

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



CULTURE



INTRODUCTION

WE STARTED 2018 WITH BIG NEWS: Jim Kelly, our Executive Director of 25 years, announced his retirement, followed soon by Public Art Director Cath Brunner. Much of what makes 4Culture thrive is thanks to the ingenuity of these two leaders. 2018 asked: what does 4Culture without two of its key architects look like?

We answered with a deep-diving, equity-focused hiring process. New Executive Director Brian J. Carter answered with a bold vision for our agency. Our community—you—answered with unwavering support and challenging questions.

With a new year now underway, we're proud that we're sticking to our roots while embracing change. The work highlighted in this report is true to the 4Culture you know: broad support for the cultural doers of King County, capacity-building initiatives, and always asking, "how can we make things better?"

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ARTS

In 2018, Arts funding was more responsive than ever to what artists need now. Projects funded by the last cycle of our Tech Specific grant came to life all over King County, while the program itself evolved to pair creative consultants with city-based arts agencies for collaboration. Watch for the results of these partnerships in the coming year!

After opening applications for our new Arc Artist Fellowship late in 2017, we were thrilled to award funds to the first-ever cohort of recipients early in 2018. The Fellowship provides unrestricted funding, offsetting living costs—transportation, childcare, rent—for King County artists so they can pursue their creative work. With an eligibility requirement that changes annually, the program is designed to build and deepen relationships with artist communities, reflecting 4Culture’s ongoing commitment to equitable funding.

The four 2018 Arc Fellows—Angel Alviar-Langley, Earl Debnam, Tara Hardy, and Mickey Rowe—are all putting their grants to work in unique ways. In the summer, they convened for a community showcase event and have already helped shape the next Arc Fellowship grant cycle.

ARTS AWARDS

PROJECTS: INDIVIDUALS

applicants / 241
 awardees / 81
 awarded / \$470,500

PROJECTS: GROUPS

applicants / 89
 awardees / 45
 awarded / \$247,500

SUSTAINED SUPPORT

applicants / 359
 awardees / 337
 awarded / \$1,932,000

ARC ARTIST FELLOWSHIP

applicants / 98
 awardees / 4
 awarded / \$48,000

EMERGENCY/UNFORESEEN OPPORTUNITIES

awardees / 7
 awarded / \$52,039

HERITAGE

Our Heritage team spent much of 2018 doing capacity-building work and closed the year with a new Heritage Lead, Chieko Phillips.

The new Rural Internship program stationed graduate students at organizations outside Seattle, and the Nights at Washington Hall event series supported that building's anchor partners in producing experiences that blended heritage with art.

In the same vein, many of the Heritage grants awarded in 2018 supported people and projects in preparing the next generation of heritage stewards. A highlight is Northwest Seaport, awarded a Heritage Project grant for its shipwright apprenticeship program. Their goal is to complete the final phase of laying a historically accurate, weatherproof deck on Lightship No. 83 "SWIFTSURE". Built in 1904, the vessel is a National and Seattle City Landmark, featuring the lights, foghorns, and 6-foot, white-on-red lettering of America's classic lightships. The 4Culture funding helped Northwest Seaport provide on-the-job training for future skilled tradespeople and make progress on a long-running preservation need for local maritime history.



HERITAGE PROJECTS

HERITAGE PROJECTS

applicants / 79
awardees / 52
awarded / \$252,250

COLLECTIONS CARE

applicants / 38
awardees / 22
awarded / \$107,541

EMERGENCY/UNFORESEEN OPPORTUNITIES

awardees / 1
awarded / \$1,600

SUSTAINED SUPPORT

applicants / 45
awardees / 45
awarded / \$396,000



PRESERVATION

As our region grapples with high-speed change, 2018 saw the 4Culture Preservation team expanding the conversation about what we save. Through programs like the Preservation Action Fund and Beyond Integrity, we're working to ensure that more communities are part of the decision-making process. What can historic preservation offer to a King County in flux?

At the University Heights Center for the Community, the answer is a lot. Using a 4Culture Preservation Special Projects grant, they commissioned Richaven Architecture and Preservation to do a condition assessment, code analysis, and master plan to guide their work to preserve their 1902 school building. The plan has given the organization a better understanding of the building's structural condition, as well as its mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems. This plan's technical details add up to big impact for the groups that use the space, like CeAtl Tonalli, pictured. It is a roadmap for future improvements, including ADA compliance and more flexible occupancy designations. 4Culture funds have helped ensure that University Heights' historic doors are open to the needs of its community for generations to come.

PRESERVATION AWARDS

PRESERVATION PROJECTS

applicants / **30**
awardees / **16**
awarded / **\$100,746**

LANDMARKS CAPITAL

applicants / **34**
awardees / **16**
awarded / **\$265,153**

SUSTAINED SUPPORT

applicants / **19**
awardees / **18**
awarded / **\$99,000**

PUBLIC ART

As Cath Brunner ended her 27-year tenure at 4Culture Kelly Pajek, formerly Senior Project Manager, took the lead as Public Art Director.

Our Public Art team navigated this change with their trademark ingenuity in 2018. For the first time in five years, we were able to purchase new work for the King County Public Art Collection, adding 82 works on paper from artists across the country. And, with the completion of its third and final summer of festival-style mural painting in July, the SODO Track became the world's longest contiguous street art corridor.

Creative Justice, one of the department's most innovative initiatives, was honored with Crosscut Magazine's Courage Award in August. The award honors people and organizations with "a bold determination to lift up those often unheard"—this exemplifies Creative Justice. Since launching in 2015, Creative Justice youth have participated in over 250 hours of intensive art programming, formed a Youth Leadership Board, and exhibited their work in multiple public settings. This year, the team of Creative Justice managers began the process of completing their long-term goal of establishing the program as an independent organization.

PUBLIC ART PROJECTS

SODO TRACK

murals painted by 23 artists from 6 countries / 15
youth workshops with Urban Artworks / 4
artist residences with Western Neon / 2

CREATIVE JUSTICE

youth participants in 3 12-week sessions / 50
mentor artists / 6
exhibitions – MOHAI, Seattle City Hall / 2





LOOK AHEAD

We spent much of 2018 looking both inward and outward to learn how we can better serve King County. A series of internal workshops led us to a new, equity-focused mission statement, and we conducted listening sessions in cities across the county as part of our Cultural Health Study.

In 2019 and beyond, look for the lessons and insights gained from these initiatives to propel 4Culture forward. Working with our new mission and vision statements, we'll dive into strategic planning with our staff, Board, and Advisory Committees. As we complete our series of listening sessions—one in each of King County's 39 cities and unincorporated areas—the information gathered will be cross-referenced with census data to create an in-depth look at how culture functions in our region. Watch for that report later this year!

COMBINED PROGRAMS

EQUIPMENT

applicants / 115
awardees / 67
awarded / \$249,959

OPEN 4CULTURE

applicants / 40
awardees / 27
awarded / \$38,867

COMMUNITY 4CULTURE

applicants / 30
awardees / 20
awarded / \$193,000



VOLUNTEERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Greg Beams
 Jeanne Burbidge
 Stephen Elliott
 Felicia Gonzalez
 Kirstin Haugen
 Tom Ikeda
 Peter Kwon
 Patricio Mendoza

Chris Moore
 Ana Pinto da Silva
 Nate Robinson
 Mitch Shepherd
 Heather Trescases
 Tracey Wickersham
 Shari Winstead

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Councilmember
 Claudia Balducci,
 District 6

 Councilmember
 Larry Gossett,
 District 2

Councilmember
 Jeanne Kohl-
 Welles, District 4

 Jennifer Meisner,
 King County Historic
 Preservation Program

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

ARTS

Bernie Griffin

 Stephen Elliott,
 Board Representative

 Gabriela Denise
 Frank
 Joshua Heim
 A.C. Petersen
 Eben Pabee
 Danielle Villegas

HERITAGE

Cassie Chinn
 Nancy Salguero
 McKay
 Eric Nelson
 Heron Scott
 Heather Trescases,
 Board Representative
 Phyllis A. Grant
 Ruth Pickering
 Seth Margolis

PRESERVATION

Toni Azzola
 Claudia Kiyama
 Nathaniel Howe
 Erica Maniez
 Chris Moore,
 Board Representative
 Juniper Nammi
 Cary Westerbeck
 Krista Whitters
 Eugenia Woo

PUBLIC ART

Lesley Bain
 Saul Becker
 Kamari Bright
 Cris Bruch
 Janet Galore
 Maria Lau Hui
 Selina Hunstiger
 Michelle de la Vega
 Tracey Wickersham,
 Board Representative

REVENUES

	ACTUAL 2018	2017	2016
Lodging Tax Revenue ⁽¹⁾	-	-	\$3,285,499
King County Public Art Revenue	\$681,075	\$4,335,890	\$986,159
King County Appropriations	\$3,638,576	\$8,376,414	\$13,735,312
Public Art Consulting Revenue	\$90,781	\$70,936	\$215,258
Investment Earnings	\$874,812	\$583,765	\$307,598
Miscellaneous Other	\$419,819	\$272,223	\$428,511
TOTAL Revenues ⁽²⁾	\$5,705,063	\$13,639,228	\$18,958,337

EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES

	ACTUAL 2018	ACTUAL 2017	2016
Arts, Heritage and Preservation Grant Programs	\$7,750,947	\$8,002,159	\$7,113,289
Public Art Projects	\$2,107,353	\$1,945,262	\$1,600,066
Building for Culture Facility Investment Program	\$3,638,576	\$5,931,414	\$13,650,312
Debt Service ⁽³⁾	\$2,170,948	\$2,166,450	\$1,089,351
Management and General Supporting Activities	\$699,369	\$615,896	\$570,848
TOTAL Expenditures and Other Uses ⁽²⁾	\$16,367,193	\$18,661,181	\$24,023,866

FUND BALANCES

	ACTUAL DEC. 31 2017	ACTUAL DEC. 31 2017	DEC. 31 2016
General Fund	\$3,743,719	\$4,705,572	\$2,152,246
Lodging Tax Special Revenue Fund	\$6,568,389	\$5,777,476	\$5,807,468
1% for Art Special Revenue Fund	\$6,418,663	\$6,994,987	\$4,247,397
Cultural Special Account Fund	\$26,126,774	\$36,041,640	\$46,334,517
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	\$42,857,545	\$53,519,675	\$58,541,628



BUDGET NOTES

2018 financial information is based on unaudited fund financial statements. Requests for the most recent complete audited financial report should be addressed to 4Culture's finance department at 4Culture, 101 Prefontaine Place S, Seattle, WA 98104.

⁽¹⁾ Current legislation temporarily discontinues the use of lodging tax receipts for cultural purposes in King County until 2021. The Cultural Special Account is the designated source of funds for arts and heritage grant programs through 2020.

⁽²⁾ Total revenues and expenditures differ on an annual basis due to timing factors in the inflows and outflows of the various programs' financial resources.

⁽³⁾ Required payments to King County for principal and interest on County debt issued for arts and heritage cultural facilities grants prior to the creation of 4Culture and for County debt issued for the Building for Culture program.



PHOTO CREDITS

cover/ Button Will performing at the SAM Legendary Children event. ©2017 Naomi Ishisaka, Community 4Culture Fellowship awardee. **page 1-2/** SPECSWIZARD, *Spaceslugs*, illustration, 2015. **page 3-4/** The 2018 Arc Fellows, LTR: Mickey Row, Tara Hardy, Earl Debnam, Angel Alviar-Langley, 2018, photo by Sunny Martini.

page 5-6/ *Swiftsure* deck restoration © 2017, image by Naomi Ishisaka, courtesy of Northwest Seaport. **page 7-8/** CeAtl Tonalli performing at the UHeights Summer Music Festival ©2017 courtesy of University Heights Center. **page 7-8/** Akio Takamori. *Sitting Monkey*, 2011. Lithograph and archival pigment print, 23 ¾ x 16 inches.

page 9-10/ Ben Hunter and Joe Seamons recording their live album *The Antidote* at the Rainier Arts Center © 2018 Aris Vrakas.

page 10-11/ Youth participating in El Centro de la Raza's annual Día de los Muertos, © 2018 KUOW/Megan Farmer.

page 12-13/ Robert Castro Cummings, *Rip it up and start again*.

back/ Alley in Pioneer Square, Seattle © 2014, courtesy of Alliance for Pioneer Square.



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