Goal: Ensure people across the Philadelphia region benefit from inclusive, diverse, and high-quality arts and culture experiences.

This Theory of Change outlines the connections among our three strategies and shared vision of success.

OUR STRATEGIES

Arts Presentation and Art Making
• Projects that create high-quality arts and culture experiences that are intentionally designed to engage and benefit a community or audience.
• Knowledge- and network-building work that strengthens and advocates for an arts and culture sector that is adept at using inclusive, equitable, community-informed programming practices.

Arts Education
• High-quality, hands-on arts education programs designed to engage young people actively.
• Practitioner coaching and training to improve the quality of arts education.
• Knowledge- and network-building work that strengthens and advocates for high-quality arts education.

Arts and Culture Hubs
• Multi-year general operating support for arts and culture organizations that play a meaningful cultural, social, and civic role in the region and/or their communities and have a long-standing or meaningful but still growing commitment to equity and inclusion.

For Young People and Adults
• Access to high-quality, inclusive, and relevant arts and culture experiences.
• Benefits such as:
  » experiencing joy and beauty;
  » affirming cultural or community identity;
  » a deeper sense of belonging in the region;
  » strengthened connections with others (including artists);
  » a greater understanding of and appreciation for different cultural or community identities and experiences;
  » creativity and art making skills and interests (for youth);
  » social-emotional well-being and related skills (for youth);
  » critical thinking capabilities (for youth).

For Practitioners
• Greater understanding of the communities and audiences that programs are designed to engage.
• Increased skills and knowledge that support inclusive, equitable, and community-/youth-informed programming practices in arts and culture and arts education.
• Strengthened governance and operations practices to support commitments to racial equity and economic inclusion.
• Research, evaluation, and data that improve arts and culture programming for young people and adults.
• More relationships and networks for youth development and for communicating about the social impact of arts and culture.
• More Creative Communities funding for work that will benefit communities of color and economically vulnerable communities and/or for organizations led by people of color.

For Sector
• More Creative Communities funding for work that will benefit communities of color and economically vulnerable communities and/or for organizations led by people of color.

INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES

ULTIMATE OUTCOMES

• Programming is abundant: Organizations, artists, and arts education practitioners in the Philadelphia region consistently create programming that is accessible, welcoming, and relevant to the communities and youth they hope to engage.

• Programming is inclusive: Communities of color, economically vulnerable communities, and other historically marginalized groups feel that a wide range of high-quality arts and culture experiences and arts education programming is accessible, welcoming, and reflective of their identities, experiences, and interests.

• People and communities benefit: People across the Philadelphia region come together to build vibrant, creative, and just communities; youth lead full, active, and civically connected lives.

• Arts and culture is essential: Communities throughout the region see local arts and culture organizations as essential to their social, economic, and civic well-being; arts education is part of an ecosystem of support for the healthy development of the region’s youth.

• Funding is equitable: More equitable funding for inclusive and high-quality arts and culture programming for young people and adults.

For more on our Creative Communities program, visit williampennfoundation.org/what-we-fund-creative-communities © 2024