

Arts Vibrancy Index Report V: Hotbeds of America's Arts and Culture

#8, Mid-sized Cities

Boulder, CO (pop. 326,078)

NEW COMMUNITY Boulder, CO, has a strong concentration of artists, venues, creative businesses, and cultural destinations. There are a tempting variety of nationally and regionally respected arts venues in the community including eTown Hall, the Colorado Chautauqua, the NoBo Art District, the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, and the Dairy Arts Center. In addition to incredible resources at the University of Colorado and several mid-sized organizations with a significant following, Boulder County is home to many, mostly small cultural nonprofits. Ranking among the top 3% of communities on Arts Providers and 17th on independent artists, the community is home to a high concentration of photographers, authors, musicians and singers, visual artists, craft artists, music directors, and composers.

Boulder has a vibrant musical scene. The town has a concentration of classical music organizations: three orchestras, two chamber music societies, six chorale groups, two youth orchestras, and three significant classical music festivals. There is also a healthy popular music scene, especially concentrated around the Boulder and Fox Theaters. In addition, Boulder has a strong contemporary dance and theatre scene. The community is recognized for contemporary visual art mostly because of the practicing artists that live here, supported also by contemporary art nonprofits like BMoCA, EcoArts, madelife, etc. Boulder is an emerging place for mural artists with the city's public art program as well as the commissioning company &Arts. Moreover, there is a commitment to make Boulder a laboratory for public artists to interact with the community through the Experiments in Public Art series. The support from Boulder's municipal government is significant, providing government spending of about \$13 per resident that mostly returns to the community through grants and other spending on public art. There is also much support from the regional Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) tax.

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Arts Providers		24th
	Independent artists	17th
	Arts and culture employees	191st
	Arts and culture organizations	45th
	Arts, culture & entertainment firms	25th
Arts Dollars		85th
	Program revenue	59th
	Contributed revenue	131st
	Total expenses	86th
	Total compensation	107th
Government Support		77th
	State arts dollars	375th
	State arts grants	172nd
	Federal arts dollars	64th
	Federal arts grants	63rd

For more information, visit boulderarts.org.