

Overview

The Utah Division of Arts & Museums offers operational support funding to designated Local Arts Agencies to ensure the cultural, civic, educational, and economic benefits of the arts are accessible to communities throughout the state. The title “agency” may refer to a council, board, committee, or other organization.

Local Arts Agency Definition

A Local Arts Agency (LAA) is the primary organization in a defined geographical area that supports and advances the arts for its community by engaging residents, identifying and addressing community needs, reflecting community demographics, contributing to the quality of life, building community identity, and supporting artists and arts organizations. A Local Arts Agency is differentiated from other community arts organizations by its responsibility for fostering the arts throughout the community and by offering various types of arts services and/or activities that are often multidisciplinary in nature. A Local Arts Agency can be an agency of local government, a nonprofit organization, or a hybrid of the two.

Qualifications

To be recognized as an official Local Arts Agency, the organization must be designated by the city/county government for the defined community they serve. The organization, whether a 501(c)(3) or under the umbrella of the governing body for the community, must also offer their community **at least four** of the following services: (please check all that apply)

Provide access to diverse art forms that facilitate public participation

Offer programs and services that include and support the cultural diversity and traditional arts of the community

Engage in community development through the arts

Conduct cultural and community assessment and planning that encourages input from community members

Provide stewardship of a community’s art collection(s)

Engage in programs that promote arts advocacy efforts at the local, state, or national level

Provide and/or support arts education (K-12, adult education, creative aging, etc.)

Manage a public art program

Produce or present arts programs such as festivals, public art projects, community theatre, concerts, workshops, etc.

Grant or provide financial support to cultural organizations or artists in the community

Facilitate economic development efforts that support the creative economy through arts industries

Manage one or more cultural facilities in the community

Contribute to creative placemaking activities

Undertake public relations or marketing services for LAA arts programs and for other arts and cultural activities in the community

