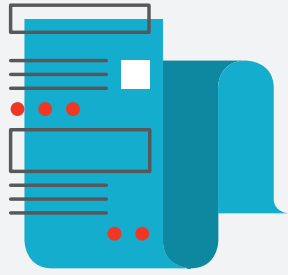


# LOCAL ARTS AGENCIES

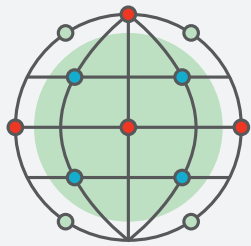
The nation's 5,000 local arts agencies (laas) promote, support, and develop the arts at the local level ensuring a vital presence for the arts throughout america's communities. Laas are diverse in their makeup—they have many different names and embrace a spectrum of artistic disciplines. But each laa, in its own way, works to sustain the health and vitality of the arts and artists locally, while also striving to make the arts accessible to all members of a community. Each laa in america is unique to the community that it serves and each evolves within its community—no two laas are exactly alike in name, programming or even mission. Below is information to help you learn more about laas so that you can identify the laas that serve your community.



## AN LAA BY ANY OTHER NAME IS STILL AN LAA—

**COMMON NAMES OF LAAS INCLUDE:** ARTS COUNCIL (OR ARTS & \_\_\_\_\_ COUNCIL), ARTS COMMISSION, CULTURAL COMMISSION, OR HERITAGE COMMISSION // CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT // CULTURAL ALLIANCE // ARTS CENTER // BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS // ARTS SERVICE ORGANIZATION // UNITED ARTS FUND // OR ANY CREATIVE NAME THAT SUGGEST THE WORK THEY DO LIKE ARTSWAVE, 4CULURE, AND ALLIED ARTS

## WHERE MIGHT AN LAA OPERATE?



- Within a local public/governmental agency
- As a private organization
- As a nonprofit organization
- As for-profit organization
- A hybrid nonprofit/for-profit organization or partnership

## WHY ARE LAAs IMPORTANT TO A COMMUNITIES HEALTH & VITALITY?



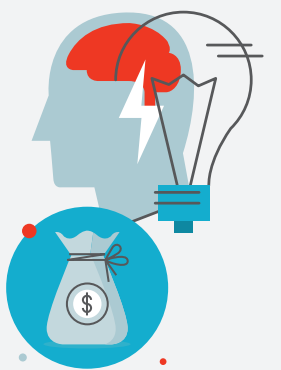
- LAAs build healthy, vibrant and equitable communities
- LAAs enable diverse forms of arts and culture to thrive
- LAAs help ensure broad accessibility and public engagement with the arts culturally, socially, educationally, and economically
- LAAs impact the economic health and growth of a community through vibrant arts programming
- LAAs support and advance arts and culture at the local level and bring communities together
- LAAs connect elected official and business leaders to the power of arts in the community

## HOW DO LAAs IMPACT THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE ARTS?

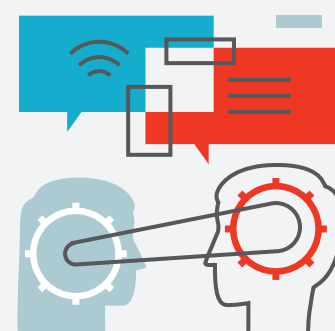
- **MAKE GRANTS TO YOUR LOCAL ARTS COMMUNITY**  
Community Theater or Symphony, Arts Festivals, Individual Artists
- **PRESENT PROGRAMMING**  
Art Classes, Lectures, Exhibitions
- **MANAGE CULTURAL FACILITIES**  
Performance or Exhibition Spaces, Museums, Arts Incubators, Live/work Spaces
- **PROVIDE SERVICES TO ARTISTS AND ARTS ORGANIZATIONS**  
Professional Development, Visibility and Advocacy Support, Technical Assistance, Group Health Insurance
- **PARTICIPATE AND OFTEN LEAD COMMUNITY CULTURAL PLANNING**  
Assessing community's cultural needs and mapping a implementation plan
- **ADVOCATE & PROMOTE ARTS-FRIENDLY POLICIES**  
Ensure funding and government policies that support the arts and arts education
- **FORGE PARTNERSHIPS WITH ELECTED, BUSINESS, AND OTHER COMMUNITY LEADERS**  
Chambers Of Commerce, School Districts, Faith-based Organizations
- **MANAGE A PUBLIC ART PROGRAM**  
Public Art Installations, Percent For Art Programs, Beautify Community Parks and Neighborhoods

## HOW DO LAAs GET FUNDING TO DO THEIR WORK?

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ALLOCATIONS // GRANTS FROM STATE ARTS AGENCY // GRANTS FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS // GRANTS FROM FOUNDATIONS AND BUSINESSES // DONATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS // MEMBERSHIP DUES // FEES FOR SERVICES AND PROGRAMS PROVIDED TO THE COMMUNITY // UNITED FUND CAMPAIGN AND WORK PLACE GIVING PROGRAMS



## HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?



- Locate a LAA with our Arts Services Directory
- If you can't find a LAA in your community, learn how you can advocate to start one

