

Kentuckians for the Arts NEWSLETTER

March 2024

Kentuckians for the Arts (KFTA) is an arts centered organization formed for the purpose of providing advocacy for all arts endeavors across Kentucky. Our vision is to advance a creative Commonwealth and our mission is to promote the value of the arts and arts education for all throughout Kentucky.

KFTA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions such as annual dues and donations are tax deductible as permitted by law.

To join just click on the link and follow the instructions.

[Join Us Now!](#)



Arts Council Funding Request Update

With support from 79 other organizations across the state, Kentuckians for the Arts has submitted a funding request to the Kentucky Senate Appropriations and Revenue Committee to increase funding for the Kentucky Arts Council. The request is to increase annual funding in the FY25 budget to \$2,640,700. That amount would restore Arts Council state funding to its 2018 level.

The current proposed House FY25 appropriation (\$1,836,900) is below 1987 funding (\$1,983,300). Current per capita funding (40 cents) ranks Kentucky 45th in state funding for its arts agency. The cuts have impacted the Arts Council's capacity to implement its programs, which include operating grants to arts organizations through the Kentucky Arts Partnership program; marketing/business development services to artists and arts small businesses through the Kentucky Crafted program; and programs that showcase Kentucky arts heritage.

If you would like to contact your legislators and/or members of the Senate A & R committee to express support for Kentucky Arts Council funding, you can call the Legislative Message Line at 800-372-7181. To find out who your legislators are, visit the [Legislative Research Commission website](#).

We'll send updates on the funding status as the budget process moves forward. The Senate A & R Committee will send the budget to the full house. After passage there it will go to a reconciliation committee made up of members of both chambers.

See You at the Market!

KFTA will have a table at the 41st Kentucky Crafted Market, March 9-10 at the Alltech Arena at the Kentucky Horse Park. This year's market will feature more than 100 visual and craft artists, along with music performances and hands-on activities for children. Hours are 10-5 Saturday March 9 and 10-4 Sunday March 10.

If you have questions or would like information about the impact of the arts in your community contact Kentuckians for the Arts at

Kentucky4thearts@gmail.com

A special thank you to our Foundational members:

Ms. Margaret & Mr. Jeffery Jamner

Gretchen & Aldy Milliken
Kentucky Performing Arts

SUPPORT KFTA THROUGH KROGER

Kentuckians for the Arts is part of the Kroger donation program. Through this program, Kroger donates a portion of purchases to nonprofit organizations. If you're a Kroger shopper, please register to support KFTA.

Visit www.kroger.com and log into your Kroger account, then search for Kentuckians for the Arts by name or use the number MR920.

KFTA License Plate

On January 10, Kentuckians for the Arts unveiled a new Arts Special License Plate. You can now show your support for the arts everywhere you go! For more information about how to obtain this special license plate, please [click here](#).



Ada Limon Named *Time* Woman of the Year

Poet Ada Limon continues to bring more positive attention to the Bluegrass State. Limon, the United States Poet Laureate (and a Lexington resident for more than a decade), has been named one of *Time* magazine's 12 Women of the Year for 2024. She and 11 other women are being recognized for being "extraordinary leaders who are working toward a more equal world." They will be honored in Los Angeles March 5. Limon became the first Latina U.S. Poet Laureate in 2022 and in 2023 became the first laureate to be appointed to a second term.



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(Events)



Funding provided in part
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The Kentucky Arts Council,
the state arts agency,
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the Arts with state tax
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KY State Poetry Out Loud Finals Are March 14

The Kentucky state finals for the Poetry Out Loud competition will take place on March 14, 2024. National Poetry Out Loud finals will take place April 30 through May 2, 2024. Last year's Kentucky state champion was Sarah Gamble of Scottsville High School in Allen County. For more information about Poetry Out Loud in Kentucky, [click here](#).

Folk & Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Grant Deadline Is March 29

The folk & traditional arts apprenticeship program is intended to celebrate Kentucky's folk artists and encourage the continuation of the traditional arts. It funds a mentorship program that allows experienced folk artists to train the next generation of traditional artists in their communities. Apprenticeships may last up to one year and must take place between July 15, 2024 and June 30, 2025. Grants may be requested for a maximum of \$4,000. For more information, visit the [Kentucky Arts Council website](#).

Kentucky Touring Grant Application Deadline Is March 15

If you are interested in applying for the Kentucky Touring Grant, the application deadline is coming up fast! Applications are due on March 15 for the July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025 grant period. This grant provides presenters with support to book performers from the Kentucky Arts Council Performing Artists Directory. Applicants may request up to \$5,000 and match at least 25% of the requested award. Award notifications will go out in July 2024. For more information, visit the [Kentucky Arts Council website](#).

Grant Workshops March 14 - 15

Kentucky Nonprofit Network and Grant Ready Kentucky have teamed up to present a two-day, in-person grant workshop in Owensboro. The workshop series will take place March 14 and 15, but participants have the option to register for one or both days.

The workshop series will teach participants how to research and apply for nonprofit grant funding. Learn more at the [Kentucky Nonprofit Network website](#).