

Kentuckians for the Arts NEWSLETTER

January 2022

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](#)



Voice Your Support for ARPA Funding for Ky. Arts Nonprofits!

The Kentucky legislature is now working on the state budget. Gov. Beshear's proposed budget included American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to help Kentucky arts nonprofits. However, the House budget sent to the Senate **did not include this arts allocation**. So please take a few minutes to contact your Senator and Senate leadership to urge them to include this critical funding in the budget.

- The easiest way is to call the legislative message line at 800-372-7181 (M-Th 7am-9 pm, Fri 7 am to 6 pm) and leave a message for your Senator and Senate leadership.
- Suggested message: "I'm calling today to ask (*name your Senator*) and Senate leadership to support the inclusion of American Rescue Plan Act monies in the state budget to help nonprofit arts organizations recover and rebuild."

Unsure who your legislators are? You can find them at the [Legislative Research Commission website](#). The message line operator will ask for your address to ensure they leave the message for your Senator. Please call ASAP! This is one way legislators find out what matters to their constituents. And after you call please email KFTA Board Chair Lori Meadows at lori-meadows076@gmail.com and tell her who you contacted so KFTA can continue to track the level of support.

KNN Announcement Coming on Feb. 3

Another important opportunity for Kentucky's arts nonprofits is coming through an initiative of the Kentucky Nonprofit Network, of which KFTA is a member. On Feb. 3 at 10:30 am EST, KNN will release new "More Than Charity" data on the economic importance of Kentucky's nonprofit sector, as well as the solutions needed by Kentucky's General Assembly to build a bridge to sustainability and recovery for Kentucky's nonprofits and the individuals and communities they serve. [Register to attend this KNN press conference](#) to demonstrate a strong, unified voice for arts and other nonprofits in the Kentucky.

KFTA will be sending out Action Alerts and announcing other legislative developments at the [KFTA Facebook Group page](#).

A special thank you to our Foundational members:

Ms. Margaret & Mr. Jeffery Jamner

Gretchen & Aldy Milliken

Curator Level Donors
\$1000 gift to
Kentuckians for the Arts

To become a Foundational member of KFTA visit [our website](#).

So you can SAY...
"I support Kentucky Arts"

(YOUR NAME HERE)

LOOKING FOR ARTS FUNDING?

Check out the [Funding Opportunities resource](#) at the KFTA website.

A Lot Is Going on at the National Level!

Creative Economy Hearing and Briefing: On Jan. 19, for the first time in history, Congress had a hearing to discuss and hear testimony on America's creative economy. Entitled "The Power, The Peril, and The Promise of The Creative Economy," the virtual hearing presented information to the House Committee on Small Business. There was excellent attendance with more than half of the committee members attending and more than 450 people watching the live stream. You can watch the hearing at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pl_axmgeuUw. On January 31, the American Academy of Arts & Sciences will hold a briefing on America's creative workers for congressional staff and members of Congress. KFTA has sent letters to Kentucky's Congressional delegation to urge them to attend.

Creative Economy Bills: A record seven bills relating to the creative economy are now being considered in Congress, addressing a wide range of issues in the arts and arts education. They are:

- the Creative Economy Revitalization Act (CERA), which creates a grants program within the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act;
- the Comprehensive Resources for Entrepreneurs in the Arts to Transform the Economy (CREATE) Act, which increases access to federal resources for creative entrepreneurs;
- the Promoting Local Arts and Creative Workforce Act (PLACE), which creates local opportunities;
- the Arts Education for All Act, the broadest arts education policy act ever introduced, with provisions to encourage offering arts education and programming to young learners, K-12, and youth impacted by the juvenile justice system;
- the 21st Century Federal Writers Project Act, which would create a grant program to provide meaningful work to unemployed and underemployed writers;
- the Saving Transit Arts Resources (STAR) Act, which would re-enable local transit authorities to incorporate art into federally funded transit programs; and
- the Performing Arts Tax Parity Act (PATPA), which would expand tax relief through the Qualified Performing Artist tax deduction to more lower- and middle-income artists.

Americans for the Arts has a [form enabling arts organizations to make a single endorsement](#) to all seven acts.

Federal Funding Resource Guides: Americans for the Arts has created a set of guides to funding and resource opportunities at federal agencies for nonprofit arts organizations. Areas include community development, rural development, national service, congressional earmarks, environmental protection, and economic development. Access the guides at the [AFTA website](#).

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(Events)



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The Kentucky Arts Council, the state arts agency, provides American Rescue Plan funds to Kentuckians for the Arts with federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Kentucky Arts Education Update

New KDE Arts Consultant: “In this new role, my goal is to enhance how students see the world beyond them through creating, performing/presenting/producing, responding and connecting to the arts in the areas of dance, media arts, music, theater and visual arts,” says Jessica Greene, the new arts consultant at the Kentucky Department of Education. Greene has extensive experience both as an educator and performer. Find out more about Greene in this [Kentucky Teacher article](#).

Arts Academic Standards: Jan. 31 is the deadline to provide feedback in advance of the upcoming revision of the Kentucky Academic Standards for Visual and Performing Arts. KDE has set up an online [public comment form](#) for feedback.

Seal of Arts Excellence: KDE has released guidelines to help districts and schools establish a Seal of Arts Excellence or other programs to recognize high school graduates who demonstrate an advanced level of specialization in an arts area of interest. Find out more about the seal and the guidelines at the [KDE website](#).

Support KFTA with Your SMILE

Kentuckians for the Arts is now part of the Amazon Smile program, in which Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to nonprofits. If you're an Amazon customer, we hope you'll support us by choosing KFTA as your Smile beneficiary. KFTA's unique Smile link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-1557982>

Welcome, New Kentuckians for the Arts Members and Donors!

Barn Lot Theater
Berea Arts Council
Carolyn Kaso
Lexington Chamber Chorale (renewal)
Tucker Leighty-Phillips
Kelli Reno (in honor of Prince Dinger)
Josephine Richardson
Kathleen Richardson
Mary Margaret Villines

When you join or donate to KFTA, you are supporting advocacy work to benefit arts and arts education across Kentucky. Find out more at the [KFTA website](#).