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

A Month to Celebrate the Arts!

Why are Kentucky’s arts important to you? This is the month to celebrate and share the value of the arts in your life.

October is National Arts & Humanities Month, a collective recognition of the importance of culture in America. NAHM was launched by Americans for the Arts for the Arts more than 30 years ago as National Arts Week in honor of the twentieth anniversary of the National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities. In 1993, it was reestablished by Americans for the Arts and national arts partners as a month-long celebration.

In honor of the month, the Kentucky Arts Council is sponsoring a series of free informative online webinars on arts topics, including a webinar on advocacy presented by KFTA Board Chair Lori Meadows. Here’s the schedule:

- Oct. 12, 10 am: Disaster Relief & Recovery in Kentucky and Beyond
- Oct. 19, 10 am: KAC Grants & Programs: A Primer
- Oct. 25, 10 am: Broaden Your Public Landscape: Accessing, Funding & Protecting Intellectual Property
- Oct. 26, 10 am: DEI Basics: The Value of Discomfort
- Oct. 26, 11 am: Advocacy: Take the First Step

Register for these at the Kentucky Arts Council website.

There are plenty of other ways to get involved in Arts & Humanities Month as well:

- Ask your city or county officials to issue a proclamation. Here’s a proclamation template you can customize.
- Write a letter to the editor or op-ed about the arts.
- Share your arts story and your ideas on your social media accounts.

Visit the KFTA website for more info and ideas.
A special thank you to our Foundational/Curator Level members:

Ms. Margaret & Mr. Jeffery Jamner
Gretchen & Aldy Milliken
Kentucky Performing Arts

To become a member of KFTA visit our website.
So you can SAY...
“I support Kentucky Arts”

SUPPORT KFTA THROUGH KROGER AND AMAZON

Kentuckians for the Arts is part of the Amazon Smile program and the Kroger donation program. The programs donate a portion of purchases to non-profit organizations. If you’re a customer of these businesses, please register with them to support KFTA.

KFTA’s unique Smile link: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-1557982
Kroger signup:
Visit http://www.kroger.com and log into your Kroger account, then search for Kentuckians for the Arts by name or use the number MR920.

KFTA Meets With State Advocacy Organizations

Kentuckians for the Arts participated in the recent Creative States Coalition (CSC) meeting in Kansas City, MO, joining with members from state arts advocacy organizations across the country. The meeting focused on best practices and building sustainability models among state advocacy organizations and featured a keynote address by Quanice Floyd, executive director of the National Guild for Community Arts Education, who spoke on justice-centered approaches to advocacy and organizing.

Formed in 2021 as a response to state-level advocacy needs, CSC serves as a coalition of state-level arts, culture, and creative industry advocacy leaders that initiates, supports, strengthens, and elevates action for arts sector growth at the state and local level through collaboration, education, capacity building, and public policy development.

Kentucky Arts Council Education Grant Deadlines Are Oct. 31

- The Teaching Art Together Grant enables teachers to implement artist residencies in their classrooms. Teachers and artists from the KAC Teaching Artist roster work in partnership to design and implement the residencies. Residencies may be focused on a specific artistic discipline or explore cross-curricular pairings such as dance integrated into a math curriculum, new media integrated into a science curriculum, etc. Grants of $1,000 for a 5-day (20-hour) residency are available, with no match required. Apply by Oct. 31 for residencies to be held Jan. 1-Apr. 30, 2023. Info and application form at the KAC website.

- The TranspARTation Grant Program enables Kentucky teachers and schools to offer students high quality arts experiences by providing transportation funding. Grants will be based on the mileage from the school building to the arts organization or performance venue and the number of buses necessary. The deadline is Oct. 31 for field trips taking place Jan. 1-Apr. 30, 2023. Info and application form at the KAC website.

Be a voice for Kentucky arts!
Join Kentuckians for the Arts!
BRAVO! Awards and Recognition

Alicestyne Turley Receives Storytellers Fellowship

Congratulations to Kentuckian Dr. Alicestyne Turley for being one of the inaugural recipients of the [Black Appalachian Storytellers Fellowship](https://www.southarts.org/black-appalachian-storytellers-fellowship). The fellowship was awarded by Mid Atlantic Arts in partnership with South Arts and the National Association of Black Storytellers (NABS). The program is intended to honor, celebrate, and support Black storytellers residing in the Appalachian counties and to preserve and advance the understanding of Black Appalachian storytelling that embodies the history, heritage, and culture of African Americans. Turley, an educator and activist, is the director of the International Storytelling Centers [Freedom Stories project](https://www.storycenter.org/freedom-stories).

Chad Davidson Named to KDE Teachers Advisory Council

Chad Davidson, a music teacher at Lone Oak Elementary School in McCracken County, is among the 10 newly named members to the Kentucky Department of Education’s Teachers Advisory Council. The Council advises KDE on educational priorities. Arts teachers among the returning council members are Jane Modlin, a theater teacher in Ashland Independent and Jennifer Stewart, a computer and STEAM teacher in Floyd County. More than 100 teachers applied, according to KDE.

Big Ideas Festival Brings Arts and Healing to E. Ky.

The Appalachian Big Ideas Festival, presented by the Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky and Appalachians for Appalachia celebrated storytelling, arts, culture, and community building in Hazard Sept. 29-Oct. 1. The festival focused on arts as a way to help Eastern Kentucky look to the future in light of devastating flooding in the region. The Louisville *Courier-Journal* spotlighted the effort in a [feature article](https://www.courier-journal.com/).