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Mission:

The Minnesota State Arts Board is a state agency that stimulates and encourages the creation, performance, and appreciation of the arts in the state.

Statewide Outcome(s):

The Minnesota State Arts Board supports the following statewide outcome(s).

A thriving economy that encourages business growth and employment opportunities.

Minnesotans have the education and skills needed to achieve their goals.

Strong and stable families and communities.

Context:

The Arts Board's activities are aligned to ensure that all Minnesotans have the opportunity to participate in and benefit from the arts. Arts have been shown to improve academic achievement and teach skills that will be necessary in the 21st century workforce. Arts contribute to the vitality of communities, provide positive leisure activities for young people and families and contribute to cultural understanding. The structure and responsibilities of the board are outlined in Minnesota Statutes 129D (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=129D>).

Minnesota residents are the board's primary clientele—the agency exists to make the arts available and accessible to all.

The Board receives appropriations from the state's general fund and from the state's arts and cultural heritage fund (ACHF) which was created by an act of the voters in 2008. The ACHF may be spent only for arts, arts education, and arts access and to preserve Minnesota's history and cultural heritage.

Strategies:

The Arts Board provides financial support and other services to strengthen the arts and make them more available throughout the state. Its principal priorities are to advise and serve as a resource relating to the arts; distribute grants, loans, and other forms of assistance for artistic activities; and serve as fiscal agent to disburse appropriations for eleven regional arts council.

The Arts Board has established the following long-term goals (•) and related key strategies (–)

- The arts are interwoven into every facet of community life
 - Develop strategic relationships and partnerships
- Minnesotans believe the arts are vital to who we are
 - Enhance public understanding of the value of the arts
- People of all ages, ethnicities, and abilities participate in the arts
 - Fully engage with nontraditional and underrepresented participants
 - Transform everyone's life by experiencing the arts
- People trust Minnesota's stewardship of public arts funding
 - Provide an accountable arts support system
 - Be responsible stewards of public funds
- The arts thrive in Minnesota
 - Foster visionary, skilled arts leaders and organizations statewide
 - Ensure sufficient resources to sustain the arts and artists

The board accomplishes its work by coordinating and providing financial support and services to Minnesota's regional arts councils, arts organizations, artists, educational institutions, local and state units of government, and other nonprofits.

Results:

The strategies listed above are intended to guide the board's activities for the coming decades. The Arts Board is developing baseline data that it will use to measure progress. The board and each regional council collects data on the impact of every grant they make; that data is used to determine whether strategies are successful and outcomes are being achieved.

The Arts Board and the state's eleven regional arts councils play a significant role in the overall strength of Minnesota's arts sector, however other significant factors affect it as well, key among them: the health of the overall economy and the strength of private philanthropy.

| Performance Measures | Previous | Current | Trend |
|--|------------|------------|-----------|
| # of individuals who benefit from funded activities ¹ | 20,558,418 | 24,876,097 | improving |
| % of Minnesotans who attend arts activities ² | 67% | 75% | improving |

Performance Measures Notes:

¹ Total participants in Arts Board and regional arts council funded activities from 2008-09 biennium to 2010-11 biennium.

² 2001 Minnesota State Survey to 2011 Minnesota State Survey, Minnesota Center for Survey Research, University of Minnesota