for getting me out of math class.” This expression of gratitude came from a student who was using geometry to lay out a quilt design on two 4’ x 8’ sheets of plywood. I was observing her and her classmates as they participated in an arts residency designed by the Perry County Council of the Arts (PCCA) in cooperation with her school’s history, math and art teachers. PCCA’s multi-disciplinary Quilt-Barn Project established quilter Denise Hoke as an artist-in-residence in this student’s high school for ten days.

In the past few years Ms. Hoke has worked with history, math and art students in five Central Pennsylvania school districts. A local historian kicked off each residency by meeting with students in

their history classes and presenting them with an array of events and movements that had occurred within their school districts over 300 years. Ms. Hoke enriched this historical stew with a short-course about the history of quilting, the many styles of quilts, and the meaning behind the styles. Building upon their new knowledge, the students created 2’ x 2’ quilt prototypes that paid deference to the past through shape, placement and color. Then the action moved to the art room. Using relevant geometry skills, students enlarged the patterns onto sheets of plywood, laying out and painting their 8’ x 8’ designs. The quilts were then hung on the sides of local barns within sight of highways in their school districts.

The thirteen quilts created by the stu-

dents are now part of a Quilt-Barn Trail that boasts 26 quilts. As a whole, the Quilt-Barns have injected a sense of artistic exuberance into the rural landscape of Juniata and Perry Counties, reinforced a positive sense of cultural identity and historical significance, and have even become a modest economic engine.

Innovative programs like the Quilt-Barn Project have assisted in keeping students, like the young woman previously mentioned, engaged and productive in school, learning in ways that are not frequently a part of the traditional school paradigm, and connecting them to their community. For more information about the Quilt-Barn Trail visit the [Perry County Council of the Arts](#) website.



SAVE THE DATE—May 17, 2016
Meet & Greet Breakfast with Arts Advocates & Members of the Arts & Culture Caucus
 8-9:30 AM—Lt. Governor's Balcony

Spotlight on ...
Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance

By Erin De Rosa
 Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance

Since 1972, the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance (GPCA) has played a key role in ensuring the health and vitality of arts and culture in Greater Philadelphia. GPCA leads, strengthens, and gives voice to more than 450 member organizations who generate over \$3.3 billion in economic impact for the region.

The Philadelphia cultural community counts on the GPCA for research reports on the health and growth of the sector; grantmaking in partnership with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts; professional development and membership services; marketing and audience development through consumer marketing programs such as the [Phillyfun-guide.com](#), [Funsavers](#), and the new community loyalty program [Funperks](#); and leadership in policy and community engagement through our GroundSwell advocacy initiative and [STAMP teen program](#).

The Cultural Alliance is the regional partner agency of the Pennsylvania Council

on the Arts. In 2015, 98 projects from the Philadelphia region were funded by Project Stream with nearly \$95,000 in grants through the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts' (PCA) Partners in the Arts program. PECO provided an additional \$15,000 in funding. The average award this year was \$1,112. Five noteworthy grantees include:

Art Ability, a year-round program at Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital which serves as a showcase for and celebration of artists with disabilities. Its largest component is an international, twelve-week exhibition and sale of art.

Brush With the Law, a prison art program by artist Maria Maneos and Fractured Atlas. The program is conducted within the Montgomery County Correctional Facility in a semi-rural section of Eagleville, PA. The project uses visual art practices as a catalyst for positive transformation and self-expression for the inmates involved.

Project Capoeira, which produces Brazilian Day Philadelphia. The festival, now in its second year at the Greater Plaza at Penn's Landing, features Brazilian music and dancing, food and beverage, artists, and other hands-on activities.



STAMP Teen Council
 Photo courtesy of the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance

Quakertown Alive, which produces Arts Alive!, the organization's annual juried art show. The show highlights emerging artists and performers in their event that takes place in downtown Quakertown. This year, Quakertown Alive will be partnering with New Vitae Wellness and Recovery and Art Z Studio to include artists who struggle with mental and chronic physical disabilities and use art as a rehabilitative activity.

RAIR (Recycled Artist in Residency), provides artists on-site access to recovered materials while RAIR's Special Projects program expands its reach by fulfilling specific material requests to community groups.

New Study Shows Arts and Cultural Production Contributed \$704.2 Billion to the U.S. Economy in 2013

THE ARTS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

\$704.2 B

contributed to the U.S. economy in 2013

4.2% OF GDP

32.5% growth in GDP contribution from arts and cultural production between 1998 and 2013



Today's creative economy gets a big boost from the arts, according to new data from the National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S. Bureau of

Economic Analysis. The latest figures cover 1998 to 2013 and they spotlight fast-growing arts industries, export trends, employment figures, consumer data, and more. In 2013, arts and cultur-

al production contributed \$704.2 billion to the U.S. economy, a 32.5 percent increase since 1998. Another key finding is that consumer spending on the performing arts grew 10 percent annually over the 15-year period. The Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account (ACPSA) is the first federal effort to provide in-depth analysis of the arts and cultural sector's contributions to the economy.

"The new data show that the production of performing arts services has grown at a faster clip than arts and cultural production in general, contributing \$44.5 billion to the U.S. economy in 2013," said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. "Notably, the

ACPSA reveals that Americans are choosing to spend more on performing arts events such as concerts, plays, and dance performances. This tells us that the arts remain a valuable and desirable commodity for U.S. consumers, and that the arts are a strong contributor to America's economic vitality."

For more information about this report visit <https://www.arts.gov/news/2016/arts-and-cultural-production-contributed-7042-billion-us-economy-2013>.