

**Department:** Nondepartmental **Program Contact:** Christian Elkin  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:**

**Executive Summary**

The Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) provides contract services to Multnomah County and its residents. Formerly a county bureau (the Metropolitan Arts Commission), RACC became an independent 501(c)(3) organization in 1995 in order to leverage support from other regional government partners and private donors, ultimately investing much more in arts and culture than the County alone can afford. These investments create vibrant neighborhoods, enhance our children’s education, and fuel the creative economy with measurable economic benefits for Multnomah County.

**Program Summary**

RACC plays a vital role in the county’s economic and community development efforts. Specifically, RACC provides services in five key areas: (1) Through Advocacy, RACC helps build support and resource for arts and culture. (2) RACC Grants provide artists and arts organizations with the base financial support they need to continue serving our community. (3) RACC’s nationally acclaimed Public Art program, including the Multnomah County 2% for Art Ordinance, integrates a wide range of art into public spaces. (4) RACC provides other Community Services including workshops for artists, consulting for arts organizations, and a variety of printed and electronic resources; (5) RACC is developing comprehensive Arts Education solutions for our community; and (6 ) RACC will continue to support arts programs that work within Multnomah County’s system of care for vulnerable populations, particularly those for people experiencing homelessness.

Arts and culture activities add measurable value to our region’s economy and to our quality of life. Artists and arts organizations bring residents together for shared cultural experiences that stimulate creativity which in turn supports more innovative businesses and a richer educational experience for our children. A vibrant arts community serves as a magnet for young creatives, and Multnomah County’s investment in the arts contributes to the competitive advantage we have over other regions competing to attract sustainable businesses and an innovative, well-educated workforce. Multnomah County is home to the vast majority of the region’s artists and arts and culture organizations, which together generate more than \$253.5 million for the local economy and \$21 million for state and local coffers every year.

Proposed program allocations for FY 2017 County dollars include allotments to the following RACC programs: Advocacy and Development (including Work for Art), \$12,000; Grants, \$107,700; Technical Assistance, \$5,200; Arts Education (including The Right Brain Initiative), \$31,275; Management/General (including outreach to under served communities), \$14,507 and \$129,318 in additional administration, grants and projects that serve vulnerable populations (as described by (6) above).

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY15 Actual	FY16 Purchased	FY16 Estimate	FY17 Offer
Output	Dollars leveraged from other sources	\$9,567,600	\$8,500,000	\$8,891,000	\$9,000,000
Outcome	Multnomah County children engaged in creative learning of standard curriculum subjects	7,125	7,500	7,900	8,000
Output	Individuals served by RACC-funded projects and programs (total combined attendance)	3.1 Million	3.3 Million	3.3 Million	3.3 Million
Outcome	Improvement in reading and math scores, compared to average annual rate of increase*	N/A	2.5 times	2.5 times	2.5 times

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

\*Evaluation data reveals that as schools work with The Right Brain Initiative, students reading and math scores increase at least 2.5 times more than the average annual rate of increase. This growth is even greater for English Language Learners, whose scores increased 10 times more after schools partnered with Right Brain.

## Legal / Contractual Obligation

RACC operates as a steward of Multnomah County investments in arts and culture as per contract #440000704 which expires on June 30, 2018.

## Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2016	2016	2017	2017
Contractual Services	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>		<b>\$300,000</b>	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## Explanation of Revenues

This is a General Fund program.

## Significant Program Changes

**Last Year this program was:** FY 2016: 10020A-16 Regional Arts & Culture Council

With increased funding from Multnomah County in FY16, RACC is 1. providing significantly more grants and services for artists & arts organizations in underrepresented communities including East Portland, Gresham & other parts of East County. 2. Funding from Multnomah County & Portland's arts tax, RACC awarded a record \$3.9 million to 129 nonprofit organizations and 121 artists. (3)The Right Brain Initiative is now serving 25,000 students & 1,300 teachers in 63 schools across 7 districts in Clackamas, Multnomah & Washington Counties. (4) RACC's professional development workshops served more than 290 artists last year. (5) RACC celebrated the 35th anniversary of Multnomah County's percent-for-art program in 2015 and acquired 56 new pieces for the Portable Works Collection. (6) Work for Art raised \$750,350 in the campaign that ended June 30, 2015 and is working to raise \$1 Million in this year's 2015-16 campaign.