

Part I – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

The Idaho Commission on the Arts, established as a state agency by the Legislature in 1966, is charged by state law (Idaho Code Title 67, Chapter 56 Section 5605) 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 (NEA), is both a service organization with a professional staff offering technical assistance and training, and a funding organization providing financial assistance.

The Commission is governed by 13 commissioners from diverse ethnic and social backgrounds and from different geographical areas of the state, appointed by the Governor for terms of four years. The primary role of a commissioner is (1) to contribute to the defining of the agency’s mission and governing the fulfillment of that mission, and (2) to carry out the functions of the office of a commissioner and/or committee member as stated in the enabling legislation and Administrative Rules. A commissioner focuses on the development of broad policies that govern the implementation of the strategic plan, its goals and objectives. This role is separate and distinct from the role of the executive director, who determines the means of implementation.

The Commission, located in Boise, is authorized for 10 FTE and currently staffed at nine, including the executive director, deputy director, five program directors, a grants specialist, and a program support specialist.

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. These grants folded together the previous General Operating Support, Project, and Special Project grants into a single program that decreased applicant effort and increased grant reliability. Cash or in-kind match is required.
- Quarterly grants support arts project funding requested by individual artists, educators, schools, and community arts organizations that do not receive PPA or Entry Track funding. Cash or in-kind match is required.
- Quarterly grants support professional development and consulting funds requested by individual artists, educators, schools, and community arts organizations. A combination of cash and in-kind match is required.
- Arts Education Project grants support activities that unite effective practices in education and the arts. They involve schools, 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 shares his or her work through readings and events around the state, especially in 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 collegial 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 hones arts managers’ skills in organizational and change management, in partnership with the Utah Division of Arts and Museums and Colorado Creative Industries.
- Cash flow management tools and seminars, and organizational technical assistance strengthen the fiscal stability and governance of not-for-profit arts organizations.
- The My Artrepreneur artist business training workshops assist working artists to monetize their professions.
- Gear Maker Gatherings bring together folk & 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 own communities.
- The Writer in Residence program provides writing workshops in educational and correctional settings.
- Poetry Out Loud, the National Poetry Recitation Contest motivates high school students across Idaho to master the classics of poetry 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, which is next scheduled in FY 2025.
- Started in FY 2023, creative aging services are delivered by Idaho teaching artists to residents of Idaho’s Veterans Homes, in partnership with the Idaho Division of Veterans Services.

Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
General Fund Appropriation	\$866,400	\$831,060	\$883,400	\$905,700
Federal Revenues	\$791,200	\$1,232,560	\$1,594,460	\$991,168
Misc. Revenues	\$21,320	\$38,992	\$24,168	\$10,368
Total	\$1,678,920	\$2,102,612	\$2,502,028	\$1,907,236
Expenditures	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Personnel Costs	\$693,187	\$637,698	\$648,557	\$779,219
Operating Expenditures	\$279,360	\$264,330	\$296,288	\$280,692
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$33,501	\$32,098
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$715,418	\$1,110,561	\$1,478,689	\$768,349
Total	\$1,687,965	\$2,012,589	\$2,457,035	\$1,860,358

Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Grants to organizations, awarded	139	220	211	125
Grants to individuals, awarded	43	167	54	71
Conferences and workshops	43	12	17	39
Conference and workshop attendees	760	207	463	918
Social media constituent contacts	6,369	7,091	7,678	8,404
Contracts for services, panels, and projects	54	33	49	58

Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure		FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Plan Concluding FY 2020, Goal 1 Enhance financial assistance						
Establish the Folk and Traditional Arts Fellowships	Actual	Achieved	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Target	Approved rules	-----	-----	-----	-----
Plan Concluding FY 2020, Goal 2 Improve access to information						
Provide practical arts business information for Idaho artists	Actual	Achieved	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Target	My Artrepreneur ongoing	-----	-----	-----	-----
Plan Concluding FY 2020, Goal 3 Increase connectivity						
Expand the arts education program reach further into underserved regions of Idaho.	Actual	Achieved	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Target	Assessing new training needs	-----	-----	-----	-----
Plan Beginning FY 2021, Goal 1 Expand resources for Idaho artists and arts organizations						
Streamline grant programs for clarity and ease of constituents in accessing grant resources	Actual	N/A	In process	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
	Target	-----	Update grant guidelines	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
Plan Beginning FY 2021, 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	N/A	In process	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
	Target	-----	Update grant guidelines	Ongoing	Ongoing	Ongoing
Plan Beginning FY 2021, Goal 3 Enhance the vitality of communities through public access to the arts						
Facilitate community cultural planning for Idaho cities and counties	Actual	N/A	In process	In process	In process	In process
	Target	-----	Pilot cultural planning	Pilot cultural planning	Pilot cultural planning	Pilot cultural planning
Promote the creative arts in health and wellness, and human service settings	Actual	N/A	In process	In process	In process	In process
	Target	-----	Identify practitioners & partners	Train practitioners & partners	Launch services	Expand to additional communities

Performance Measure Explanatory Notes

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. New insights were that the creative process plays a significant role in healthcare, especially in veterans' settings; and many of the aspirations presented in the regional planning meetings could be addressed through community cultural planning—especially important in rural Idaho, which had benefited less from the ten-year bull market than their urban counterparts.

With these insights, the plan was approved and launched in 2020, simultaneous with the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic. And with the pandemic, rural and urban Idahoans suffered economic and cultural program stoppages together. The agency's newly adopted plan was flexible, however; it adapted to support emergency information, services, and grants for constituents, to mitigate near-term economic effects, all still in the strategic context. By Spring 2022, as Idaho arts recovered haltingly from pandemic-related market effects, new economic inflationary challenges materialized. Even so, arts participation continues to improve. That reemergence offers a reminder of the crucial roles cultural expressions play in community health and prosperity. They are essential assets, rooted in the heritage and creativity of every town, generating local health and economic prosperity, and stabilized through 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, a quality arts education, arts in health, and a thriving arts marketplace. The plan, launched in FY 2021, is annually reviewed, updated, and extended. The current update covers FY 2024 – FY 2027.

For More Information Contact

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Director Attestation for Performance Measurement Report

In accordance with *Idaho Code* 67-1904, I certify the data provided in the Performance Measurement Report has been internally assessed for accuracy, and, to the best of my knowledge, is deemed to be accurate.

Department: Agency 196 – Idaho Commission on the Arts



Laura von Boecklin Curry, Executive Director

August 24, 2023

Date

Please return to:

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