

THE VALUE of the Arts in Community Development



“Mayors understand the connection between the arts industry and city revenues. Besides providing thousands of jobs, the arts generate billions in government and business revenues and play an important role in the economic revitalization of our nation’s cities.” (1)

“There is no better indicator of the spiritual health of our city, its neighborhoods, and the larger region than the state of the arts. The arts deepen our understanding of the human spirit, extend our capacity to comprehend the lives of others, allow us to imagine a more just and humane world. Through their diversity of feeling, their variety of form, their multiplicity of inspiration, the arts make our culture richer and more reflective,” (2)

Everyday, the **100,000 nonprofit arts and culture organizations** that populate our nation’s cities and towns are making their communities more desirable places to live and work. They provide inspiration and enjoyment to residents, beautify shared public spaces, and strengthen the social fabric.

In Greater Cincinnati---including Butler County ---the nonprofit arts and culture sector fuels the local economy with more than \$279 million in economic activity. Nationally, this amounts to \$166.2 billion annually and 2.6 million jobs. (3)



When cities invest in the arts, they are fueling economic growth, creating jobs, and making their communities more attractive to young professionals who want to start a career or business and are increasingly driven by quality of life and cultural amenities in their cities of choice.

Source:

- (1) Douglas H. Palmer, Mayor, Trenton, NJ
President, The United States Conference of Mayors
- (2) Jonathon Fanton, President, MacArthur Foundation
- (3) Arts & Economic Prosperity III, Americans for the Arts, 2007