“Arts and cultural activities allow me to learn, explore, think, dream, and understand. These activities increase my quality of life, reduce stress, and encourage me to engage and participate in the community.”

Source: Patron Survey

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Your support of arts, cultural, and scientific organizations keeps our community vibrant.

“Having a variety of accessible cultural venues and events is one of the integral facets that make this region such a desirable place to live, like the natural beauty of the region.”

Source: Patron Survey
IMPACTS
In fiscal year 2014, the total income of nonprofit cultural organizations in the Central Puget Sound region was $512.9 million, most of which was spent in the local economy. Patrons spent $684 million on tickets, dining out, lodging, transportation, child care services, and other expenditures. The impacts of these expenditures ripple throughout the economy of the entire state.

$2.4B aggregate sales impacts
30% of sales impacts come from outside the area
35,376 total jobs supported
13.4M patron visits in 2014
1.2M visits by K-12 students

CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS BRING IN NEW MONEY
Cultural organizations attract patrons both inside and outside their communities. Approximately 30% of sales impacts and 28% of labor income impacts came from funding sources and patrons outside the four-county area. These impacts are considered “new money”—funds that come here only due to the activities of local cultural institutions.

A DELICATE BALANCE OF INCOME AND EXPENSES
With a total income of $512.9 million and total expenses of $486.4 million, operating margins are modest. Continuing support from all sectors of the community remains critical.

PROVIDING AND CREATING JOBS
In addition to directly employing people, cultural organizations create a ripple of economic activity and additional jobs through their business activities and the expenditures of their patrons. In 2014, activities of Central Puget Sound cultural organizations and patrons supported a total of 35,376 direct and indirect jobs.

KEY TO OUR REGION’S IDENTITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE
Over 90% of current patrons of cultural organizations identified cultural activity as highly important to the Central Puget Sound region’s identity. Whether cited as a reason to move here or as a reason to stay, cultural activity was identified as integral to the region’s livability and quality of life.

2014 IMPACTS ON WASHINGTON STATE ECONOMY
Aggregate Sales Impacts $2.4 billion
Labor Income Impacts $986 million
Tax Impacts-Aggregate $105 million
Total Jobs Supported 35,376

2014 NEW MONEY IMPACTS ON PUGET SOUND REGION
New Money Sales Impacts $647 million
New Money Labor Income Impacts $257 million
New Money Tax Impacts $37 million
New Money Total Jobs Supported 8,182

13.4 MILLION VISITS IN 2014
Annual admissions in 2014 totaled 13.4 million visits, nearly three and one half times the total population of the four counties. Of these annual admissions, 1.2 million were due to K-12 students experiencing cultural institutions using free or discounted tickets.

AGGREGATE INCOME
Cultural organizations earn slightly more than half of what they need to cover their expenses from ticket sales. The remainder comes from a variety of contributed sources.

AGGREGATE EXPENDITURES
Most direct spending of cultural organizations goes for employee expenses. These are expenses for jobs inside the organizations and jobs with service providers outside the organizations.

PATRON EXPENDITURES
Spending by cultural patrons reaches far beyond the ticket booth. Restaurants, hotels, retail shops and transportation-related enterprises account for two-thirds of the spending related to attendance at cultural activities.