# Part I – Agency Profile

## Agency Overview

The Idaho Commission on the Arts works to ensure that all Idahoans have access to the arts, arts education, and their cultural and artistic heritage. The Commission, funded primarily by the State of Idaho and the National Endowment for the Arts, promotes access, education, excellence and community investment in the arts across the state in three key ways:

* giving grants to arts educators, schools and school districts, arts organizations and artists
* providing professional development services and technical assistance for educators, artists and arts administrators
* facilitating capacity building in communities to support access to the arts, arts jobs and businesses for all Idahoans

With a focus on access for underserved populations, programs like Poetry Out Loud, Creative Aging, Community Scholars, and Idaho Writer in Residence serve Idaho’s students, veterans and rural residents statewide.

The Commission ensures cultural continuity and perpetuates Idaho traditions though the Traditional Arts Apprenticeship program, Fellowships, a robust folk art archive, and communications highlighting Idaho artists and arts organizations.

The Governor appoints the 13-member Commission, which hires the Executive Director to plan, manage and evaluate agency grants, programs and staff. The Commission, located in Boise, is authorized for 10 FTE.

## Core Functions/Idaho Code

Title 67, Chapter 56

Administratively directs the day-to-day operations of the agency.

### Grants and Awards

* Public Programs in the Arts (PPA) and Entry Track grants provide ongoing, reliable support for public programs delivered by Idaho arts organizations. Amounts are based on a formula that includes each organization’s fiscal size, previous funding, and advisory panel scores assessing past performance. Cash or in-kind match is required.
* Quarterly grants support arts project funding, professional development and consulting services requested by educators, schools, community arts organizations and artists. Cash or in-kind match is required.
* Arts Education Project grants support activities that unite effective practices in education and the arts. They involve schools, school districts, educators, teaching artists, and community organizations. Cash or in-kind match is required.
* The Writer-in-Residence award is the state’s highest literary recognition. The writer coordinates community programming around writing and reading, with an emphasis on rural communities. The Commission provides public information, travel, and scheduling assistance to the writer and the selected communities. No match is required.
* Fellowship grants to individual artists support and recognize artistic excellence. Artistic disciplines rotate every two years among visual, performing, literary, and folk & traditional arts. No match is required.
* Traditional Arts Apprenticeships support master/apprentice teams that advance the practice of folk and traditional arts and occupational trades found in all Idaho communities, so that such art forms and trades will thrive. No match is required.

### Non-Granting Programs and Services

* The *ArtsPowered Learning: An Idaho Education Framework* instructional resource assists educators in schools and community settings to deliver effective arts instruction, supporting the arts and humanities standards and increasing literacy, creativity, and critical thinking.
* The Arts-in-Education Collective is a community of practice for Idaho teachers, teaching artists, and arts administrators in all regions of the state. Twice-yearly convenings create space for connection and provide professional development opportunities in order to help forge working coalitions of arts educators in Idaho.
* Arts Learning Lab (ALL) is a webinar series for arts administrators and educators in Idaho. Each session is free and open to the public and features expert presenters discussing topics relevant to Idaho’s creative community. Sessions are recorded and made available through an online resource library.
* The Idaho Change Leader Institute and Making it Public workshops hone arts managers’ skills in organizational development and change management, in partnership with the Utah Division of Arts and Museums and Colorado Creative Industries.
* Gear Maker Gatherings, such as the Saddlemaker’s Summit, bring together folk and traditional arts practitioners to learn from each other and advance their trades and occupations.
* The Community Scholar program teaches local citizenry to document and preserve their Idaho communities.
* The Writer in Residence program provides engagement around literature in educational and community settings.
* Poetry Out Loud, the National Poetry Recitation Contest motivates thousands of Idaho high school students master the poetry classics in the English language through memorization and recitation, accomplished in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation.
* Special projects are conducted, such as the biennial Governor’s Awards in the Arts, Idaho’s highest honorific in the arts.,
* Started in FY 2024, creative aging services are delivered by Idaho teaching artists to residents of Idaho’s Veterans Homes, and in public libraries, in partnership with the Idaho Division of Veterans Services and the Idaho Commission for Libraries.
* The My Artrepreneur artist business training workshops assist working artists to monetize their professions.

**Revenue and Expenditures**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Revenue** | **FY 2022** | **FY 2023** | **FY 2024** | **FY 2025** |
| General Fund Appropriation | $883,400 | $905,700 | $982,800 |  |
| Federal Revenues | $1,594,460 | $991,168 | $876,464 |  |
| Misc. Revenues | $24,168 | $10,368 | $34,273 |  |
| **Total** | **$2,502,028** | **$1,907,236** | **$1,893,537** |  |
| **Expenditures** | **FY 2022** | **FY 2023** | **FY 2024** | **FY 2025** |
| Personnel Costs | $648,557 | $779,219 | $778,143 |  |
| Operating Expenditures | $296,288 | $280,692 | $275,007 |  |
| Capital Outlay | $33,501 | $32,098 | $42,123 |  |
| Trustee/Benefit Payments | $1,478,689 | $768,349 | $889,372 |  |
| **Total** | **$2,457,035** | **$1,860,358** | **$1,984,646** |  |

**Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided** | **FY 2022** | **FY 2023** | **FY 2024** | **FY 2025** |
| Grants to organizations, awarded | 211 | 125 | 130 |  |
| Grants to individuals, awarded | 54 | 71 | 85 |  |
| Conferences and workshops | 17 | 39 | 70 |  |
| Conference and workshop attendees | 463 | 918 | 840 |  |
| Social media constituent contacts | 7,678 | 8,404 | 8,832 |  |
| Contracts for services, panels, and projects | 49 | 58 | 38 |  |

# Part II – Performance Measures

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Performance Measure** | | **FY 2022** | **FY 2023** | **FY 2024** | **FY 2025** | **FY 2026** |
| **Plan Concluding FY 2021, Goal 1**  Enhance financial assistance | | | | | | |
| Establish the Folk and Traditional Arts Fellowships | Actual | Ongoing | Ongoing | Ongoing | Ongoing |  |
| Target | Planning for next cycle | Fellowships awarded | Planning for next cycle | Fellowships awarded |  |
| **Plan Concluding FY 2021, Goal 2**  Improve access to information | | | | | | |
| Provide practical arts business information for Idaho artists | Actual | Ongoing | Ongoing | Ongoing | Ongoing |  |
| Target | My Artrepreneur ongoing | My Artrepreneur ongoing | My Artrepreneur ongoing | Additional instructor hired |  |
|  |
| **Plan Concluding FY 2021, Goal 3**  Increase connectivity | | | | | | |
| Expand the arts education program reach further into underserved regions of Idaho. | Actual | Ongoing | Ongoing | Ongoing | Ongoing |  |
| Target | Administer OSBE  Expanding Access grant | Administer OSBE  Expanding Access grant | Administer OSBE  Expanding Access grant | Support OSBE in grant administration transfer |  |
| **Plan Beginning FY 2022, Goal 1**  Expand resources for Idaho artists and arts organizations | | | | | | |
| Streamline grant programs for clarity and ease of constituents in accessing grant resources | Actual | In process | Achieved | Achieved | Achieved |  |
| Target | Annual review, revision of  programs | Annual review, revision of programs | Annual review, revision of programs | Arts Learning, PPA panels streamlined |  |
| **Plan Beginning FY 2022, Goal 2**  Expand the role of arts-in-education in Idaho schools and communities | | | | | | |
| Offer grants to support arts learning in schools and community settings | Actual | Ongoing | Ongoing | Ongoing | Ongoing |  |
| Target | Ongoing | Ongoing | Ongoing | Ongoing |  |
| **Plan Beginning FY 2022, Goal 3**  Enhance the vitality of communities through public access to the arts | | | | | | |
| Facilitate community cultural planning for Idaho cities and counties | Actual | In process | In process | In process | In process |  |
| Target | Pilot cultural planning | Pilot cultural planning | Creative District  Guidelines drafted | Building Creative  Placemaking Certificate |  |
| Promote the creative arts in health and wellness, and human service settings | Actual | In process | In process | In process | In process |  |
| Target | Train practitioners & partners | Launch services | Expand to additional communities | Continue expansion |  |

## Performance Measure Explanatory Notes

The 2018-20 public planning process reinforced the perennial quests for access to resources and arts in education and revealed an emphasis on local empowerment and self-agency. The agency identified three focus goals based on the consolidated results gleaned from regional meetings.

Under Goal One, the agency bolstered resources for artists and arts organizations, simplified agency grant programs, identified (in some cases, brokered) other funding opportunities, and built the capacities of artists and arts organizations to earn more. It bears mentioning that the grantmaking improvements in the current and future plans were made possible by legislative rulemaking that culminated in an 80% reduction in our Administrative Rules, from 18 pages to four. This reduced grant paperwork of college-based grantees by 50%, authorized Folk and Traditional Arts Fellowships, and allowed further simplification of Quarterly Grants. Goal One continued the agency’s role as an advisor for obtaining resources from other funders which was crucial for the management and disbursement of Pandemic-rescue support for artists and arts organizations. The agency served as the administrative coordinator for multiple rounds of CARES Act and American Rescue Plan (ARPA) grants, representing $1.25 million dollars.

In FY22 and FY23, in partnership with the State Board of Education, the Commission brokered the Expanding Arts Access in Rural Public Schools grant program for the purpose of providing grants to Idaho rural school districts and rural charter schools to support fine arts, performing arts, and design courses. School districts were able to request up to $15,000 to increase access to arts education for learners in rural public schools that otherwise may lack the resources to offer or expand such programs. Over two years, nearly $2 million dollars was distributed. Under Goal One, we also continued our focus on building the skills and earning capacity of artists.

Goal Two addressed arts education in schools and community and at-risk settings, with emphasis on preservice and in-service training for teachers and teaching artists. Education services were traditionally administered by the Arts Education Director whose role was constrained to support for arts-in-education work impacting K-12 students. In 2022, the scope of this role was expanded to include support for lifelong arts learning, and this program area is now administered by the Arts Learning Services Director. For the past year, the new Arts Learning Services Director has worked to develop new programs that have been directed by the strategic plan but previously undeveloped, such as the Teaching Artist Greenhouse training and pilot programs exploring the agency’s role at the intersection of arts and healthcare.

Goal Three provided an exciting new opportunity for the agency: Community Cultural Planning. Taking direction from our constituents’ aspirations and taking inspiration from peer state arts agencies, Arts Idaho piloted an asset- based survey and utilized creative placemaking principles, in coordination with local-stakeholders, to develop and launch the first Creative District in the state: the West Central Mountains Creative District.

In FY 2025, the agency is conducting Strategic Plan Listening Sessions and surveys with constituents in every part of the state, working to understand opportunities and obstacles currently impacting the arts in Idaho. The information collected from constituents will inform the agency’s next Strategic Plan, which will be launched in FY 2026. The agency anticipates that new priorities may emerge during the strategic planning process because many artists and arts organizations shifted their business models, priorities and programming as a result of COVID-19. The agency is eager to create a fresh strategic plan that responds to the new arts landscape in Idaho.

**For More Information Contact**

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