

Overview

The **ArtsFund Social Impact Study** will examine and articulate how the arts advance community priorities in King County. Pulling from regional and national research, and complementing the statistics with local data and case studies, the report will position our region's cultural nonprofits by the social impact they have across sectors and throughout the community.

ArtsFund has produced numerous well-respected studies focused on the direct and indirect economic impacts made by arts and cultural nonprofits in the Central Puget Sound Region. The Social Impact Study will be in complement to this vital and widely-cited research. Together these documents will work to highlight the quantitative and qualitative value of arts and culture in our region.

Value

People intrinsically value the role the arts play in their lives, but concrete data and stories localizing that impact within our region are not currently available. As the Seattle area continues to grow, our goal is to ensure that arts and culture remain a vital part of our community by showing how an investment in arts and culture is an investment in civic health and vitality.

This study will provide case-making resources to be used by policy makers, funders, and business and civic leaders charged with shaping our community's growth. The report will document and explore the impact of the arts on advancing community priorities such as education and youth development, business recruitment and talent retention, health and healing, and neighborhood development.

Designed for other communities to replicate, the ArtsFund Social Impact Study will help raise the public perception of the value of the arts in this region and beyond.

For more information, contact Sarah Sidman, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives & Communications, at (206) 788-3051 or sarahsidman@artsfund.org

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Methodology

- Convene cross-sector Advisory Committee and identify core community priorities to be addressed
- Compile regional and national secondary research
- Gather primary data (e.g. conduct landscape scan; collect information from over 150 cultural nonprofits; survey regional employers and employees, as well as social service organizations and institutions; identify and collect case-studies)
- Analyze & complement data with additional research as needed
- Generate report and summary for print and electronic distribution
- Disseminate widely via media channels and community conversations

The ArtsFund Social Impact Study will be steered by a cross-sector Advisory Committee, and conducted in collaboration with an expert consultant. Preliminary work will begin in Summer and Fall of 2017, with additional data collection and research in Winter and Spring, and analysis and compilation in Summer 2018. The report is scheduled to be released in the Fall of 2018.