

Department of Arts and Cultural Affairs

Kitt Potter, Director

2023 Budget: \$133,257

The Department of Arts & Cultural Affairs is charged with oversight and implementation of the Arts and Culture Master Plan, the key strategies of which will be achieved through a strategic collaboration between the department, the Kingston Arts Commission, the Priority Task Forces, as well as the greater Kingston community: strengthening and protecting the arts through policy and funding; ensuring diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility; building arts alliances for greater impact; and creating economic opportunities for creatives. The City's continued investment in the arts and culture sector is critical to sustaining and advancing a vibrant economic future for the city of Kingston.

2023 Accomplishments

- The Department successfully facilitated six key priorities for Implementation Phase II of the Arts and Culture Master Plan.
- The Department co-coordinated one major youth art exhibition at City Hall and in Ulster County, total attendance for the opening reception at city hall – 250.
- The Department hosted 12 free events for children and families in parks local spaces throughout the city, total attendance – 1500.
- The Department hosted the US Department of the State's International Visitor Leadership Program "Promoting Social Change Through the Arts", arranged by the Mississippi Consortium for the Arts and Organization by Kingston Arts Commissioner Dina Suggs, Educational and Cultural Director – US Department of the State. 24 art leaders from around the world were present; the group toured five local arts organizations; 150 local art leaders attended the day-long sessions.
- With Ulster County, the department co-lead the Burning of Kingston weekend-long event which this year was heralded by NYS for including a more diverse array of stories and events.
- The Department engaged a consultant to assist the Arts and Cultural Affairs Department in the development of a Municipal Art Plan and a Municipal Art Policy for the City of Kingston.
- The Department assisted three new art organizations' moves into the City.
- The Department assisted/advised over three-hundred gallery openings, performances, events, and festivals, and forged/advised six new collaborations throughout the City.
- I assisted 21 local artists and art organizations in identifying/cultivating grant funding sources and with grant proposal reviews.

2024 Goals:

- Facilitate Arts and Culture Master Plan Implementation Phase III with a focus on ACA priorities as approved by the Common Council:
 - Maintain an Arts Community Database/Sharing Information and Resources Between Organizations, Individuals and Businesses to ensure a city-wide code of collaboration.
 - Co-Coordinate the City of Kingston Annual Exhibition.
 - Produce and support free city-wide arts and cultural programming in ADA accessible locations.
 - Seek funding to expand the capacity of the Department of Arts and Cultural Affairs.
 - Coordinate with the Department of Housing Initiatives and local artists, art organizations/businesses to develop ongoing affordable artist housing and workspaces and with the City to integrate arts and cultural planning in housing and zoning policies.
 - Increase city-based and encourage regional opportunities to showcase visual and performing artists year-round to include bringing local history to life through the arts.
 - Work to ensure that historically marginalized individuals and groups are given support and equitable access as cultural participants, artists, workers, and audiences.
- On behalf of the Kingston Arts Commission - Complete the City of Kingston's Municipal Art Collection Plan, Funding Plan and Municipal Public Art Policy and begin work on phase I of the city's Municipal Art Plan.

CITY OF KINGSTON
DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
Approved Budget 2024
\$150,000

CATEGORY	BUDGET 2024	DESCRIPTION
Personal Services (Salary and Benefits)	\$85,000	Salary and Benefits
Office Supplies	\$300	General Office Supplies
Marketing	\$3000	Extended Community Outreach with particular focus on no-income/low income/elderly; Public Art Policy Community Engagement
Travel Reimbursement	0	
Dues, Seminar Fees	0	
Postage, Freight	\$200	Mailings
Contracted Services	\$58,000	Presenters and Performers for Music in the Parks and Living History Events (\$33,000) ; Burning of Kingston 2024 (\$5000) ; October 2024 Exhibition (\$5000) (Curator, Reception, Purchase of Select Works for the CoK Permanent Art Collection; Fees for Performers); Municipal Art Collection Plan Implementation Phase I – Assessment; valuation; archiving the COK Collection, more. (\$15,000) .
Minor Equipment	\$500	Miscellaneous
General Materials	\$1000	Supplies
Consultant	0	It is not anticipated there will be further consultant services needed for 2024
Biennial Award	\$2000	Award and celebration of the City of Kingston's 2024 Distinguish Artist
TOTAL NOVO REQUEST	\$150,000	