

Front cover:

Tacoma Arts Commission 2018 Year in Review

Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality
Tacoma Arts Commission logo

Page 2:

Arts, culture, and creativity are essential keys to Tacoma's unique and distinctive identity. The Tacoma Arts Commission and the Office of Arts & Cultural Vitality are proud to nurture our city's creative eco-system, providing support to our artists and organizations as well as opportunities for all of our residents and visitors to access and participate in the arts.

We encourage the development of the local arts community through the administration of arts and cultural funding programs, managing and providing stewardship for the City's public art collection, and producing a variety of public programs and professional development opportunities that enhance and contribute to Tacoma's local economy. In addition, the volunteer members of the Tacoma Arts Commission are advocates for the arts, providing policy direction on matters of arts and culture within the City of Tacoma.

We work collaboratively with strong partners and allies such as Metro Parks Tacoma, the Arts & Culture Coalition of Pierce County, and the Tacoma Pierce County Chamber of Commerce to build the creative economy by leveraging resources and talent to further benefit our community in innovative and dynamic ways.

This report illustrates the far-reaching impacts the City's investments in arts and culture have on our community.

Page 3 & 4:

Insert the Summary Report document

Page 5:

COUNCIL DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

Add a super basic outline map of Tacoma with the 5 Council Districts outlined and numbered. Use this map (https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city_council/district_map) as basis for the outlines. Include the following projects by Council District with a line pointing from each set of text to the corresponding council district on the map.

- District 1
 - Funding – 1 Anchor Fund organization, 10 Arts Projects event venues, 4 TAIP artists
 - Spaceworks – Creative Enterprise entrepreneurs
 - Murals – 7 traffic box wraps
 - Public Art – 5 permanent artworks for Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, 1 permanent artwork for Dune Peninsula at Point Defiance Park
 - Tacoma Arts Month, Tacoma Poet Laureate, artTown, Artist in Residence

- District 2
 - Funding – 9 Anchor Fund organizations, 6 Arts Projects event venues, 5 TAIP artists
 - Spaceworks – 950 Gallery, Artspaces, murals, 1120 Downtown, Creative Enterprise entrepreneurs
 - Murals – 8 traffic box wraps
 - Public Art – 6 permanent artworks for Prairie Line Trail, 2 permanent artworks for Sound Transit, 1 permanent artwork for Ruston Way Waterfront, 21 pieces of portable art for City Hall
 - Tacoma Arts Month, Tacoma Poet Laureate, artTown, Artist in Residence

- District 3
 - Funding – 4 Arts Projects event venues, 7 TAIP artists
 - Spaceworks – 1120 Hilltop, Creative Enterprise entrepreneurs
 - Murals – 18 traffic box wraps
 - Public Art – 1 permanent artwork for South Tacoma Way, 2 permanent artworks for Valhalla Hall, 1 permanent artwork for Sound Transit, 1 permanent artwork for the Albert J. Canada building, Public Art/Public Action training program and temporary public artwork for 12 artists in the Tacoma Mall Area, 1 permanent artwork for Tacoma Town Center
 - Tacoma Arts Month, Tacoma Poet Laureate, artTown, Artist in Residence

- District 4
 - Funding – 4 Arts Projects event venues, 1 TAIP artist
 - Spaceworks – Creative Enterprise entrepreneurs
 - Creative Space Development – 1 artist live/work building project
 - Murals – 7 traffic box wraps
 - Public Art – 4 permanent and 3 temporary artworks for Lincoln District Revitalization, 3 permanent artworks and 13 pieces of portable art for Eastside Community Center, training program and group show of temporary public artwork for 12 artists for Eastside Community Center, 1 temporary installation for East 40th Street project
 - Tacoma Arts Month, Tacoma Poet Laureate, artTown, Artist in Residence

- District 5
 - Funding – 2 Arts Projects event venues, 1 TAIP artist
 - Spaceworks – Creative Enterprise entrepreneurs
 - Murals – 8 traffic box wraps
 - Public Art – 1 4-part permanent artwork for Oak Tree Park and the Water Flume Line Trail, 1 site-integrated project for East 64th Street project
 - Tacoma Arts Month, Tacoma Poet Laureate, artTown, Artist in Residence

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FUNDING

Arts Anchor Fund

Operating support for Tacoma’s largest arts institutions who anchor the cultural community through exhibited stability and excellence

- \$255,000 in funding distributed to 10 organizations for the 2017-18 biennium
- 1,377 events hosted in Tacoma in 2018; events ran a total of 12,372 times
- 493,100 people served within Tacoma in 2018
- 136,816 people admitted for free in 2018
- 255,054 Tacoma patrons and 240,730 non-Tacoma patrons served in 2018
- \$14.46 million in collateral spending by all patrons in 2018
- Organizations based in Council Districts 1 & 2
- Funded organizations: Grand Cinema, Hilltop Artists, Museum of Glass, Northwest Sinfonietta, Symphony Tacoma, Tacoma Art Museum, Tacoma Little Theatre, Tacoma Musical Playhouse, Tacoma Opera, Tacoma Youth Symphony

Infographic:

Collateral spending by patrons

\$14.46 million in 2018	\$12.58 million in 2017	\$9.67 million in 2016
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Arts Projects

Supports a diversity of grassroots arts projects throughout the city

- 2018 Arts Projects
 - \$50,000 in funding distributed to 19 organizations
 - 95 events hosted
 - 67,493 people served

- 59,380 people admitted for free
- 1,232 artists involved in producing projects
- \$116,500 in total funding requests from 28 applicants
- Funded organizations: Asia Pacific Cultural Center, Barefoot Collective, Broadway Center for the Performing Arts, Centro Latino, Chùa Phước Huệ Vietnamese Buddhist Meditation and Cultural Center, Fort Nisqually Foundation, Groundswell Arts Collective, Hilltop Business Association, King's Bookstore, Latinx Unidos of the South Sound, Metropolitan Glass, Northwest Repertory Singers, Orchestral Recital Series of Tacoma, Puyallup Tribe of Indians, Tacoma Concert Band, Tacoma Refugee Choir, Tacoma Urban Performing Arts Center, Washington State Historical Society, Write253
- 2019 Arts Projects
 - \$100,000 in funding distributed to 32 organizations
 - \$157,365 in total funding requests from 36 applicants

Infographic:

Pie chart showing 88% free admission 12% ticketed admission. Labeled "Admission to 2018 Arts Projects events"

Tacoma Artists Initiative Program

Supports the creation of high quality work by Tacoma artists working in all disciplines; artists share their talents with the community through free public components

- \$45,000 in funding distributed to 18 individual artists for the 2017-18 biennium
- 46 events hosted
- 12,551 people served; all for free
- \$107,500 in total funding requests from 43 applicants
- Artists based in Council Districts 1 – 5
- Funded artists: Anida Yoeu Ali, Travis Barker, Priscilla Dobler, Daniel Garcia, Antonio Gomez, Mark Hoppmann, Maria Jost, Anne Lyman, Kevin Miller, Elise Richman, Mauricio Robalino, Jessica Spring, Nick Stokes, Kenji Stoll, Masahiro Sugano, Qin Tan, Collin Veenstra, Ben Wildenhaus

Highlight this quote:

“The TAIP has presented a tremendous opportunity to renew my artistic work, connecting my life as a Tacoman with international musical networks.” Antonio Gomez

PUBLIC ART

Infographic:

Number of permanent public art pieces in process

37 in 2018	28 in 2017	20 in 2016	12 in 2015	8 in 2014
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Municipal Art Program

- Lincoln District Revitalization
 - Gateway and Streetscape – Horatio Hung-Yan Law. Installed large-scale gateway artwork for S. 38th Street, and completed designs for Yakima Avenue artworks.
 - Welcome Signs – Chandler O’Leary. Installed permanent, community-responsive welcome signs for the streetscape.
 - Creative Community Engagement Grants – Completed 3 imaginative community-based projects that support economic development, neighborhood identity, and community cohesion. Completed projects include: video series about Lincoln businesses, temporary *Flowercloud* installation, temporary installation of sidewalk poetry using a rain-activated material.
- Prairie Line Trail
 - Spur – Susan Zoccola. Completed design of artwork for the 15th Street Overpass. Partnership with Foss Waterway Development Authority.
 - Historic Interpretation – Matthew Dockrey, Ryan Feddersen, Rotator. Installed 3 artworks and completed design for 1 artwork as part of a State Heritage Grant.
 - Spur Mural – Kenji Stoll and Matamatanonofu Porter. Design and painting of linear mural on the pedestrian ramp at S. 15th & Dock Street.
- Water Flume Line Trail /Oak Tree Park – Clark Wiegman. Installed 4-part public artwork along the trail and park, including collaboration with Mt. Tahoma High School and Tahoma Audubon. Joint project with Metro Parks Tacoma.

- Portable Works Purchase – Anida Yoeu Ali, Adika Bell, Jasmine Brown, Heather Cornelius, Becky Frehse, Tiffany Hammonds, Lucia Harrison, Lourdes Jackson, Lisa Kinoshita, Morrae Martin, Nicholas Nyland, Chandler O'Leary, Gerardo Peña, Liz Pulos, Christie Rooks, Roberto Sanchez, Masahiro Sugano, Dion Thomas, William Turner, Angela Wales, Grace A. Washington. Purchased 21 pieces of artwork by Tacoma artists.
- South Tacoma Way – Sheila Klein. Fabrication and installation of artwork for the South Tacoma Business District. Funded by State Farm, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, and a City of Tacoma Innovative Grant.
- Artist in Residence
 - Focusing on issues related to homelessness. Partnership with City's Neighborhood & Community Services department.
 - Creative Site Reclamation – Susan Robb. Developed solutions for creative placemaking to reclaim areas as positive community space.
 - Community Engagement – Roni Chelben. Developed *In Our Backyard*, a series of five traveling community events that brought people together for a conversation about homelessness, its causes, challenges, and possible approaches.
- East 64th Street – Elisheba Johnson and Kristen Ramirez. Artist selection, research, and design development for site-integrated artwork as part of streetscape improvement project.
- East 40th Street – Write253. Contracted with Write253 to conduct poetry-writing workshops in East Tacoma public schools and apply poems to sidewalk with a temporary rain-activated material.
- Public Art/Public Action - Jasmine Brown, Terese Cuff, Joel Cuplin, Gwen Jones, Maria Jost, Nori Kimura, Matamatononofo Porter, Robb Sanchez, Alexander Schelhammer, Francesca Siena, LaQuita Thurman. Training program for Tacoma artists who created social practice arts projects to activate the Tacoma Mall area. Funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.
- Public Art Maintenance
 - Chihuly Bridge of Glass – Cleaned *Crystal Towers*
 - Archival framing of portable artworks
 - Replacement of elements of Chandler O'Leary's *Droplets*
 - Digitization of Municipal Art Collection files

Public Art Consulting

- Metro Parks Tacoma Art Plan (on contract with Metro Parks Tacoma) – Ongoing management of Public Art Program
- Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium (on contract with Metro Parks Tacoma)
 - Aquarium Ramps – Gordon Huether. Fabrication and installation of *Shoal* and *Shimmer*, two large-scale interior installations at the Pacific Seas aquarium.
 - Glass Jellyfish – Kait Rhoads. Fabrication and installation of *Salish Nettles*, three large glass jellyfish artworks at the Pacific Seas aquarium.
 - Mural – Maria Jost. Fabrication and installation of *Where the Land Meets the Sea*, an educational mural at the Pacific Seas aquarium.
- Pump House (on contract with Metro Parks Tacoma) – Anthony Duenas. Artist selection, design, and fabrication of three exterior murals on the pump house at Owen Beach.
- Dune Peninsula Sailmound (on contract with Metro Parks Tacoma) – Nichole Rathburn. Artist selection and design development for artwork at the new Dune Peninsula park located between Ruston Way and Point Defiance.
- Dickman Mill (on contract with Metro Parks Tacoma) – Mary Coss. Worked with architects to integrate artful design elements into the project. Designed *Ghost Log*, large scale signature piece for park along the Ruston Way Waterfront.
- Eastside Community Center (on contract with Metro Parks Tacoma)
 - Art Brief & Community Engagement – Christopher Paul Jordan and Kenji Stoll. Completed community engagement and Art Brief for the new community center. Implemented recommendations of the Art Brief.
 - Portable Works Purchase – Darishma Alphonse, Adika Bell, Jasmine Brown, Kate Cendejas Thun, Anthony Duenas, Lisa Fruichantie, Lourdes Jackson, Gwen Jones, Denis Maina, Gerardo Peña, Shaun Peterson, Kenya Shakoor, Grace A. Washington. Framing and installation of artworks.
 - Outdoor Welcome Sculpture – Mauricio Robalino. Design completed for outdoor sculpture at the entrance to the new community center.
 - Billy Ray Memorial – Jasmine Brown. Design completed for sculpture at the new community center honoring the life of Billy Ray Shirley, III and the work of Team Billy Ray.

- Eastside Artist Cohort – Adika Bell, Dionne Bonner, Lisa Fruichantie, LeShawn Gamble, Tiffany Hammonds, Gerardo Peña, Elizabeth Reeves, Brian Robinson, Chuck Taylor, Dion Thomas, James Youngs, Jasmine Brown. Twelve emerging artists with a connection to the Eastside participated in a public art training program, culminating in a week-long group show of temporary art installations at Salishan. Artists who completed the program were eligible for the Youth Memorial project.
- Youth Memorial – Dionne Bonner. Design completed for indoor mural acknowledging the loss of young people in the community.
- Valhalla Hall (on contract with Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority)
 - Gate – Chris Spadafore. Fabrication and installation of decorative gate.
 - Mural – Matamatononofo Porter. Painting and installation of two-part exterior mural.
- Alberta J. Canada building (on contract with Tacoma Housing Authority) – Mauricio Robalino. Artist selection, research, design, and fabrication of exterior mosaic mural.
- LINK Extension (on contract with Sound Transit) – Kenji Stoll. Research and design development to create artwork for 7 new LINK light rail stations.
- Tacoma Gateway (on contract with Sound Transit) – Sean Orlando and David Shulman. Fabrication of a large-scale public art piece at S. 26th and Pacific Avenue.
- Tacoma Town Center (on contract with North America Asset Management Group, LLC) – Kenji Stoll and Christopher Paul Jordan. Artist selection for private development in downtown Tacoma.

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

Spaceworks Tacoma

- Partnership with Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber
- Celebrated 8 years of providing training and support for artists and creative entrepreneurs
- Supported 143 creative businesses since 2010, 70% of which are still in operation
- Provided training and technical assistance to 57 business incubator clients
- Hosted the new free, four-hour Entrepreneur Success Workshop in Hilltop, Proctor, and East Tacoma
- Helped launch 10 creative businesses into community storefronts and vacant spaces
- Commissioned artists to create 21 temporary streetside displays
- Provided affordable studio space to 21 tenants in 2 coworking spaces
- Hosted 6 exhibits at the 950 Gallery in the heart of downtown
- Received a \$100,000 grant from JPMorgan Chase for business stabilization in Hilltop during the LINK light rail construction
- Partnered with Pierce Transit, City of Tacoma, and Tacoma Arts Live on the TRANSFORM project, activating the Theater District and collecting public feedback
- Hired 10 local community engagement specialists to stage creative projects and spark dialogue about the LINK light rail streetscape designs

Highlight this quote:

“My goodness, it’s like I’ve been accepted into the coolest club in town. Creative, smart, independent, and courageous entrepreneurs. Just awesomeness! #Spaceworkstacoma #alumni #bizness

#surroundyourselfwithpeoplewhoaresmarterthanyou”

-Michelle Matlock, Circle Up Productions, Fall 2018 Business Planning Cohort graduate

Tacoma Arts Month

- Opening Party
 - Celebrated 17th anniversary of Tacoma Arts Month
 - Collaboration with Spaceworks Tacoma, Normanna Hall, and 22 local artists and arts organizations
 - 400 people in attendance at this free community event
 - Event sponsorships from Northwest Stage, HOLDstudios, Anthem Coffee
- AMOCAT Arts Awards – recognizing outstanding outreach, engagement, and involvement in the arts
 - Nominated by community; selected by Tacoma Arts Commission
 - Arts Patron: MultiCare Health System
 - Community Outreach by an Organization: Tacoma Little Theatre
 - Community Outreach by an Individual: Jackie Casella
- Community Events
 - 160 community-produced events
 - 33 classes and workshops

- 15 visual art exhibits
- Tacoma Studio Tour – free two-day event
 - 80 artists at 47 studio locations covering Council Districts 1, 2, 3, 4
 - Average of 150 visitors to each studio
 - Estimated \$50,000 in earnings from sale of work
- Communication and Sponsorship
 - Partnered with the Arts & Culture Coalition of Pierce County and BIA to hang banners in downtown Tacoma
 - Leveraged promotional reach with Arts & Culture Coalition of Pierce County and Market the Arts Task Force
 - Held three promotional incentive challenges
 - Partnered with Pacific Lutheran University to design digital and print materials
 - TacomaArts blog focused on artists participating in the Tacoma Studio Tour and events happening throughout the month
 - Twice-weekly e-newsletters announced upcoming arts events
 - Secured sponsorships with ARCADE, Click! Cable TV, Macaroni Kid, KNKX, NWPB, ParentMap, Preview Magazine, Sounds Fun Mom, South Sound Magazine, Tacoma Weekly, Weekly Volcano

Tacoma Murals Project

- Installed 39 new traffic box wraps and re-installed 9 traffic box wraps
- Partnership with Neighborhood & Community Services and Public Works departments

artTown TV Show

artTown is a cultural documentary-style TV show exploring Tacoma’s emergence as a major creative hub in the Pacific Northwest. The series offers segments featuring diverse perspectives on a variety of creative disciplines

- Researched, planned, and produced 2 episodes with 9 segments

Tacoma Poet Laureate

- 2017-19 Tacoma Poet Laureate Kellie Richardson hosted or participated in 22 Poet Laureate events, readings, workshops, and presentations in 2018, serving 1,800 attendees.

Creative Space Development

- Culture & Transportation Plan for the Theater District – Walker Macy developed plan that considers the highest and best use for Theater on the Square; design options for Broadway and Commerce streetscapes; and ways to attract visitors to the district, improve connections, and entice future development. In partnership with Pierce Transit, Tacoma Arts Live, Spaceworks Tacoma, and community stakeholders. Supported by an Our Town grant through the National Endowment for the Arts.
- Provided support to McKinley Artists’ Lofts (14 live/work-work/live units on McKinley Ave.) Redevelopment completed and artist selection and move-in for affordable units.

Tacoma Creates

- Tacoma voters approved Proposition 1, a ballot measure to support arts, culture, science, and heritage programs with a 0.1% sales tax.

CITY-OWNED ARTS VENUES

Tacoma Arts Live

- City contracted with Tacoma Arts Live to manage three historic City-owned facilities
 - Pantages Theater (built 1918, restored 1983, renovated 2018)
 - Rialto Theater (built 1918, restored 1991)
 - Theatre on the Square (built 1993)
- Home to 7 of Tacoma’s Resident Arts Organizations
- Presents diverse array of international touring and locally produced productions, including a Regional Theater Program launched in 2018
- Facilitates one of the largest arts education programs in the state, reaching 55,000+ annually
- Serves 265,000+ visitors each year

GRANTS

National Endowment for the Arts – Art Works

- \$40,000 to support Public Art/Public Action, a public art and community engagement training for artists focusing on the Tacoma Mall Subarea. Secured in 2017 for programming happening in 2018.

National Endowment for the Arts – Our Town

- \$50,000 to support a Culture & Transportation Plan for the Theater District in partnership with Pierce Transit and Tacoma Arts Live. Secured in 2016 for work happening through 2018.

State Farm

- \$104,000 to support a gateway sculpture on South Tacoma Way. Secured in 2016 for work happening through 2018.

OUTREACH & COMMUNICATIONS

- Maintained cityoftacoma.org/arts, tacomaartsmoonth.com, Tacoma Arts Facebook page with 4,300 followers, Tacoma Arts Instagram account with 1,300 followers, 2 email listservs with 1,400 members, and TacomaArts blog
- Hosted 2 Creative Community Conversation events
- Select presentations representing Tacoma's arts & culture:
 - *Art in Greenspace, Prairie Line Trail*, ALOHA group, Tacoma Art Museum; Tacoma, WA
 - *Old Places, New Spaces: Preservation Month Bike Ride*, Historic Preservation Office; Tacoma, WA
 - *Beyond the Plaque: The Prairie Line Trail Interpretive Plan*, RevitalizeWA Conference, Washington Trust for Historic Preservation; Port Townsend, WA
 - *PSESD Regional High School Art Show*, Tacoma Arts award
 - *Tacoma Murals*, Gordon Thomas Honeywell; Tacoma, WA

TACOMA ARTS COMMISSION

- Volunteer members: Mike Sweney, Chair; Heather Conklin, Vice Chair; Rosie Ayala; Scott Campbell; Michelle Douglas; Quincy Henry; Paula Jacobson; Traci Kelly; Johnaye Kendrick; Halley Knigge; Michael Kula; Liesl Santkuyil; Wanda Thompson; Paul Throne; Lynn Wilmot-Stenehjem
- City Council liaisons: Lillian Hunter and Keith Blocker
- Commission demographics: Council Districts 1- 5; ranging in age from 30's to 60's; expertise as practicing artists, arts professionals, educators, and arts supporters/patrons
- 1,369 hours of volunteer service