

AMAC Minutes for May 8, 2019, 5:30-7:00 at ARTS/West

*In Attendance:*

Ann Judy, Carol Patterson, Chelsa Morahan, Emily Beveridge, Josh Birnbaum, Kelly Lawrence

Guests from Recreation Advisory Board: Brandon Thompson

Guests from community: Keith Wilde (muralist), Damon Krane (candidate for mayor)

*I. Call to order and legislative updates - Steve Patterson and Kent Butler*

N/A

*II. Minutes from April 10th meeting*

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES: APPROVED**

Josh will send to Patty Witmer

*III. Discussion with Recreation Advisory Board (Arts, Parks and Recreation) members on possible future paths or restructuring*

Emily Beveridge has put together some information that researches other municipalities and how they handle art and other entities in their cities. She referenced "The 100 Best Small Art Towns in America" book and website and looks at how each town manages municipal arts. Should arts be part of parks and recreation in our city? How are other cities doing it?

Athens is one of two cities on the list that has Arts, Parks and Rec (along with Olympia, Washington). About half of the cities have a separate arts and culture department in their city structure, or they have a city or county affiliated non-profit arts council that administers arts for the community. We are looking at non-profit status which would help with grants and fundraising, donations, liquor licenses, etc. Some of these towns had an arts commission that became a non-profit. Emily noticed a difference in the towns that had the non-profit: typically they had a robust arts hub website, and they administered a separate stand-alone arts facility or facilities. It's unusual for Athens to have the standalone facility but not have a separate agency. For Emily, the best cities were ones who had initially planned to have dedicated arts space from the beginning (so it was in the design of their recreation centers). We in Athens originally had arts facilities as part of our recreation center plans, but that was cut as funds became tight. There was an initial plan in place for it to be one cohesive center. For towns that didn't have arts in their recreation centers, they had standalone arts centers and a governing body that supported that. Towns like us did not have a lot of information online. Towns that had the richest and most cohesive arts scene had an arts and culture department that is there to support it. Lawrence, Kansas just hired an arts director through an NEA ArtsPlace grant. Also they formed a body for the county.

Most towns on the list had arts festivals, art walks, and their visitors bureaus touted the fact that they were a top 100 arts town. This info was taken from the American Citizens for the Arts website.

Athens is ahead of the curve. We have our own arts facility and a commission. But the way we are formatting arts in the town is not congruent with how the other successful towns are doing it. We need either a separate arts department or non-profit that works with the city. We can certainly form the non-profit as a separate entity to start.

We had Athens Area Citizens for the Arts but when Bob Winters passed away, it fell apart. Nobody could take on all that responsibilities. Their non-profit status went to another group when it dissolved.

Emily thinks we need to have an Arts and Culture department. Lawrence, Kansas just did it and that was their first step. There's a lot of interest in funding cultural endeavors right now. Emily has talked with funders who really want to fund culture endeavors in Appalachian Ohio. Culture means we could also talk about foodways, and funding underserved parts of the population, as well as arts.

The current problem is that we have a physically separate facility and that makes a logistical barrier with the rest of the department, all of whom are at the recreation center. There needs to be someone, a director, who is advocating for the arts. Could that exist as a part of art, parks, and rec? As of now, arts only receives 6% of entire arts, parks, and rec budget. How can we get the same attention when they have such a huge budget and facility and staff? Could we accomplish the same thing by starting a non-profit, hiring a director and staff, and recognizing the arts component more? One of the things that can be used to get that possibly is the renovation and utilization of the Armory.

It is the auditors office who creates the budget for all personnel expenses. Supplies and capital expenses are managed by directors. It would be a good first step to get the non-profit and director first, but long-term, it should be a separate entity with paid director and staff.

Carol and Emily met with the mayor and he expressed interest in creating a subdivision for arts. There could be an allocation for the arts from the levy.

What would be the pitfalls of separating? The most important part is that we get a department head. That autonomy should start there. That's why the total split may not be necessary at first. Kent Butler and Emily Prince attempted to do this split at one time. The auditor can tell us what's possible. Emily will ask Kathy Hecht if she's willing to come talk to us.

Ultimate goals: A separate arts and culture department and City-County arts alliance non-profit. Emily noticed that the health department is City-County.

Chris Chmiel was working on a county-wide arts commission. He and other Athens representatives received encouragement and an award and attended a conference, but we don't think there was a grant with that — no money to hire a director from there. But they talked about the value of a county-wide arts commission.

What are the next steps? Talk to county auditor Kathy Hecht, investigate non-profit and try to get that running, talking to Terri Moore about this, investigating an NEA grant like the city of Lawrence, Kansas just did, and talking to city planner Paul Logue about applying. We need to be more of a cohesive group to really start applying for these large grants. Paul Logue will be coming next month so we will invite Kathy Hecht for July. The Mayor and Arts, Parks, and Rec should have some sort of discussion and say in this matter. Emily will touch base with the Mayor about starting the non-profit. You need a board in order to apply, and AMAC members cannot be a part of that because of conflict of interest. Emily thinks we need to talk with city and county to set up the board and bylaws and will need to consult with law director Lisa Eliason.

*IV. Keith Wilde attending for discussion on the state of the Stimson Ave Mural.*

There has been some damage to the mural. Keith would like to patch a hole in the mural. It could be the sign of further deterioration. There's another spot that is a blister.

That's one form of earlier deterioration that seems unexpected. Previous mural lasted 20 years. Other thing that stood out is that it does have an anti-graffiti coating on it, and you can see how it is incompletely applied (areas where it is applied look darker). Also, some dirt smears got painted onto the surface. And the coating picks up dirt on top of it as well. Only way to take that off is to sandblast the surface. So for now it is what it is.

But it seems like the anti-graffiti barrier may not be a good choice in the future, in his opinion, for the following reasons:

1. Cost. The coating material cost \$200/gallon so it was about \$560 plus city labor to install. Estimated price for sandblasting would be \$1000. Might be complicated to sandblast certain areas.
2. There can be immediate deterioration. When you put on a thick, impermeable barrier on a porous surface, it has the effect of sealing stuff in, but over time, water pressure from the opposing side of the wall will lead to blistering. Super sealing of it may accelerate the blistering. National Parks Service recommendations also state this.
3. Graffiti threat in Athens is very little if none at all (on art at least).

4. Conservation best practices: one principle Keith has worked with and is considered a golden rule in art conservation — if you add anything, it has to be reversible. This is what experts say, in case the application wasn't the best choice.

Keith reached a decision for his next client that he can't do graffiti coatings for his client because it's not in best interest of the work. He sometimes does UV coats but those don't seem to have the same danger.

We need to advise the current Wasterwater Treatment Plant muralist (Jolena Hansbarger) to avoid graffiti coats and will revise our contract and policies so this is not done in the future.

**MOTION TO ASK PERMISSION TO HAVE KEITH DO REPAIR DONE ON THE MURAL: PASSED**

Carol will ask Andy Stone right away and get back with Keith.

*V. Arts Festival update - Scott and Kelly*

Scott and Kelly need to put together a budget and will need to know if AMAC or the city can support with some funds. Last year the arts festival got \$2500 from AMAC funds. The biggest task right now is to find sponsorship. Hocking is covering the stage, Jackie O's is acting as the liquor vendor. Athens Art Guild is a sponsor. Kelly and Scott are trying to get a poster designed and promoted.

Proposed acts include Counterfeit Madison and Mourning [A] BLKstar. The organizers are also wanting a reunion band of some kind to get people back to Athens. Factory Street and Tantrum want to be involved and have concurrent events. Same with Athena Cinema and Athens Photo Project.

*VI. Art Outside the Box - Kelly*

Kelly contacted the city about the traffic control box wraps (Art Outside the Box project). Where can we put a directory of these? A map? Kelly will contact the city about putting this on the AMAC page on the city website. And it is time for us to do more wraps! It's been two years since the last ones. Chelsa will look into what needs to happen to get this started.

*VII. Announcements*

A. 2020 RFP Poet Laureate - It's time to begin this process, Carole will take a look at the past RFP.

B. May 15 Governor's Arts Day - Chelsa driving. Will be leaving at approximately

9am.

C. WWTP Mural - Almost done. Beautiful. Emily will talk to Jolena about the coating. When she notifies us that it's complete, she will be paid.

D. Patio mural - Emily is looking at installing a small mural on the patio at ARTS/West. We will talk about it at next meeting.

*VII. Adjournment*

Next Meeting: June 12, 5:30-7:00 ARTS/West

## The 100 Best Small Art Towns in America

### Abstract:

Small art towns have come to epitomize rural cultural coolness because who wouldn't want to visit a lively, open-minded town. In this book you'll find communities across the and Canada that are attracting a new wave of cultural tourists, immigrant artists, culturally minded retirees, art gallery owners, musicians, mobile career professionals, theater directors, restaurateurs, arts festival promoters and coffee bar entrepreneurs.

A small art town is the type of community people love visiting on a weekend getaway. They might stay at a gorgeous B&B, have dinner in a great (but undiscovered) restaurant, wander around art galleries, antique shops, and flea markets, or perhaps visit an annual Art in the Park festival.

A small art town is the sort of place urbanites move to after selling their condo and finding a renovated farmhouse on five forested acres. On weekends these new residents enjoy art gallery openings and local musicians performing at cafes. On weeknights there are jazz concerts and dance programs at the local arts center, or maybe a Tennessee Williams play at the restored, art deco theater downtown.

A small art town is the sort of place where people can find a true sense of community. Families value small art towns because they place a high priority on neighborliness and security. Kids can walk home from school in safety, and the local cops know the name of nearly every teenager in town. Crime rates are reassuringly low, rendering armed response lawn signs pointless.

For the purposes of this book's third edition, a small art town has a full-time population of 65,000 or fewer. The book includes university towns like Lawrence, Iowa City and Athens, Georgia, which have part-time student populations approaching 30,000. With fewer than 100 residents, Round Top is the tiniest of the small art towns. With this edition, I have labored to broaden the community profiles to include all aspects of the visual arts, performing arts and music. Both mainstream and alternative arts venues are covered. Our national levels of arts participation, support and patronage are at all-time highs. Certainly, funding cutbacks at the federal level have hurt arts programs in many urban centers. But, for the most part, the entrepreneurial spirit that's driven the small art town phenomenon has emerged unscathed - in large part because small town residents have long demonstrated an amazing level of independence. Dozens of small-town downtowns have been revitalized and preserved and tens of thousands of jobs have been created as a direct result of arts-driven economic development. And each year this phenomenon takes root in even more small communities from coast to coast.

## How the Top 100 Small Arts Towns Manage Municipal Arts:

### \*\*\*\*Arts Programming housed within a Parks & Recreation Department

(has robust arts programming at recreation facilities. May or may not have Arts Commission)

### \*\*\*\*Arts Programming is not part of Parks & Recreation

(may have arts commission, but one that does not manage a facility, and recreation facilities have no or minimal arts programs)

### \*\*\*\*Arts is a Separate City or County Affiliated Department or Agency

(has separate arts department, division, or robust government sponsored council group, most of which manage City affiliated arts facilities)

**Alabama: Northport:** Has no Parks and Rec Department. Lists *Arts And Culture* sites to visit on City site. Hosts Kentuck Festival of the Arts. Kentuck Arts Center is located downtown. Festival features 100s of vendors, live music, ect.

**Alaska: Homer:** Has Park and Recreation Department. The Arts information is hosted on Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center website. Arts is not part of Parks and Recreation.

**Arizona: Bisbee:** Has "Arts and Culture District", has arts commission, Arts is not part of Parks and Recreation. Has a Central School Project, which is a former school which houses artist studio spaces, and offers programming.

**Arizona: Flagstaff:** Has Flagstaff Arts Council, which runs Coconino Center for the Arts. The Council issues grants, and has Art Walk. Tagline is Arts Science Culture. Arts Council is Separate from Parks and Recreation.

**Arizona: Sedona:** Visitor's Bureau hosts a very good arts and culture section. Does have Arts And Culture Coordinator with the City of Sedona. Does have Arts and Culture Department Separate from Parks And Recreation.

**Arkansas: Eureka Springs:** Does have City Arts Council. Parks and Recreation does not facilitate arts activities.

**Arkansas: Hot Springs:** Has Cultural Alliance, which is a nonprofit entity that promotes all area arts, and has a festival. Arts is not part of Parks and Recreation.

**California: Carmel:** Has arts festival. Has public parks. City sponsors Forest Theater.

**California: Eureka:** Has Arts and Culture Commission. Has Recreation department, which does host ceramics classes.

**California: Arcata:** Arcata Parks and Recreation does host a number of arts classes and events. Has no Arts Council or separate arts department.

**California: Grass Valley:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts dance for weight loss classes. Appears that County takes care of organizing arts through government.

**California: Nevada City:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts no arts classes. Visitors Bureau and County organize arts promotions.

**California: Mendocino:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts no arts classes.

**California: Mill Valley:** Has Arts and Culture Division, which is part of Recreation Department and Arts Council which coordinates art walks. Currently is expanding Arts and Culture Division.

**California: Ojai:** Has recreation department that has robust arts programs for children. Also has very active arts commission that organizes public art displays, art in city hall, grants, awards, and cohesive website.

**California: Santa Cruz:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts no arts classes.

**Colorado: Aspen:** Has a Parks and Recreation Department that does not host arts events.

**Colorado: Creede:** Has a Parks and Recreation Department that hosts a crafts night. Has a robust city arts council, which has its own website, and manages an art park. Council is a 501-C3.

**Colorado: Durango:** Has a Parks and Recreation Department that hosts no arts classes or events.

**Colorado: Loveland:** Has a Arts And Culture Department (Cultural Services). Features art museum, art in public places, and a theater. Parks and Recreation does not handle any arts services.

**Colorado: Salida:** Has a Parks and Recreation Department that hosts no arts classes or events. Has monthly art walk, and features its inclusion in the 100 best arts towns on their visitor's bureau.

**Colorado: Telluride:** Has a Parks and Recreation Department that hosts no arts classes or events. Has arts district, and Telluride Arts Council (non profit group) which is in partnership with the town. Created arts center and oversees arts activities for the town.

**Colorado: Vail:** Has a Parks and Recreation Department that hosts no arts classes or events. Has arts in public places coordinator, and program through the city. Town of Vail hosts Arts Festival, organized by town. Vail farmer's market features artist market.

**Florida: Key West:** Has a Parks and Recreation Department that hosts no arts classes or events. Arts is overseen by The Florida Keys Council of the Arts, which is a government nonprofit local agency.

**Florida: New Smyrna Beach:** Has Leisure department that organizes Arts Fiesta and Holiday Craft event. Only arts class is line dancing.

**Florida: Panama City:** Has a Parks and Recreation Department that hosts line dancing and park concert series. Arts facilities are overseen by The Bay Arts Alliance, which is a nonprofit local agency of Bay County. The Arts Alliance Manages The City of Panama Marina Civic Center for Performing Arts, and The Panama City Center for The Arts.

**Georgia: Athens:** Has Leisure Services department that oversees Arts, which is a separate division from Parks or Recreation, which are all subdivisions of Leisure. Has Dance Center, and The Lynden House Arts Center.



**Idaho: Moscow:** Parks and Recreation do not oversee any arts activities. City Arts Commission implements concerts in parks, and Art Walk.

**Idaho:Sandpoint:** Parks and Recreation have a variety of drawing classes, as well as dance classes. They also partnered with a Makerspace to register classes with the outside organization. The Pend Oreille Arts Council puts on arts fair, arts walk and many other arts events and promotions in the area.

**Idaho:Ketchum (Sun Valley):** Parks and Recreation do not host arts activities. The Ketchum Arts Commission implements Performance Art Series, public art collection, art in city hall.

**Illinois:Quincy:** Parks and Recreation has no arts classes / programs. Has Arts Quincy, which is America's FIRST arts council, a government affiliated non profit. They run arts outreach to schools, promote local arts organizations, ect.

**Iowa:Cedar Falls:** Has Recreation and Parks Department, which hosts a ballroom dance class. Has Arts and Culture Board with in the City. Has a Tourism and Culture Department, which operates the Hearst Center for the Arts.

**Iowa: Iowa City:** Has Recreation and Parks Department, which hosts painting classes, and art camps for kids, as well as dance programming. Also has an outdoor festival stage.

**Kansas: Lawrence:** Has Recreation and Parks Department, which hosts dance classes/camps for kids. Has Arts and Culture Commission, which organizes monthly art walk. Currently in process of creating Cultural Arts Plan for the City. Arts and Culture Commission issues public grants. They just hired their first Arts and Culture Director! This hire was a partnership through The Lawrence Chamber and the City of Lawrence through ArtsPlace grant.

**Kentucky: Berea** Arts is the main focus of their Tourism website. Has Parks and Recreation department, which manages a Russel Acton Folk Building which is used for monthly Contra Dances and for rentals. The Folk Circle Association runs events out of the building, and also appears to manage website for the facility. No additional arts programming is organized by The Parks and Recreation Department. The Berea Arts Council, which is a non-profit group, organizes art camps, art exhibits, and keeps a hub website for the community.

**Louisiana: Natchichoses:** Has community centers and event centers with no mention of arts programming.No discernable arts council....

**Maine: Belfast:** Has Parks and Recreation, which does not administer arts programming. Has Belfast Area Creative Coalition, which has a hub site for the region, and is a non-profit organization.

**Maine: Camden:** Has Parks and Recreation, which has no arts programming.

**Maine: Rockport:** Has no Parks and Recreation Department. City Manages Opera House.

**Maine: Blue Hill:** Has Parks and Recreation Department that offers no arts programming. Chamber of Commerce promotes arts.

**Maine: Portland:** Has Parks and Recreation Department that offers one youth art camp week, and hosts concerts in the park. Has a Public Arts Committee. Has a percent for art program. The annual amount is .5% of The Capital Improvement Fund. Has a City Agency called "Creative Portland", which manages first Friday art walk, and resource hub site for artists. Portland also has a multitude of artist studio spaces, which are listed on the site.

**Maryland:Easton: Talbot County** Has Parks and Recreation department that hosts children's dance classes. The Talbot County Arts Council is a county affiliated non profit that manages hub site, issues awards and grants.

**Massachusetts: Nantucket:** Has Parks and Recreation, which does not have any arts component. Oddly, Nantucket just formed it's Parks and Recreation Department in 2017. Has Nantucket Arts Council, which is a non-profit arts group that sponsors grants and maintains arts hub website.

**Massachusetts: Northampton:** Has Arts and Culture Department, which works with Northampton Arts Council. Has Parks and Recreation, which does host arts camps for kids, including puppetry.

**Massachusetts: Provincetown:** Has Parks and Recreation Department, with no arts programming,

**Michigan: Saugatuck:** Has Parks and Recreation Department, with no arts programming. Saugatuck Center for the Arts is an amazing looking facility, which hosts the local farmers market. It is a non profit which works with the City to administer farmers market.

**Minnesota: Grand Marais:** Is a very small town and has no Parks department or arts council.

**Minnesota: Lanesboro:** Has very active Lanesboro Arts Council which operates Lanesboro Art Center which has gallery, retail space and more. Council is a City affiliated non profit, and the entire town was officially zoned as an arts campus by the City. Does also have a modest parks department which has no arts activities.

**Minnesota: Stillwater:** Has Parks Department with no arts programming.

**Mississippi: Ocean city:** Has Parks Department with pottery classes and dance classes. Has Moving Arts Facility, which is owned by the City. No information available online about the facility.

**Mississippi: Oxford:** Has Parks Department with no arts programming. Yoknapatawpha Arts Council is a local government arts organization that manages three facilities for the city, and numerous programs.

**Montana: Bozeman:** Has Parks Department with no arts programming.

**Montana: Livingston:** Has Parks and Recreation Department, does not list any arts classes, but does promote the Livingston Center for Arts and Culture Camps. Livingston Center for Arts and Culture, a local non profit facility, appears to be affiliated with the City.

**Montana: Flathead Valley:** Parks and Recreation hosts no arts activities.

**Montana: Helena:** Parks and Recreation hosts no arts activities. Has Art Walk. Has Helena Public Art Committee that manages art walk, and local arts guide.

**Montana: Missoula:** Parks and Recreation hosts two weeks of art camp in the summer. City has public Art Council, which has website. Is developing percent for art program. Has Arts Missoula, which is a non profit which is the official arts agency for the City of Missoula and Missoula County.

**New Hampshire: Hanover:** Parks and Recreation hosts some painting classes.

**New Hampshire: Lebanon:** Parks and Recreation hosts no arts activities. Developed Arts and Culture Commission in 2018.

**New Hampshire: Keene:** Parks and Recreation hosts no arts activities. Currently working towards developing public arts policy.

**New Hampshire: Peterborough:** Parks and Recreation hosts no arts activities. Has arts council.

**New Hampshire: Portsmouth:** Parks and Recreation hosts no arts activities.

**New Jersey: Lambertville:** Parks and Recreation hosts no arts activities.

**New Jersey: Red Bank:** Parks and Recreation partners with local arts groups to host Jazz and movies in the parks.

**New Mexico: Magdalena:** City site lists recreation opportunities, has no official Parks and Recreation Department.

**New Mexico: Ruidoso:** Parks and Recreation Department, which has weekly dance lessons.

**New Mexico: Santa Fe:** Parks and Recreation Department, which lists no arts activities. Has Arts Commission, which acts as Arts Department, and has staff. Arts Commission is part of Tourism. Operates Community Gallery, and implements grant programs, ect.

**New Mexico: Taos:** Has Parks Department, which has no listed arts activities. Has an Arts and Culture District, implemented by town. Has Taos Arts Council, which works with the town and county as a nonprofit agency. Operates arts hub website.

**New Mexico: Truth or Consequences:** Has Parks & Recreation Department, which has no listed arts activities. Has an Art Hop, which is listed on county website.

**New York: Ithaca:** Has Parks & Recreation Department, which has an after school program which has arts project room. Has Community Arts Partnership organization, which serves Ithaca and Tompkins County. It is funded by the State and County Visitor's Bureau. It is housed in Tompkins Center for History and Culture, which is opening in 2019!

**New York: Jamestown:** Has Parks & Recreation Department, which has an after school program with crafts and an outdoor bandstand concert series in the summer. The Reg Lenna Civic Center and The Arts Council for Chautauqua County merged to create The Reg Lenna Center for the Arts.

**New York: Chautauqua Lake:** Has Parks Department, which has no arts programming.

**New York: Peekskill:** Has Parks and Recreation Department, which has a kids dance class. City has an artist loft program, which is a live work artist space in its Arts District. The program is administered by the Artist Certification Committee, which does have a staff member.

**New York: Woodstock:** Has Parks and Recreation Department, which has no arts programming. City Website uses tagline "Woodstock New York, Colony of the Arts". They have a Chamber of Commerce and Arts.

**North Carolina: Beaufort:** Has Parks Department, which has no arts programming. Primary arts organizing entity is The Arts Council of Carteret County, which operates hub website, and issues grants and prizes.

**North Carolina: Morehead City:** Has Parks and Recreation Department, which has an outdoor concert series, and kids hip hop class. Primary organizing entity is The Arts Council of Carteret County, which operates hub website, and issues grants and prizes.

**North Carolina: Chapel Hill:** Has Parks and Recreation Department, which has kids and adult ceramic classes, and Clay Studio in community center. Also has Drama Class at Library and music classes hosted off site. Has Community Arts and Culture Department, which is a separate division of the town, which administers art in public spaces. Has percent for art, and Arts and Culture handles festivals and public concerts.

**North Carolina: Wilmington:** Has Parks and Recreation Department, which has no arts programming. Has The Arts Council, which has a Director position. Manages ACES Gallery, and art walk.

**Ohio: Athens:** Has Arts, Parks and Recreation Department, which manages Arts West, an arts facility owned by the City of Athens. Has Athens Municipal Arts Commission, which handles public arts projects for the City.

**Ohio: Yellow Springs:** Has Parks and Recreation Department, does not implement any arts programming. Yellow Springs Arts Council, which is a non-profit affiliated with the Village, which has staffing, art hub website, and manages art gallery for village.

**Oregon: Ashland:** Has Parks and Recreation Department, which hosts beginning guitar programming, painting, puppet and dance classes.

**Oregon: Cannon Beach:** Has Parks Division, which hosts no arts programming. Has Tourism and Arts Commission, which manages public art for the City.

**Oregon: Joseph:** Has Parks, which hosts no arts programming. Has Wallawalla Valley Arts Council, a local non-profit arts organization which operates hub website, and hosts festivals.

**Oregon: Enterprise:** Has Parks, which hosts no arts programming. Has Wallawalla Valley Arts Council, a local non-profit arts organization which operates hub website, and hosts festivals.

**Pennsylvania: Easton:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts no arts programming. City Parks manages Karl Sterner Arts Trail, which is collaboration with Lafayette College and the

City. ACE, Arts Community of Easton, which acts as an arts hub for Easton, and organizes demonstrations and exhibits at the Farmer's Market.

**South Carolina: Beaufort:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts no arts programming. Beaufort Arts Council, a non-profit, organizes an arts hub website, and organizes opportunities and classes for the community.

**South Carolina: Hilton Head:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts no arts programming. City has Office Of Cultural Affairs, which has hub website, culture map, and has a director. City also has an Arts and Culture Strategic Planning Committee.

**Tennessee: Woodbury:** Does not appear to have Parks and Recreation. The Arts Center of Cannon County is a non profit, which is the primary reason that the town was included on the list. It appears to be an excellent arts organization.

**Texas: Big Bend:** Does not appear to have Parks and Recreation, as The Big Bend State Park surrounds the area.

**Texas: Kerrville:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts concerts in the park. Has Kerrville Festival of the Arts, and Chalk Festival.

**Texas: Fredericksburg:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts no arts programming. Has first Friday Art Walk.

**Texas: Rockport:** Has Parks and Leisure, which hosts no arts programming. Has Arts and Culture District, which has website and director.

**Texas: Round Rock:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts no arts programming. Has executive director of Arts and Culture for the Town. City hosts chalk festival and sculpture festival.

**Utah: Park City:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts no arts programming. In 2017 the City started an initiative to form an Arts and Culture District. Plans include having live work space for artists! City's Arts and Culture Center will include Makerspace, creative food, and affordable housing.

**Vermont: Burlington:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts dance classes. Has Burlington Arts Center, with gallery and classes. Also manages art throughout City public spaces. Organizes summer artist market, and manages hub site for area artists. This may be the best example of City Arts Management of any of the Cities on the top 100 list.

**Vermont: Montpelier:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts a wide variety of humanities programming including ceramics. Magic Hat Brewing organizes Art Walk.

**Abingdon: Virginia:** Has Parks and Recreation, which has no program information on city website. Has artists studios in down town area.

**Charlottesville: Virginia:** Has Parks and Recreation, which has arts programming for children. Has Access Arts Charlottesville, which is a City sponsored program for people with disabilities. New City Arts Initiative is a City non profit which promotes area arts, runs classes, and a gallery.

**Washington: Bellingham:** Has Parks and Recreation, which has a dance class, and an outdoor concert series. Has some art camp weeks too. Has Arts And Culture Department. Includes percentage for Arts, Arts Commission, Arts in Public Places. Currently making Plans for Arts and Culture District, strategic plan.

**Washington: Olympia:** Has Parks, Arts and Recreation, which has a number of arts classes at the Community Center, including ceramics. Has an Arts Commission, which has outreach activities, and arts in public places. Working towards percent for art campaign. Part of its strategic plan is to better incorporate arts into the Recreation Department.

**Washington: Port Townsend:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts no arts programming. Has an Arts Commission, funding for public arts and arts in public places.

**Washington: Walla Walla:** Has Parks and Recreation, which hosts a youth art class. Also has pottery and painting studio. Has an Arts Commission, funding for public arts and arts in public places. Has Artwalla, a local nonprofit advocacy organization that administers public arts displays, art walks, and hub site.

**West Virginia: Berkeley Springs:** Appears that most parks are administered by State Park System. Has Morgan Arts Council (MAC) which is the community organization that administers arts. It is housed in Ice House, which is a 40,000 square foot space which is being transformed into an arts community space. MAC hosts classes and events.

**West Virginia: Lewisburg:** Has no Parks and Recreation Department. Has art walk event.

**Wisconsin: Bayfield:** Has Parks Department, with no arts activities listed. Has many galleries, and gallery tours.

**Wisconsin: Madeline Island:** Has Parks Department, with no arts activities listed.

**Wisconsin: Door County:** Has Parks Department, with no arts activities listed. Visitor's bureau has excellent coverage of the arts on its website.

**Wyoming: Jackson:** Has Parks and Recreation Department, with no arts activities listed. Visitor's bureau has excellent coverage of the arts on its website. Jackson Chamber of Commerce administers arts festival. Jackson Center for The Arts is an organization which was created to support all local arts organizations, and act as a hub for local arts. It was created after a needs assessment.

## **Important Insights:**

- Athens Ohio is one of the only cities on the top 100 list with an Arts, Parks and Recreation Department. The only other town with a Parks, Arts and Recreation Department is Olympia Washington. Olympia hosts an arts studio within its community center.
- Almost all cities except Athens, Ohio, that had designated standalone art facility(s) that are City sponsored or owned, did not house Arts within a Parks and Recreation department.
- There are a growing number of towns who are moving to an "Arts and Culture" department, it appears that many Arts and Culture Departments are recent developments for cities.
- Around half of the Towns had either a separate Arts Department or City Affiliated Organization that managed their arts for the town.
- Cities that had Arts Departments typically had a wider variety of art activities, (gallery openings, hub website management, classes, and performances) than those who did not have separate departments. These activities tended to foster an overall cohesion and promotion of the town's arts identity.
- Those towns that have robust arts activity offerings within the Parks and Recreation department typically had facilities within their rec center(s) that had been designated for Arts, probably as part of the initial design. Example: Clay Studio in Chapel Hill North Carolina Recreation Center.
- The vast majority of Parks and Recreation Departments that hosted any arts typically had few classes for adults. Most arts programming was geared towards kids.
- Those Parks and Recreation departments who did host arts programming usually had minimal programming when compared to sports and other recreation activity.
- The most common arts programming types within Parks and Recreation Departments were ceramics, and dance.
- Cities that had the most cohesive government arts initiatives were often managed by government affiliated nonprofit arts councils.
- The majority of the towns hosted monthly art walks.
- The visitor's bureaus for most of the towns, if they existed, had a large section for the arts. Many had a directory for all area arts organizations, artists, and events.
- Many of the Cities cited their inclusion on the Top 100 List on their City website, or visitor's bureau.
- Many of the towns hosted a large art fair or arts festival.
- Many of the small arts towns featured natural beauty as an attraction, and hosted a multitude of outdoor and nature activities in their Recreation Departments.

### Sites of interest:

<https://www.nevadacountyarts.org/ca-cultural-districts>  
<http://www.artsojai.org/>  
<http://www.cityofloveland.org/departments/cultural-services>  
<https://www.telluridearts.org/>  
<https://www.keysarts.com/index.html>  
<https://www.marinaciviccenter.com/contact>  
<https://www.pccenterforthearts.com/>  
<http://artinsandpoint.org/>  
<http://www.ketchumidaho.org/index.aspx?NID=92>  
<https://www.creativeportland.com/arts>  
<http://www.talbotarts.org/about.html>  
<http://www.northamptonartscouncil.org/>  
<https://www.sc4a.org/>  
<https://lanesboroarts.org/>  
<https://oxfordarts.com/>  
<http://www.artsmissoula.org/>  
<http://tompkins-center.net/>  
<http://peekskillartlofts.com/>  
<https://artscouncilofwilmington.org/>  
<https://www.ysartscouncil.org/>  
<https://culturehhi.org/>  
<https://rockportculturalartsdistrict.com/>  
<https://www.parkcity.org/departments/park-city-arts-and-culture-district>  
<https://www.burlingtoncityarts.org/>  
<https://www.cob.org/services/arts>  
<http://www.artwalla.com/>  
<http://macicehouse.org/>  
<https://www.centralschoolproject.org/>  
<http://jhcenterforthearts.org/>