



CASE FOR SUPPORT

Mural dedicated to Carla Hughes by artist
Mwané Pierre-Louis

Erie Arts & Culture

Founded in 1960 as the Arts Council of Erie, Erie Arts & Culture is the regional arts agency for Northwestern Pennsylvania, as appointed by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. Our role is to promote, support, and develop culture and creativity at the regional level; ensuring broad opportunities for residents and tourists throughout communities in Erie, Crawford, Venango, Warren, Mercer, and Lawrence counties to engage with the sector educationally, socially, and economically. Our presence ensures that all communities - regardless of their geographic location or economic status - are systematically and equitably served.

A photograph of two women standing in front of a vibrant, multi-colored fence. The fence is made of vertical wooden planks painted in various colors like yellow, orange, blue, and green. Each plank features a black and white portrait of a person. The woman on the left is wearing a yellow jacket, sunglasses, and a colorful face mask. The woman on the right is wearing a dark jacket, a red beanie, glasses, and a patterned face mask. They are both smiling at the camera. The background shows trees and a clear sky.

Pictured: "We the People" public art project by
Alex Anthes and Fredy Huamán Mallqui

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.



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.

Pictured: Lourdes Jasso featured in "Let's Pretend" Gallery

We imagine a region in which:

Culture and creativity are woven into the fabric of everyday life and are integrated into every neighborhood.

The region is a magnet for cultural and creative professionals where non-profit cultural organizations and for-profit creative industries can thrive.

Every resident has access to opportunities to participate in, and engage with, the arts and humanities, whether socially, educationally, or economically.

The arts and humanities are a part of every classroom experience.

Cultural equity is leading the way to a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive community - improving the social equity and cultural vitality of the area. Culture and creativity are recognized as a leading contributor to quality of life that attracts and retains residents, business investments, and a high-quality modern workforce.

OUR IMPACT

Dafmark Dance Theater.

Photo taken by Scott McGrath.

Dancers (left - right:) Trinity Walker, Melissa Dixon, Jennifer Dennehy, Annie Wiesner



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Access to, and participation in, the arts and humanities help us develop mentally, emotionally, and socially.

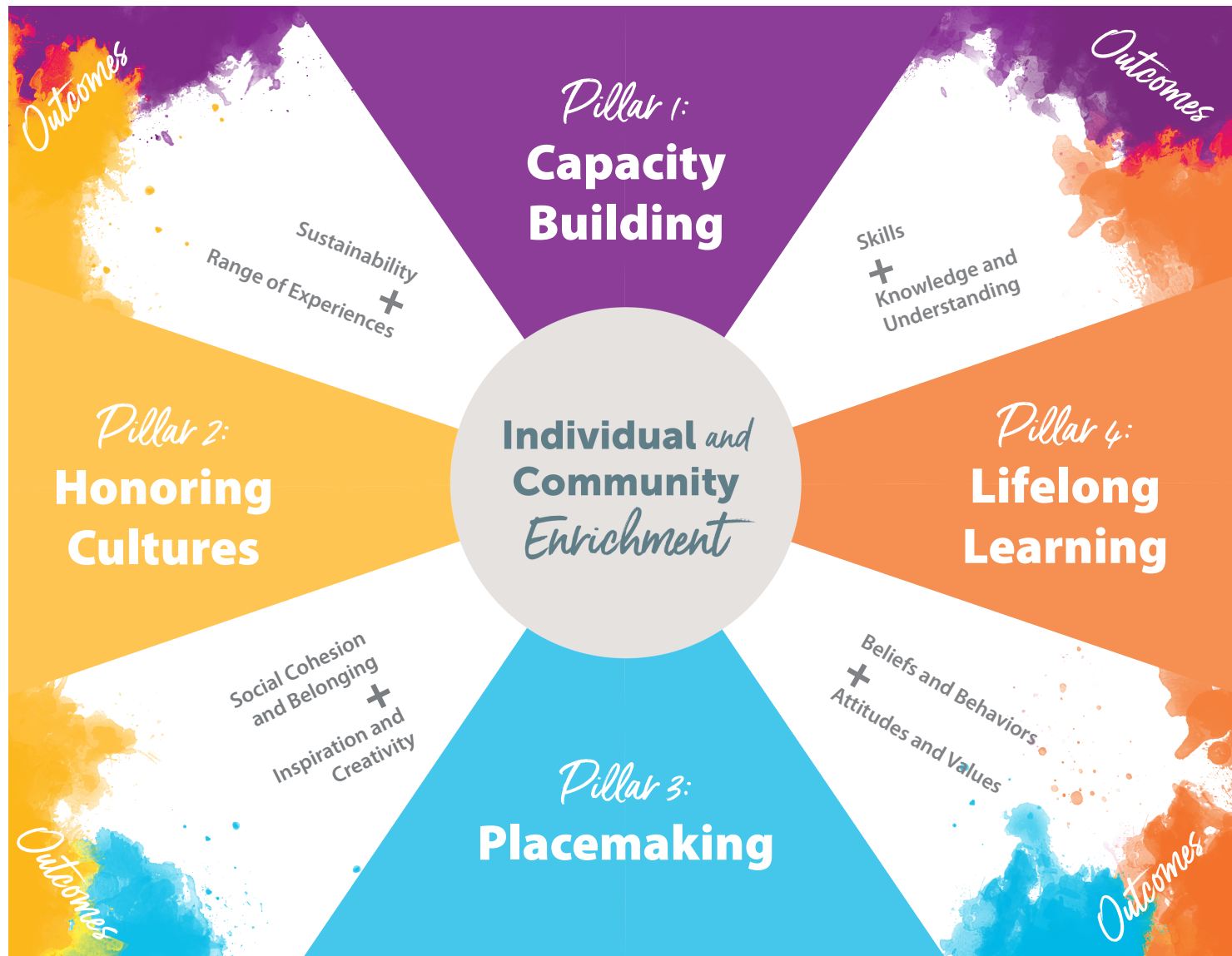
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The arts and humanities create and preserve place by activating both public and underutilized spaces while also creating opportunities for the community to come together.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The non-profit cultural sector and for-profit creative sector are major contributors to the economy, both through direct expenditures and indirect multipliers. An active sector builds upon our existing strong tourism industry, helps employers attract and retain talent, and assists universities in their efforts to recruit and educate students.

OUR PILLARS OF SERVICE





*West Indian Revelation
performing at PACA Live*

CAPACITY BUILDING

Equip Artists and Culture Bearers with the Knowledge, Skills, and Relationships to Be Impactful and Deliver Transformational Experiences

\$72,000 over two years

Erie Arts & Culture helps artists and culture bearers in developing and implementing project and career plans. During these consultations, we determine potential obstacles and constraints, identify critical resources, and define desired objectives and outcomes. Through these efforts, we empower artists to approach their work with agency and intentionality. Annually, Erie Arts & Culture dedicates more than 600 hours to professional consultations.

We seek to raise \$36,000 in support of this work.

Expand the Perspectives and Insights of Regional Artists so They Can Dream Bigger

\$24,000 over two years

Erie is conveniently located in close proximity to Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Buffalo. Erie Arts & Culture works to strengthen the relationships between cultural institutions and practicing artists living and working in these cities. We seek to accomplish this through quarterly cultural field trips, in which we lead artists and arts administrators on curated tours of surrounding cities, visiting cultural institutions, creative venues, and artist studios to promote relationship building and idea sharing. It is our objective to offer these field trips at no expense to participants, so that price does not become a barrier to participation.

Annual Cost for Cultural Field Trips: \$12,000

Cost Per Field Trip: \$3,000

Transportation: \$1,400

Admission Fees: \$500

Lunch: \$350

Contingency: \$250

Administration: \$500

CAPACITY BUILDING

Expand the economic activity of regional makers

\$10,000 over two years

The Western Pennsylvania Maker Market exists at the intersection of creativity and commerce. It is a curated market consisting of makers from throughout Western Pennsylvania and provides the community with an opportunity to purchase objects and unique items that are made within our region, ranging from pinatas to furniture.

EAC is committed to removing barriers that would restrict vendors from participating in this annual event. Sponsorship of this event allows EAC to not charge vendor or admission fees, while also providing vendors with tents, tables, and chairs.

"I can't overstate how thrilled I am with how everything went! Tons of foot traffic, great energy, and a real sense of community. Events like this one are what make people want to stay in Erie. I'd love to see these happen on a semi-regular basis throughout the year, both as a prospective vendor and as someone who likes to shop small. Also, having tents, tables, and chairs available was a huge, HUGE load lightener."

- Erin Yates

We seek to raise \$5,000 in support of this work.

Create an environment where personal and professional relationships between artists, creatives, and culture bearers can blossom

\$20,000 over two years

The Creative Crowd is a monthly meet-up designed to provide a friendly and casual environment to foster stronger personal and professional connections within the creative and cultural sector. The monthly meet-up is held on the second Tuesday of every month and rotates between host sites.

To build momentum around the Creative Crowd, EAC has recruited Rylee Louisa (photographer), Niecey Nicole (writer, humorist, and activist), and André Jones (freelance graphic and apparel designer) to serve as creative co-hosts.

Annual cost for Creative Crowd \$10,000

Cost per meet-up:

Stipends for creative co-hosts: \$450

Drinks and snacks: \$250

Administration: \$133

*Anjali Sahay, Classical Indian dancer,
Apprenticeship in Traditional Arts Grantee*



HONORING DIVERSE CULTURES

Highlight Folk and Traditional Artists and Their Cultural Practices Through Impact Storytelling \$16,000 over two years

Erie Arts & Culture wants to better utilize video storytelling to preserve and promote the folk and traditional artists living in our region. These videos would exist as a digital library within Erie Arts & Culture's website, as well as shared with regional partners such as Community Access Media, to use as appropriate. The objective would be to create 4 videos per calendar year.

**Annual Cost of Video Storytelling of Folk and
Traditional Artists: \$8,000**

Cost Per Video: \$2,000

Video production: \$1,650

Artist stipend: \$100

Administration: \$250

Empower New American Artists to Tell Stories of their Lived Experiences \$5,750 over two years

For the past four years, Erie Arts & Culture has helped deliver community-based programs in connection with World Refugee Day. Storytelling plays a central role in programming. Erie Arts & Culture pairs New American artists in our community, who arrived in Erie as refugees, with a folklorist to take their lived experience and craft it into a monologue, which is intended to be shared publicly.

**Annual Cost for World Refugee Day
Programming: \$2,875**

Story coaching: \$1,000

Artist stipends: \$1,500 (3 artists @ \$500 per artist)

Administration: \$375

*"Rudy" mural by Evoca1 with artist assistants
Corey Thompson and Deirdre Keane*



Support Safer Walking Routes to School Through Public Art

\$800,000 over two years

Erie Arts & Culture wants to stimulate the imagination and aspirations of students of Erie's Public Schools as they walk to and from school. To accomplish this, we are collaborating with the United Way of Erie County to evolve the Safer Walking Routes and Community Schools initiative. It is our objective to create 50 new murals over the next two years, transforming uninspiring and blighted walls into outdoor works of art. Phase 1 of the project, which will commence in the summer of 2022, is already funded and will include the creation of 10 murals - two per each of the five community schools. In addition to providing paid opportunities for artists, this program will have a youth workforce development component that is modeled after organizations like Groundswell (Brooklyn, New York), Artists for Humanity (Boston, Massachusetts), and Juxtaposition Arts (Minneapolis, Minnesota).

\$200,000 already raised

\$800,000 remaining to raise in 2022 and 2023

Cost Per Mural: \$20,000

Artist Design Fees and Labor: \$10,000

Materials and Supplies: \$4,000

Contingency: \$1,000

Administration: \$5,000

Contributions to this project could be eligible for tax credits through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and the Neighborhood Assistance Program.

PLACEMAKING+ PLACEKEEPING

**Teaching Artist Adam Swartz's
residency at Pfeiffer-Burleigh**



ARTS IN LIFELONG LEARNING

Help Achieve Learning Outcomes and Community Objectives Through Employing Teaching Artists

\$150,000 over two years

Erie Arts & Culture believes that participation in the arts can assist with achieving learning outcomes. To support this, Erie Arts & Culture administers residencies through which trained artists serve as co-teachers in both classroom and community settings, serving individuals of all ages. This program is funded with public support from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. The average cost for a 10-day residency is approximately \$3,750, and this cost is split 50/50 between Erie Arts & Culture and the host site. But, not every host site can afford this expense and community and corporate support of this program helps ensure equity in the administration of this program.

Cost Per 10-Day Residency: \$3,750

Artist fees: \$3,000 (\$250 day rate, 10 residency days and 2 planning days)

Materials: \$250

Administration: \$500

Contributions to this program are eligible for Educational Improvement Tax Credits through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and the Neighborhood Assistance Program.

Highlight Teaching Artists and the Outcomes They Achieve Through Impact Storytelling

\$16,000 over two years

Erie Arts & Culture wants to better utilize video storytelling to highlight our rostered teaching artists and communicate the impact of AIE residencies. These videos would exist as a digital library within Erie Arts & Culture's website. The objective would be to create 4 videos per calendar year.

Annual Cost of Video Storytelling of AIE Residencies: \$8,000

Cost Per Video: \$2,000

Video production: \$1,650

Teaching artist stipend: \$100

Administration: \$250



This report was designed in-house by Erie Arts & Culture's Creative Director, Jade Mitchell.
 All photographs were taken by EAC unless otherwise specified.
 We hope you've enjoyed learning more about our mission and impact!



Your support will help us reach our 2022-2024 development goals and support our strategic investments and transformational change.

To learn more about our impact in our region visit: erieartsandculture.org/impactreports

LEVELS OF SUPPORT

Friend	\$1 - \$249
Advocate	\$250 - \$499
Supporter	\$500 - \$999
Champion	\$1,000 - \$2,499
Bronze Benefactor	\$2,500 - \$ 24,999
Silver Benefactor	\$25,000 - \$49,999
Gold Benefactor	\$50,000 - \$99,999
Platinum Benefactor	\$ 100,000 +

"Flotsam" by SatOne with artist assistant Ceasar Westbrook

