



IDAHO COMMISSION ON THE ARTS 2020 STRATEGIC PLAN FY 2022 UPDATE

MISSION

The Idaho Commission on the Arts endeavors to provide quality experiences in the arts for all Idahoans.

The Idaho Commission on the Arts, established as a state agency by the Legislature in 1966, is charged by state law to “stimulate and encourage throughout the state the study and presentation of the performing and fine arts and public interest and participation therein...” The Commission must also “encourage and assist freedom of artistic expression essential to the well-being of the arts.”

The Commission, funded primarily by the state of Idaho and the National Endowment for the Arts (a federal agency), is both a service organization with a professional staff offering technical assistance and training, and a funding organization providing financial assistance.

VISION

The Idaho Commission on the Arts envisions an Idaho:

- alive with creativity;
- where the arts are a basic part of every child’s formal education;
- where the arts are central to the lives of children and adults on a daily basis;
- that values its traditions and reveres its tradition-bearers; and
- that values its artists and the role they play in the quality of life of every community.

We are committed to:

- a system of grants, awards, programs and services that balances accountability with efficiency;
- a system of support for the arts that builds on and acts as a catalyst for private support; and
- providing our employees with the knowledge, skills, and resources to fulfill our mission of serving the state equitably and responsively.

VISION OF THE PLAN

The current plan was developed in the context and continuity of plans that came before. The 2010 and 2016 plans responded to constituent requests to simplify grantmaking and increase non-granting professional services. Across ten years, the agency increased the value of grants even as grant amounts decreased—by reducing the paperwork to apply and increasing grant reliability. The plans launched the use of grant reports to review grantees’ organizational cash flow data to identify and mitigate cash flow issues in arts institutions. And the plans expanded the delivery of actionable information as well, providing professional services for artists, arts managers, and arts educators.

In Fall 2018, a visioning session of the commissioners set the stage for renewed strategic planning. This was followed by a gathering of 29 arts-in-healthcare practitioners from across the state, to investigate what was working, what wasn’t, and how to bridge the gaps. Regional public planning meetings followed in Summer 2019. Local hosts, agency staff, and commissioners facilitated 15 regional planning meetings, disbursed across every region of the state, including travel to “the

places in between,” as well as online solicitations. 273 people participated in person and a handful online. A single focus question was offered: *“In what ways can you and the Idaho Commission on the Arts encourage greater participation in cultural activities in your community?”* Common aspirations emerged, expressed in regional voices. They affirmed the value of the services implemented across the two previous plans and offered insights toward the next. Access to resources and to arts education for children remained high priorities. A new insight was that many of the aspirations presented in the regional planning meetings could be addressed through community cultural planning. Rural communities had benefited less from the ten-year bull market than their urban counterparts. And then, as the COVID-19 pandemic emerged in Spring 2020, rural and urban Idahoans suffered the economic and cultural program stoppages together. As economic renewal and participation in the arts expand over the coming years, the cultural roots of communities offer asset-based opportunities for a new economic prosperity, based in local initiative and ownership.

With this plan, the Idaho Commission on the Arts endeavors to enrich the cultural lives of Idahoans through grants and non-granting services, supporting public access to the arts, access to quality arts education, and a thriving arts marketplace. The plan is annually reviewed, updated, and extended.

2020 STRATEGIC PLAN, FY 2022 UPDATE

GOAL ONE. EXPAND RESOURCES FOR IDAHO ARTISTS AND ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

Expand funding resources and capacities for those who create and deliver arts to the public. Agency grants support cultural enrichment and are catalysts for support of public programs and projects in the arts. Grant applications, especially in arts education, are tools toward effective program development. Grant reporting processes are communication instruments for successful programs and projects, as well as tools for the agency to assist and stabilize the field. The agency supports the Governor's emphasis on rural prosperity and will pay increasing attention to reaching underrepresented and underserved communities, where there is reduced access to arts philanthropy.

OBJECTIVE 1.1: STREAMLINE GRANT PROGRAMS OF THE AGENCY, FOR CLARITY AND EASE BY CONSTITUENTS IN ACCESSING AGENCY GRANT RESOURCES.

Task 1.1.1: Reduce and coordinate application and reporting requirements, and panel review processes in the Public Programs in the Arts (PPA)/Entry Track (ET) grant program.

Achieve in: Three years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Develop a scoring rubric for management criteria. All submitted FY 2022 grants receive an administrative score to be calculated in the FY 2023 funding formula. Communication of the new review process to constituents for FY 2022 reporting.

Status: In Process. Delayed during the pandemic.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Develop a scoring rubric for management criteria. FY 2023 applications receive an administrative assessment of applicant management practices, to be provided to the advisory review panel toward FY 2023 funding recommendations.

Communicate the new review process to eligible organizations.

Externalities: None.

Task 1.1.2: Transition eligible college-based programs from Entry Track into Public Programs in the Arts (PPA), reducing their administrative burden to receive grants that support their public programs in the arts.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: All eligible college-based programs will apply for funding through PPA, starting with FY 2022. Revise guidelines for college-based eligibility in the PPA grant program.

Status: Achieved. College-based public programs in the arts now apply through PPA, reducing grant applicant paperwork by half.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Ongoing implementation.

Externalities: None.

Task 1.1.3: Simplify Quick Funds project grants by reducing the categories to two: Quick Projects for Organizations and Quick Projects for Individuals.

Achieve in: Two years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Prepare and publish guidelines to simplify Quick Funds Project applications by merging Projects for Organizations and Projects for Arts Education, for FY 2022 implementation.

Status: Achieved. Quick Project applications are simplified to two categories within the Quarterly Grant program—Projects for Individuals and Projects for Organizations.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Ongoing implementation.

Externalities: None.

Task 1.1.4: Separate Quick Funds Professional Development and Technical Assistance application categories from the Quick Funds grant program to establish a separate grant category for Professional Development and Consulting (PD&C.)

Achieve in: Three years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: During FY 2021, determine the best administrative review and approval structure for Professional Development and Technical Assistance grants. Separate them from the Quick Funds grant program into a Professional Development and Consulting grant program. Prepare guidelines for review and approval during FY 2022 for FY 2023 implementation.

Status: Achieved. PD&C grant applications are reviewed separately from Quick Project grants within the Quarterly Grant program. PD&C applications receive multi-layered administrative review, applicable to this grant category.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Ongoing implementation.

Externalities: None.

Task 1.1.5: Strengthen constituent connections to agency grant resources via communications channels.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Determine baseline-understanding of engaged and unengaged constituencies by researching and compiling available data. Advance grant resource messaging through social media channels, agency website, direct email, and other platforms as appropriate. Identify and target new constituencies with direct messaging through apposite routes. Streamline grant application feedback processes, disseminating panel comments and scoring rubrics to applicants across funding opportunities.

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. The agency saw significant growth in Instagram and Facebook followers and engagement. Courtesy review services have increased with this new mode of communications with constituents. Application review feedback now is provided with award and denial notices.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Ongoing implementation.

Externalities: None.

OBJECTIVE 1.2: IDENTIFY, COMMUNICATE, AND FACILITATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FROM SOURCES OUTSIDE THE AGENCY.

Task 1.2.1: Identify and facilitate connections to other public sources of revenue.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Identify additional funding opportunities. Collaborate with funders in resource sharing through communication channels and events, potentially to include Idaho Rural Partnership's Resource Roundups, funding fairs, and regional economic development summits.

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. The agency identified and communicated grants and opportunities from public sources: federal funding fairs hosted by Idaho's Congressional delegation; the webinar hosted by Congressman Simpson's Office on American Rescue Plan funding from the National Endowment for the Arts; and the Idaho Rural Partnership's Resource Roundup.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Continue to identify additional funding opportunities. Collaborate with funders in resource sharing through communication channels and events.

Externalities: Availability of funding opportunities and pandemic-related limitations on events.

Task 1.2.2: Identify and facilitate connections to private sources of revenue.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Research and disseminate information on private funding opportunities to constituents.

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. The agency identified and communicated grant opportunities from private sources through web and social media postings.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Continue to research and disseminate information about private funding opportunities to constituents.

Externalities: Availability of private funding opportunities.

Task 1.2.3: Strengthen constituent connections to funding opportunities via communications channels.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Establish a baseline understanding of existing constituencies by researching and compiling available data. Research and identify relevant content.

Communicate funding opportunities through social media channels, the agency website, direct email, and other platforms as appropriate. Identify and target new constituencies through direct messaging and apposite routes.

Status: In Process. The agency reviewed and categorized constituent profiles in Constant Contact, tagging geographic locations and service interests, to facilitate targeted communications to deliver information about specific agency opportunities. Through Making Learning Visible, the agency provides examples of successful arts education projects.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Capture more detailed constituent profiles of new constituents via website registration, to provide targeted and meaningful communications about programs and funding opportunities. Investigate the feasibility of expanding public posting of grant reports beyond the Making Learning Visible.

Externalities: None.

OBJECTIVE 1.3: INCREASE THE RESILIENCY OF ARTS ORGANIZATIONS AND ARTISTS TO SUSTAIN THEIR EFFORTS TO CREATE AND DELIVER ARTS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

Task 1.3.1: Deliver organizational development services for arts organization leaders.

Achieve in: Three years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Investigate the feasibility of a multi-state, online Change Leader Institute for fall 2020. In partnership with the Utah Division of Arts and Museums, investigate the new Change Leader model, "Creative Communities,"

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. The agency partnered with the Utah Division of Arts & Museums to present speaker Sarah Noll Wilson in the first multi-state Change Leader Conference that was conceived with community development colleagues in Colorado and Washington. The virtual keynote presentation took place Wednesday, June 2, 2021 and served constituents of four state arts agencies (Idaho, Colorado, Utah, and Washington.)

FY 2022 Benchmark: The agency and the Utah Division of Arts & Museums will identify further online multi-state convenings.

Externalities: The capacity of agency staff and Utah Division of Arts and Museums staff to implement amidst pandemic-related challenges.

Task 1.3.2: Deliver artist professional services to enhance artists' business skills and viability.

Achieve in: One year

FY 2021 Benchmark: Conclude the first Boise cohort and implement online follow-up consultations for one year. Host an Idaho Falls cohort reunion and art show. Launch the first South Central Idaho cohort in Twin Falls.

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. The My Artrepreneur Program for artist business training concluded the first Boise cohort online and launched the first South Central Idaho cohort in-person, in Twin Falls. The Idaho Falls cohort reunion and art show was delayed because of the pandemic.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Fold the Idaho Falls cohort reunion and show into the Boise cohort reunion and show. Complete the South-Central Idaho cohort training. Launch the second North Idaho cohort.

Externalities: Secure a local partner to host My Artrepreneur in North Idaho.

Task 1.3.3: Convene practitioners in traditional trades and occupations to sustain their professions.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: In fall 2020, the second Rawhide Rendezvous will convene in Hagerman, Idaho.

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. The agency provides annual Master-to-Master convenings of practitioners in traditional trades and occupations. In fall 2020, the second Rawhide Rendezvous was conducted in Hagerman. Planning for the next convening was postponed because of the pandemic.

FY 2022 Benchmark: In spring 2022, the second Silversmith Symposium will be conducted, location to be determined.

Externalities: Pandemic-related travel and meeting restrictions.

Task 1.3.4: Deliver emergency preparedness-and-response information for arts administrators and artists.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Identify and disseminate pandemic response resources including emergency funding, pivot-plan guidance, and recovery support via agency platforms. Investigate emergency preparedness planning and resources for constituent access.

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. The agency provided information regarding access of Idaho not-for-profit arts organizations and professional artist businesses to Idaho Rebound grants and Small Business Administration loans and grants. The agency administered CARES Act grants for not-for-profit arts organizations and professional artist businesses. The agency continues to deliver emergency response resources related to the pandemic.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Continue to identify and disseminate pandemic response resources, including emergency funding through the American Rescue Plan and recovery support services via agency platforms. Investigate expanding additional emergency planning services for not-for-profit arts organizations.

Externalities: None.

Task 1.3.5: Assist arts organizations to stabilize their cash flow.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Receive and review cash flow reports from Public Programs in the Arts grantees. Collaborate with peers to facilitate and post online professional development webinars instructing arts organizations in how to obtain secured lines of credit and term loans to stabilize cash flow.

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. Recipients of PPA grants submit cash flow reports with final grant reports. The reports are reviewed toward organizational assistance.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Continue to receive and review cash flow reports from PPA grantees. Collaborate with peers to facilitate and post online professional development webinars instructing arts organizations in how to obtain secured lines of credit and term loans to stabilize cash flow.

Externalities: None.

Task 1.3.6: Support organizations in their efforts to meet and exceed ADA/Section 504 compliance.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Encourage accessibility beyond compliance, as a customer service asset for organizations. Reinforce the importance of completion of Section 504 Self Evaluations and the retention of ADA compliance documentation. Post “[Design for Accessibility: A Cultural Administrator’s Handbook](#)” and a link to the [Section 504 Self-Evaluation Workbook](#) on the agency’s website.

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. The agency posted “[Design for Accessibility: A Cultural Administrator’s Handbook](#)” and a link to the [Section 504 Self-Evaluation Workbook](#) on its website. The agency reviews grant applications and reports for ADA/504 compliance of funded projects and programs and assists organizations with compliance-related issues. Agency staff annually attend the Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability Conference for currency in standards and practices regarding arts and disability.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Continue to encourage accessibility beyond compliance, as a customer service asset for arts organizations. Identify additional methods to deliver that assistance to arts organizations.

Externalities: None.

GOAL TWO. EXPAND THE ROLE OF ARTS-IN-EDUCATION IN IDAHO SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

Expand access to high-quality arts education opportunities for Idaho K-12 students, seniors, and special populations in school and community settings. Build the pedagogical portfolio of teaching artists and educators, to teach arts and other academic curricula through the creative process. Support the delivery of community arts education services in schools and community settings.

OBJECTIVE 2.1: PREPARE IDAHO TEACHING ARTISTS TO ENGAGE IN TEACHER-ARTIST PARTNERSHIPS THAT EMPLOY THE CREATIVE PROCESS IN INSTRUCTION THAT SUPPORTS THE K-12 CURRICULUM.

Task 2.1.1: Convene teaching artists to determine their training requirements.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Reconvene Idaho teaching artists to determine their training needs, to be implemented in coordination with partnering institutions.

Status: On hold, pending the hiring of a new arts education program director.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Upon hiring the new arts education program director, convene Idaho teaching artists to determine their training needs, to be implemented in coordination with peer institutions.

Externalities: Staffing; pandemic-related travel and meeting restrictions; interest of teaching artists.

Task 2.1.2: Identify and coordinate potential partners for whom teaching artist training assists the achievement of shared institutional goals.

Achieve in: Two years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Meet with the Idaho State Dept. of Education, Boise State University, Idaho State University, University of Idaho, Idaho Art Education Assn. and Idaho Music Education Assn. for training collaborations. Coordinate further with the Idaho Humanities Council and Idaho STEM Action Center.

Status: On hold, pending the hiring of a new arts education program director.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Upon hiring the new arts education program director, meet with the Idaho State Dept. of Education, Boise State University, Idaho State University, University of

Idaho, Idaho Art Education Assn. and Idaho Music Education Assn. for training collaborations. Coordinate further with the Idaho Humanities Council.

Externalities: Staffing; pandemic-related travel and meeting restrictions; interest of potential partners.

OBJECTIVE 2.2: DELIVER PRE-SERVICE AND IN-SERVICE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES TO TEACHERS, TO PROMOTE THE USE OF THE CREATIVE PROCESS IN K-12 CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION.

Task 2.2.1: Convene educators to determine their pre-service and in-service needs.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Reconvene Idaho teachers to determine their training needs, to be implemented in coordination with partnering institutions.

Status: On hold, pending the hiring of a new arts education program director.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Upon hiring the new arts education program director, reconvene Idaho teachers to determine their training needs, to be implemented in coordination with peer institutions.

Externalities: Staffing; pandemic-related travel and meeting restrictions; interest of potential partners.

Task 2.2.2: Identify and coordinate with partners for whom this training assists the achievement of shared institutional goals.

Achieve in: Two years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Meet with the Idaho State Dept. of Education, Boise State University, Idaho State University, University of Idaho, for pre-service collaborations and with the Idaho Art Education Assn. and Idaho Music Education Assn. for in-service collaborations.

Status: On hold, pending the hiring of a new arts education program director.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Upon hiring the new arts education program director, meet with the Idaho State Dept. of Education, Boise State University, Idaho State University, University of Idaho, for pre-service collaborations and with the Idaho Art Education Assn. and Idaho Music Education Assn. for in-service collaborations.

Externalities: Staffing; pandemic-related travel and meeting restrictions; interest of potential partners.

OBJECTIVE 2.3: OFFER GRANTS TO SUPPORT ARTS LEARNING IN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SETTINGS.

Task 2.3.1: Review the Arts Education Project grant guidelines for effectiveness in achieving program goals. Adjust guidelines as necessary for future implementation.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Review and revise the grant application requirements, review criteria, and final reporting requirements such that all are in alignment for publishing in the FY 2022 guidelines.

Status: Achieved. Arts Education Project grant narrative questions and grant review rubric are aligned, with grant application and reporting documentation requiring additional alignment. These steps guide grant applicants in the effective design of learning activities. The Making Learning Visible web portal for final report posting provides publicly-accessible examples of completed arts education projects.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Further refine the grant application, review criteria, and final reporting such that all are in full alignment, for publishing in the FY 2023 grant guidelines.

Externalities: None.

Task 2.3.2: Establish arts-in-education teaching artist residency support for Idaho schools, with administrative processes that are responsive to the unique fiscal and planning requirements of school-based applicants.

Achieve in: Three years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Consult with stakeholders for the review of preliminary guidelines during FY 2021. Adopt them in FY 2022 for implementation in FY 2023.

Status: On hold, pending the hiring of a new arts education program director.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Upon hiring the new arts education program director, consult with stakeholders for the review of preliminary guidelines during FY 2022 for potential adoption in FY 2024.

Externalities: Staffing; pandemic-related travel and meeting restrictions.

GOAL THREE. ENHANCE THE VITALITY OF COMMUNITIES THROUGH PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE ARTS

Coordinate with cities and counties to cultivate place-based economic development and community revitalization through the identification, advancement, and retention of arts and culture assets. Provide technical assistance and resources to encourage and integrate asset-based cultural plans into city and county comprehensive plans. Support cultural participation of underrepresented and underserved communities in ways that are responsive to the communities' needs and priorities.

OBJECTIVE 3.1: FACILITATE COMMUNITY CULTURAL PLANNING FOR IDAHO CITIES AND COUNTIES.

Task 3.1.1: Identify the statutory planning requirements for cities and counties and the ways in which cultural planning may aid them to accomplish their planning goals.

Achieve in: Three years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Establish partnerships with Idaho Association of Cities and Idaho Association of Counties to identify existing statutes as they correlate to cultural planning.

Status: Achieved. Agency staff have membership status with the Idaho Rural Partnership.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Coordinate the piloting of the West Central Mountains Regional Creative District with rural city, county, and economic development stakeholders.

Externalities: Pandemic-related travel and meeting restrictions; interest of potential partners.

Task 3.1.2: Identify the appropriate roles for the agency to effectively facilitate cities' and counties' planning efforts.

Achieve in: Two years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Develop the 'Count Yourself Creative!' asset inventory of Valley County. Contract the Idaho Policy Institute for the 'Count Yourself Creative' asset inventory effort, to include evaluative data. The commissioned report will inform larger statewide asset inventory efforts and creative-district development.

Status: Achieved. The regional creative district pilot cohort, as defined by the West Central Mountains Economic Development Council's constituents, has been identified and the steering committee roles and responsibilities are being formalized. The Idaho Policy Institute at Boise State University published the *West Central Mountain's Regional Creative District 2021 Executive Summary and Report* on the economic impact of the creative community. The Idaho Policy Institute's report informs best practices and technology for achieving constituent access at the regional pilot level, while simultaneously developing a statewide tool for asset mapping to be used in the future at the municipality, county, or state level.

FY 2022 Benchmark: The agency will obtain creator licensing for ArcGIS data mapping at the state level for regional launch of “Count Yourself Creative!” asset inventory at the West Central Mountain’s Economic Development Summit.

Externalities: Implementation capacity of the working group and local meeting challenges as related to the pandemic.

Task 3.1.3: Identify and promote incentives for city and county cultural planning.

Achieve in: Two years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Meet with Idaho Dept. of Commerce leadership to finalize incentives of cultural planning in grant review criteria for Community Development Block Grants. Promote incentives to increase cultural planning efforts of cities and counties.

Status: In Process. Agency leadership met with Idaho Dept. of Commerce, Community Development Block Grant program leadership regarding the value of creative assets in successful community economic development planning and the associated Block Grant applications.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Meet again with Idaho Dept. of Commerce leadership to further explore incentives for cultural planning in the grant review criteria for Community Development Block Grants.

Externalities: Ability of the Idaho Dept. of Commerce to adapt existing grant guidelines to support cultural plans by cities and counties in Idaho; pandemic-related challenges to meetings with Commerce Dept. peers.

Task 3.1.4: Coordinate planning services with related partners.

Achieve in: Three years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Facilitate planning services in conjunction with Idaho Association of Cities, Idaho Association of Counties, and the Idaho Planning Association. Investigate incentives and solidify partnerships with existing external partners as they relate to the Valley County regional creative district pilot.

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. The agency now is a member of the Idaho Rural Partnership, coordinating work in conjunction with city, county, and planning association peers.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Continue to coordinate rural community cultural planning services with the Idaho Rural Partnership.

Externalities: Pandemic-related travel and meeting restrictions; interest of external partners.

OBJECTIVE 3.2: EXPAND ARTS-PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNDERREPRESENTED AND UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES.

Task 3.2.1: Emphasize funding and services in underrepresented and underserved communities.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Establish benchmark data regarding the distribution of grants and services to the field for Commission review, advocacy, and action.

Status: Delayed and In Process. The agency was delayed in conducting preliminary research regarding the breadth of reach by agency grants and services in underrepresented and underserved communities. However, grant funds were increased by 43% in the Quarterly Grants programs through which many underrepresented and underserved constituents apply to the agency for funding.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Establish benchmark data regarding the distribution of grants and services to the field for review, advocacy, and further action.

Externalities: None.

Task 3.2.2: Engage underrepresented and underserved communities through exploratory fieldwork, consultations with community leaders and experts, and intensive listening, all in support of the communities' creative traditions and cultural values.

Achieve in: Two years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Continue the five-county Southeast Idaho folk heritage fieldwork and complete the Mexican Music Project, including the creation of a documentary film and the editing of field recordings. Stakeholders from underrepresented and underserved communities will be included in the Valley County regional creative district working group. The agency is partnering with the Idaho Rural Partnership on a 'Rapid Response Community Review' process in response to rural challenges and needs as they relate to the pandemic.

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. The five-county Southeast Idaho folk heritage fieldwork is complete. The Mexican Music Project is in process, with field recordings edited and film editing begun. The "Count Me Creative!" Valley County regional creative district asset inventory is complete.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Complete the Mexican Music Project, including the completion of multiple documentary film shorts. Engage underrepresented populations in the West Central Mountains' Regional Creative District planning, especially rural constituents.

Externalities: Fieldwork and community gatherings are contingent on pandemic-related travel and meeting restrictions.

Task 3.2.3: Coordinate rural efforts with partners to enhance access to agency services.

Achieve in: Five years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: 'Writers in Residences,' a statewide pen pal writing project in response to the pandemic, is ongoing and will result in a publication of writings in fall 2020. Idaho Writer in Residence Malia Collins will conduct a reading tour focused on rural, underserved locations in spring 2021, as possible. Poetry Out Loud is ongoing and committed to bringing together middle and high school students from every region of Idaho. The West Central Mountain's Regional Creative District pilot project will inform development of a new community-based leadership training method through implementation of a 'Creative Communities' Change Leader Program model.

Status: In Process. "Writers in Residences" partnered professional and amateur writers across Idaho in a pen-pal writing workshop, led by Idaho Writer in Residence Malia Collins. The project culminated in a publication of their writings, distributed to the participants. The Idaho Writer in Residence conducted reading events, mostly online due to pandemic restrictions but one in-person, in Mountain Home. Poetry Out Loud rural student participation expanded in 2021 because the contest was held online. Libraries participated for the first time and home school participation expanded, all due to online access to the competition. Relationships are established with the Idaho Commission for Libraries, Idaho Dept. of Commerce, Idaho Humanities Council, Idaho Rural Partnership, and local school districts, enhancing such programs as My Artrepreneur, Idaho Writer-in-Residence, Poetry Out Loud, teaching artist residencies in schools, and community arts grantmaking.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Idaho's new Writer in Residence, CMarie Fuhrman will perform readings and workshops for rural and Tribal populations. 2022 Poetry Out Loud will be administered, whether online, in-person, or hybrid. Develop a first-draft community cultural planning template for use by rural towns and counties, informed by the West Central Mountains' Regional Creative District pilot project.

Externalities: Pandemic-related travel and meeting restrictions; pandemic-related changes in national guidelines for Poetry Out Loud; interest by potential partners.

OBJECTIVE 3.3: PROMOTE THE CREATIVE ARTS IN HEALTH AND WELLNESS, AND IN HUMAN SERVICE SETTINGS.

Task 3.3.1: Identify and coordinate the creative arts therapy practitioners and arts professionals working at the intersection of arts and medicine in Idaho.

Achieve in: Three years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Confirm the list of creative arts therapy practitioners in Idaho, establishing ongoing communication with Idaho creative arts therapy practitioners.

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. The agency convened Idaho creative arts therapists to identify opportunities and barriers for arts-in-health programs and services. We now can communicate with the field of arts-in-health practitioners in Idaho.

FY 2022 Benchmark: After creative aging services have been established in Idaho Veterans Homes, identify the barriers and opportunities to deliver arts-in-health services to Idaho veterans in coordination with the Idaho Division of Veterans Services.

Externalities: Pandemic-related restrictions; agency capacities of Idaho Commission on the Arts and Idaho Division of Veterans Services.

Task 3.3.2: Identify the opportunities and barriers for the delivery of services by creative arts therapy practitioners and arts professionals working at the intersection of arts and medicine.

Achieve in: One year.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Identify the specific barriers to payment of creative arts therapy services with medical insurance. Identify the therapeutic settings in which creative arts therapies may prove efficacious.

Status: Delayed. The agency convened Idaho creative arts therapists in the course of strategic planning, to identify opportunities and barriers. Pandemic-related meeting restrictions delayed further convening.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Identify specific barriers to payment of creative arts therapy services with medical insurance. Identify the therapeutic settings in which creative arts therapies may prove efficacious.

Externalities: Pandemic-related meeting restrictions.

Task 3.3.3: Identify and coordinate institutional health and human service opportunities to deliver creative arts therapies.

Achieve in: Three years.

FY 2021 Benchmark: Continue the writing programs with incarcerated individuals and newcomer populations. Identify partners for veterans' services, including the Idaho Division of Veterans Services and the Veterans Administration. Review the Creative Forces Network.

Status: Achieved and Ongoing. Suspended in-person programming with incarcerated individuals during the pandemic, offering mail-based creative writing workshops, expanded to the Idaho State Correctional Institute, South Boise Women's Correctional Center, and South Idaho Correctional Institution, en-total serving 150 participants. The Writers in the Schools residencies served the Southwest Idaho Juvenile Detention Center, Frank Church High School, Ada County Juvenile Detention Center, and at-risk students in five Title 1 schools. With Artisans for Hope, the publication of "The Narrative Thread—Refugee Stories of Transition" is nearly complete, to be assembled as a full-color book. The Idaho Division of Veterans Services has been identified as a partner in creative arts therapy services.

FY 2022 Benchmark: Pending resolution of the pandemic, return to in-person programming in all three IDOC facilities. Expand Writers in the Schools to the Cardinal Academy for teen parents (formerly Marian Pritchett School.) "The Narrative Thread" will be published in 2021 and receive its book launch during fall 2021 Storyfort.

Externalities: Access to high-risk populations during the pandemic.