Two years after adoption of the Community Cultural Plan, the wave of progress and innovation in the arts continues. Boulder’s artists and cultural leaders drive this momentum and have lost none of their zeal and commitment.

They are dedicated to their work. And, that dedication reveals the creativity which is at the center of a great city. Boulder is a community of engaged, educated, thoughtful people who see this place as a laboratory for fulfilling the nation’s potential. The results are in: by all measures our investments in this culture improves our social cohesion, economic vibrancy, and the resiliency of our community.

This energy in our arts community is reflected in our work in the Office of Arts and Culture. We are proud of the advances we have made in the past year: the adoption of a new percent for art funding rule for public art, the launch of a field trip fund for Title 1 schools, and the continued improvement of the grants program in collaboration with the Boulder Arts Commission. And, the community has helped us with important new projects including the passing of an extension to the Community Culture and Safety Tax.

While all this energy reflects a substantial commitment by our community, we also recognize the acute challenges that artists and cultural leaders are facing: issues of affordability, access to venues, and inclusivity continue to challenge us. And, the turbulence of national politics tests our cultural community in the effort to achieve our goals. Yet, we find our arts community as energized as ever. We, at the City of Boulder’s Office of Arts and Culture, are invigorated by you: the artists, designers, performers, writers, teachers, and creative people of all descriptions, who already knew what we put into words in the 2015 Community Cultural Plan, our community’s Vision for Culture:

Together, we will craft Boulder’s social, physical, and cultural environment to include creativity as an essential ingredient for the well-being, prosperity, and joy of everyone in the community.

Signed, with our thanks!
David Farnan, Library & Arts Department director
Matt Chasansky, manager of the Office of Arts + Culture
Mary Wohl Haan, coordinator of programs for artists
Mandy Vink, public art program coordinator
Lauren Click, grants program coordinator
We couldn’t do it without you! Our sincere thanks to the community and our partners for another successful year implementing the Community Cultural Plan. Below is a selection of our achievements in 2017:

**ACCOMPLISHED 2017**

**CO**
**support our CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS**
> Distributed $675,000 to Boulder artists and cultural organizations through the Cultural Grants Program.
> Held three summits of our cultural organizations.
> Provided access to learning opportunities to the staff and boards of arts organizations.

**PA**
**reinvent our PUBLIC ART program**
> Installed 2 new murals and as 3 temporary projects in the Experiments in Public Art series.
> Started selection on 5 permanent commissions and 3 temporary projects.
> Held 4 community events including “New, Big, Brief”, a public art town hall, and the “Good Bad Public Art Show”.

**CP**
**support individual artists and CREATIVE PROFESSIONALS**
> Hosted three forums for professional artists to network and discuss the important issues.
> Provided 19 professional development scholarships to conferences and workshops.
> Hosted the Dance Showcase, an open platform for aspiring and experienced dancers.

**YO**
**engage our YOUTH**
> Supported Whittier Elementary’s paint-the-pavement.
> Collaborated with students and Growing Up Boulder for the 11th Street planning project.
> Launched Cultural Field Trip Grants to help students in Title 1 Schools access cultural experiences.
With a full year of the Community Cultural Plan behind us, we look back at our accomplishments with the community for investing in the future of Boulder’s culture. Below is a selection of the work we did in 2016:

**VENUES**
- Supported affordability of venues across the city through Rental Assistance Grants.
- Supported the community arts projects funded by the Community, Culture, and Safety Tax.

**NEIGHBORHOODS**
- Provided support for the Neighborhood Grants program.
- Helped the Martin Acres neighborhood to commission their own art-in-public-places.

**CREATIVE ECONOMY**
- Supported City Council to officially recognize the NoBo Art District and begin a community-wide collaboration in support of the artists of North Boulder.
- Coordinated with the Convention and Visitor’s Bureau on cultural tourism initiatives.

**CIVIC DIALOG, awareness, and participation**
- Supported the team that brings Boulder Arts Week to our community.
- Began the Artist Census, a measure of the impacts professional artists have on our economy and society.

**WE ALSO:**
- Brought out a dozen 2-dimensional artworks from the Library and Art Department’s archive, now on public display at city buildings in the Civic Area.
- Assisted the current update of the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan including several new sections devoted to the role of culture and the creative sector of the economy.
- Worked with other city departments on the establishment of a percent for art funding policy to commission new works of public art around the city.
# 2017 Measures

**Progress on the Municipal Strategies, Outputs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scale of Arts Commission cultural grant funding</td>
<td>$225,000</td>
<td>$450,000</td>
<td>$675,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 grants</td>
<td>47 grants</td>
<td>85 grants</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of works of public art installed by the City of Boulder</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Professional Development Scholarships</td>
<td>three</td>
<td>fourteen</td>
<td>nineteen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People attending Office of Arts + Culture outreach events</td>
<td>1,486 (Includes Cultural Plan Outreach)</td>
<td>2,262 (Includes Cultural Plan Outreach)</td>
<td>653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City budget assigned from all sources for the Office of Arts + Culture</td>
<td>$675,000 or ~$6.75 per resident</td>
<td>$1.37 million or ~$13.70 per resident</td>
<td>$1.67 million or ~$16.70 per resident</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Adeline Mann as Grace in *The Rape of the Sabine Women*, by Grace B. Matthias by Local Theater Company. Image courtesy Local Theater Company. Photo by George Lange. localtheaterco.org

Elena Aranda and Rosa Elena Valle Cerezo in *Salsa Lotería* by Motus Theater. Image courtesy Motus Theater. Photo by Lauren Click. motustheater.org

# 2017 Measures

## Temperature Check of the Creative Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CD</strong></td>
<td>Residents who positively rate “cultural/arts/music activities”¹</td>
<td>77% in 2014</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>Next survey in the Fall of 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VN</strong></td>
<td>Number of seats at Boulder performing arts venues²</td>
<td>5,056</td>
<td>5,056</td>
<td>5,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CE</strong></td>
<td>Number of jobs / total industry sales in the creative sector³</td>
<td>10,296 jobs $2.453 billion</td>
<td>10,662 jobs $2.518 billion</td>
<td>Data to be released.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CO</strong></td>
<td>Direct economic impact of cultural organizations and their audiences⁴</td>
<td>$69.8 million</td>
<td>$68.3 million</td>
<td>$70.2 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CO</strong></td>
<td>Total dollars in gov't arts grants from all sources⁵</td>
<td>$658,000</td>
<td>$1.07 million</td>
<td>$1.28 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CP</strong></td>
<td>Number of professional artists living and/or working in Boulder⁶</td>
<td>4,367 artists</td>
<td>4,499 artists</td>
<td>Data to be released.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Data to be released.

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DATA SOURCES:


2. Office of Arts and Culture email survey of purpose-built, indoor performing arts theaters in the City of Boulder. Note: some venues have flexible seating, and this number may not reflect top capacity, for instance in venues which offer standing-room only events. Note: this figure is for purpose-built theaters only. Additional spaces exist across Boulder which, while not a primary function, do offer performing arts events. Examples are coffee shops and restaurants, rooms for rent in hotels and museums, and meeting rooms.

3. Findings are provided by the Creative Vitality Suite, a product of WESTAF. Data is based on NAICS and SOC codes for creative industry / sector. [https://cvsuite.org/](https://cvsuite.org/)

4. 2015 data is derived from the local results of Arts and Economic Prosperity 5 (AEP5) a national survey by the industry group Americans for the Arts. 2016 and 2017 findings are derived from a multiplier based on AEP5 data and then applied as a ratio to an internal survey conducted by the Office of Arts and Culture completed by recipients of General Operating Support grants. That multiplier ratio is then applied to the results of the 2016 and 2017 grants surveys.

5. Represents government cultural grant funds delivered directly to Boulder residents and organizations. Data from several grant reports have been assembled to calculate this number:
   - The National Endowment for the Arts: [https://www.arts.gov/grants/recent-grants/grant-announcements](https://www.arts.gov/grants/recent-grants/grant-announcements)
   - Colorado Creative Industries
   - Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD): [http://scfd.org/p/grant-distribution.html](http://scfd.org/p/grant-distribution.html)’
     Note: only includes General Operating Support funding from SCFD. A small portion of additional funds has historically been distributed to individual projects which cross county lines.
   - Boulder Arts Commission (City of Boulder Office of Arts + Culture)

6. Findings derived from the Creative Vitality Suite, separating the following SOC codes, used by the Creative Vitality Suite as professions considered to be a “professional artists” in the context of Boulder: 27-1012 Craft artists; 27-1013 Fine artists, including painters, sculptors, and illustrators; 27-1019 Artists and related workers, all other; 27-2011 Actors; 27-2031 Dancers; 27-2032 Choreographers; 27-2041 Music directors and composers; 27-2042 Musicians and singers; 27-3043 Writers and authors; 27-4021 Photographers.

OTHER WAYS WE TRACK CULTURAL AFFAIRS:

- Arts and Prosperity 5 from Americans for the Arts
- National Endowment for the Arts Creativity Connects Study
- CBCA Economic Indicators Study
- Boulder Convention and Visitor’s Bureau Economic Impact of Tourism
- Boulder Community Foundation Trends Report
- Boulder Community Survey
- City of Boulder General Operating Support Grants Survey
- City of Boulder Artist Census
Everything at Once, the award-winning installation by Mary Mattingly at the Boulder Creative Collective, part the Boulder Office of Arts and Culture’s Public Art Series: Experiments in Public Art. Image courtesy the Boulder Office of Arts and Culture. boulderarts.org/public-art

Artist David Polka works on his mural at the Moorhead Drive underpass on Bear Creek Path. Image courtesy Arts Martin Acres and And Art Space. artsartinacres.org
CELEBRATING 2017

Join us in celebrating 2017, a year full of accomplishments for our cultural community:

OUR ARTISTS Marcos Steuernagel, CU/Boulder theatre professor won an award for excellence in digital scholarship from the Association for Theatre in Higher Education and the American Society for Theatre Research; Ayla Sullivan, CU/Boulder BFA Performance student, won first place in the Poetry section of the Americas Latino Eco Festival’s Eco-Artivist Challenge; Alana Shaw of Turning the Wheel Productions launched a new book, The Body Now; Renee Harris, CU/Boulder Theatre/Dance Artist-in-Residence was a Dance Magazine Award recipient; Devin Patrick Hughes, music director/conductor of the Boulder Symphony, participated in the Georg Solti International Conducting Competition in Budapest; Michelle Ellsworth, CU/Boulder Dance Faculty, received a 2017 NEFA National Dance Project Grant Award; Melanie Yazzie, Boulder artist and CU/Boulder faculty member, received the Excellence in Teaching Printmaking from the Southeastern Graphics Council International; Tony Burfield’s, newest manuscript Sawhorse, was selected as the winner of the 2017 Fledge Poetry Chapbook Award from Middle Creek Publishing; Helanius Wilkins, CU/Boulder faculty, was recipient of a Kennedy Center Local Dance Commissioning award to present his work and perform on the Millennium Stage in Washington, D.C.; Dairy Center Honors for 2017 included Sue Coffee, Gene GeBauer, Jennifer Heath, Jeff Orlowski, Jane Shepard, and Deborah Malden; Ana Maria Hernando, Kim Dickey, Joel Swanson, and Laura Shill, were featured in a the art collection at Hotel Born.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES Part of the Office of Arts and Culture’s Experiments in Public Art series, artist Matthew Mazzotta’s project Harm to Table was recognized by Americans for the Arts Public Art Network with a 2017 “Year in Review” award; Two new Boulder hotels, Embassy Suites and Hilton Garden Inn, cut the ribbon on new collections by local Boulder and regional artists.

CULTURAL DESTINATIONS Boulder was named among the top ten “arts cities” by Expedia.com; Motus Theater, was featured on NPR, USA TODAY, American Theater Magazine, and The Daily Camera for the performance Do You Know Who I Am?; Boulder Philharmonic, Greater Boulder Youth Orchestras, and Frequent Flyers Productions performed in the SHIFT Festival at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington D.C.; Boulder winners of the 2017 True West Awards include actors and productions from Local Theater Company, Boulder Ensemble Theatre Company’s (BETC), the Boulder Dinner Theater Stage, and the Colorado Shakespeare Festival.

GRANT AWARDS In addition to funding from the Boulder Arts Commission, The National Endowment for the Arts gave grants to the University of Colorado, EcoArts Connections, and the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts; Colorado Creative Industries awarded grants to the Boulder Ensemble Theater Company, Boulder Ballet, Seicento Baroque Ensemble, Open Studios, Greater Boulder Youth Orchestras, Band of Toughs, the Boulder Bach Festival, and the Dairy Center for the Arts.
The Office of Arts and Culture will continue the implementation of the Community Cultural Plan, adding to the successes of 2016 and 2017 and working on new programs and capacities to support the community. Below is an abbreviated work plan for 2018:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support our CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS</th>
<th>Distribute $675,000 of cultural grant funding including an expanded Rental Assistance Fund.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A new grant designed specifically to help achieve the goals found in the Statement on Cultural Equity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hosting three summits of cultural leaders from across Boulder.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Reinvent our PUBLIC ART program    | New projects installed throughout the Civic Area including *55 Degrees* by Adam Kuby and a light-projection piece by Michelle Sparks. |
|------------------------------------| New public art in North Boulder and in pedestrian areas along East Colorado Avenue at Foothills. |
|                                    | More opportunities funded through the city’s new percent for art funding policy. |

| Support individual artists and CREATIVE PROFESSIONALS | $10,000 in scholarship funds for Boulder’s arts leaders to attend the University of Colorado’s Arts Administration Certificate Program. |
|-------------------------------------------------------| Forums for professional artists to network and share skills. |
|                                                      | A new Fellowship Program to recognize the artists who are working on important issues of our times. |

| Engage our Youth | A new round of field trip funds to encourage students of Title 1 schools to have that first, formative experience with the arts. |
|-----------------| A collaboration with Growing Up Boulder and CU’s CeDAR program for public artwork in the University Hill neighborhood. |
WE WILL ALSO:

- Complete the Artist Census and report to the community on the role professional artists play in our economy and society.
- A cross-departmental review of the regulatory impacts on art-in-public-places and the business of being an artist.
- Assisting the planning efforts for the future of the Civic Area’s East Bookend, Alpine Balsam, the Broadway corridor, and other visionary efforts.
An end-of-session photo from a program of music-art classes held by Parlando School of Musical Arts in collaboration with Boulder Preparatory High School and Will Day Art. Image courtesy Parlando School of Musical Arts. parlando.org

Bob Weir on eTown. Image courtesy eTown. Photo by Tim Reese. eTown.org

_Under the Stars with Brews & the Bard: As You Like It_ by Band of Toughs. Image courtesy Band of Toughs. Photo by Monique Renee, Silver Paw Studios.
TAKE ACTION

Built into the Community Cultural Plan is a set of three-year phases designed to keep the plan fresh and on track. In 2018, we wrap up the first phase and begin to plan the second, 2019 through 2021. You can help evaluate how things have gone, and what should be up next for phase two!

Visit boulderarts.org/community-cultural-plan.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS:

> Attend a meeting of the Boulder Arts Commission.
> Write an email to staff or the commission members.
> Let City Council know your thoughts on culture.
> Join our mailing list to hear about opportunities to engage.

READY TO WORK?

> Apply for a city of Boulder board or commission.
> Apply to participate in a community selection panel for public art.
> Volunteer for your favorite cultural organization.
> Contribute your skills to our cause.

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boulderarts.org

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