



**Erie Arts
& Culture**

2021

Opportunities to
SUPPORT
Erie Arts & Culture

Support

ARTS IN LIFELONG LEARNING

Using Educational Improvement Tax Credits (EITC)

Erie Arts & Culture invites you to join us in our efforts to ensure every person in Northwestern Pennsylvania has access to meaningful experiences that utilize the arts and humanities as a tool for personal development, both in academic and communal environments. Support in-depth arts learning experiences for youth and adults in Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Venango, Warren, or Lawrence Counties by making a contribution to our arts in lifelong learning initiatives. Through our teaching artist residency program, Erie Arts & Culture provides paid opportunities that allow artists to serve as creative catalysts in schools and community organizations. As of April 2021, Erie Arts & Culture has 34 rostered artists that have been formally equipped with the knowledge and skills to successfully design and implement arts in education residencies.

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development has approved Erie Arts & Culture as an Educational Improvement Organization. Through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program, your contributions that support our arts in lifelong learning initiatives will provide you with tax credits that can be applied against your tax liabilities.



Single-year contributions earn tax credits equal to 75 percent of your total contribution up to a maximum of \$750,000. Multi-year contributions earn tax credits equal to 90 percent of your annual contribution.



Support

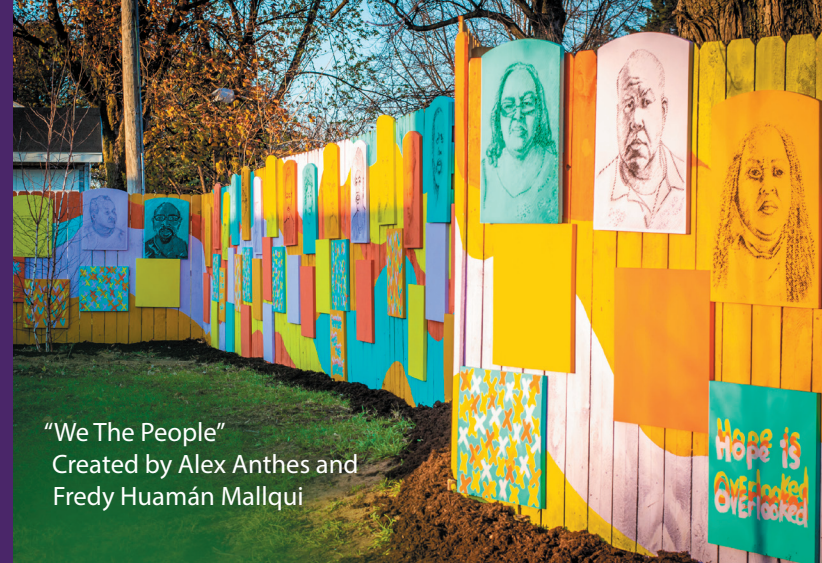
PLACEMAKING

Through the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP)

Creative placemaking occurs as a result of partners from the public, private, non-profit, and community sectors collaborating together to strategically shape the built, social, and economic character of our neighborhoods, city, and region. It employs cultural and creative initiatives that leverage the power of the arts and humanities to strengthen our communities and reveal and/or celebrate shared identities.

Erie Arts & Culture believes that public engagement and community investment are at the heart of creative placemaking. We value members of the community as assets and engage them in a manner that taps into their creativity, imagination, experience, and wisdom. When successful, outcomes of creative placemaking include:

- Activating public and private spaces
- Rejuvenating built structures, greenspaces, and streetscapes
- Fostering local economic viability
- Improving public safety
- Bringing together people from diverse backgrounds
- Reinforcing emotional bonds between people and place



"We The People"
Created by Alex Anthes and
Fredy Huamán Mallqui

Contributions for placemaking are potentially eligible for tax credits through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development's Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP). Projects that serve distressed areas can be awarded a tax credit up to 55 percent of your total contribution.



Sponsor

THE GREAT LAKE

ICE BREAK

Inspired by the Nenana Ice Classic, an Alaska tradition since 1917, Erie Arts & Culture and the Presque Isle Partnership have joined forces to create the Great Lake Ice Break, a joint fundraising initiative that preserves both Erie's natural and cultural assets, as well as attract visitors and gaming enthusiasts to Erie's Bayfront and Downtown.

Every winter, a 15' sculpture designed by artist David Seitzinger is placed on the ice covering the East Canal Basin of Presque Isle Bay. Once the sculpture is on the ice, participants can place their predictions as to the date and time, down to the exact minute, when they expect the ice will break and the sculpture will plunge into the bay.

The lucky entrant(s) whose prediction(s) prove correct are awarded half the contest's proceeds, leaving the other half to benefit Erie Arts & Culture and the Presque Isle Partnership.

Donate

DURING ERIE GIVES



Make Erie Arts & Culture one of your philanthropic priorities during Erie Gives

Erie Gives is a community-wide day of giving organized by the Erie Community Foundation. Erie Arts & Culture receives a pro-rated match from the Erie Community Foundation when you make a contribution on Erie Gives. In 2020, Erie Arts & Culture was one of the top ten organizations that raised the most dollars during Erie Gives. Will you make a contribution and help us hold that position in 2021?

Sponsor

FALL FOR ARTS & CULTURE

For more than three decades, Erie Arts & Culture has shown its appreciation to those individuals, organizations, corporate citizens, and foundations that have played an impactful role in Erie County's creative and cultural community by hosting Fall for Arts & Culture.

As part of the awards ceremony, honorees are presented with an original art object created by an Erie County artist. Each year, Erie Arts & Culture commissions a different artist to create the object. Additionally, each year, three artists from Erie County are awarded unrestricted cash fellowships totalling \$11,000. The cash awards allow artists to delve deeper into their creative disciplines and support them in their pursuit of artistic development and growth.

The annual event is highly social and immersive. It includes live performances and engaging visual art installations. Average attendance is 150-250.



Support

THE 54TH ANNUAL UNITED ARTS FUND

The non-profit cultural sector has a positive impact on personal, community, and economic development in Erie County. This is why the arts, entertainment, and recreation are included as key indicators for Erie Vital Signs and were included as a focus area in the Destination Erie plan.

Established in 1967, the United Arts Fund is a way to make a single gift that benefits many. When you make a contribution to the United Arts Fund:

60% of your contribution benefits Erie Arts & Culture's Cultural Service Partners (the Erie Philharmonic, the Erie Playhouse, the expERIENCE Children's Museum, the Flagship Niagara League, and the Hagen History Center).

25% of your contribution supports Erie Arts & Culture and our mission of improving the lives of our region's residents by leveraging the power of the arts and humanities to address the vital needs and interests of Erie and Northwestern Pennsylvania.



SUPPORT ARTS & HUMANITIES
within Erie's Urban Core



10% of your contribution supports Erie Arts & Culture's Ignite Arts grant program, which during the 2020-2021 grant cycle awarded 28 applicants with nearly \$70,000 in funding to support arts and humanities activities and events in Erie County.

5% of your contribution is added to the Erie Arts Endowment, which as of February 2021 sat at \$4.1 million.

The United Arts Fund is conducted annually between September 1 and December 31.



Establish a

GRANTMAKING PROGRAM

Establish a grantmaking program with Erie Arts & Culture to support arts and humanities projects and programs that align with your values and priorities.

Erie Arts & Culture provides funding to individuals and organizations that utilize the arts and humanities to serve our community. Our grantmaking programs are supported with private dollars from the Erie Arts Endowment and public dollars directed to Erie Arts & Culture by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

Starting in 2021, we are working with businesses and corporate citizens to establish named grantmaking programs that align with company values and priorities. Starting a grantmaking program with Erie Arts & Culture generates good will and positive press but doesn't require you to take on any overhead associated with operating as a grantmaker. Individuals or organizations interested in your philanthropic support will no longer submit requests to you, but will instead apply for grant funding from Erie Arts & Culture.



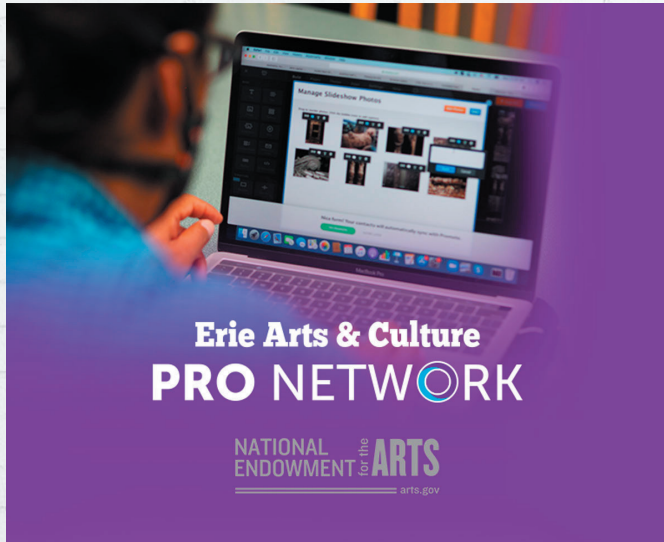
Sample grantmaking programs can include:

- Grants to support art teachers who presently are purchasing classroom supplies out-of-pocket
- Grants to support artists leading community-centered placemaking initiatives
- Grants to provide production assistance to small-to-mid-sized performing arts non-profit organizations
- Grants to support live events that are offered at no expense to the community

You determine the priority causes and grant amounts and Erie Arts & Culture will do all the administrative work on your behalf.

Support

THE PRO NETWORK



Erie Arts & Culture believes that creative and cultural professionals can play a central role in developing vibrant and healthy communities and neighborhoods when they are provided with access to Professional development, Resources, and Opportunities (PRO). You can underwrite PRO Network initiatives, such as webinars designed to teach artists about sustainable business practices or networking events that foster new connections.

Support

THE CHROMA GUILD



The CHROMA Guild advances opportunities and access to resources for creative and cultural professionals of color in Northwestern Pennsylvania. The regional network builds both individual and organizational capacity by expanding equity and inclusion within the area's creative and cultural sector. Your support of this program allows Erie Arts & Culture to Erie Arts & Culture connect and empower BIPOC artists, curators, critics, producers, venue owners, promoters, and archivists.





OUR MISSION

Erie Arts & Culture is committed to improving the lives of our region's residents. We do this by leveraging the power of the arts and humanities to address the vital needs and interests of Erie and Northwestern Pennsylvania.

In support of our mission, we:

- Provide tools, resources, and financial support to individuals and organizations that specifically utilize the arts and humanities as a platform to engage the broader community.
- Grow the capacity of our sector to ensure extraordinary creative and cultural experiences.
- Create an environment in which artists and creative industries, representing a wide variety of disciplines, can thrive.
- Fund opportunities for lifelong learning through the arts and humanities experiences in classrooms, institutions, and community spaces.
- Consult on how creativity and culture can be a component in any development or redevelopment project.
- Celebrate Erie's collective identity by preserving and promoting the region's cultural diversity.

STAFF



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Executive Director



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Creative Director



Laurel Mitchell
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DaVona Pacley
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Term Expiration: 2023*

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Erie Innovation District
Term Expiration: 2023*

Tauna Hunter - Vice-Chair

*Professor Emeritus of Dance |
Mercyhurst University
Term Expiration: 2023*



*Thank you
for your consideration.*

If you'd like to support Erie Arts & Culture, please contact
Patrick Fisher at patrick@erieartsandculture.org or
814-452-3427 x 105

**Erie Arts
& Culture**