

**Department:** Nondepartmental      **Program Contact:** Madison Cario  
**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 & resource for arts and culture. (2) Grants provide artists & arts organizations with base financial support they need to continue serving our community. (3) Nationally acclaimed Public Art program, including the Multnomah County 2% for Art Ordinance, integrates a wide range of art into public spaces. (4) Other Community Services including workshops for artists, consulting for arts organizations, and a variety of printed and electronic resources; (5) RACC is partnering with YA to help K-8 schools integrate the arts into the standard curriculum. RACC continues to support art and music teachers funded by Portland’s arts tax; and (6) RACC invests in arts-related programming that supports vulnerable populations and marginalized communities in Multnomah County, including low-income Oregonians, veterans, East County, seniors & 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 \$294 million for the local economy and \$12.5 million for local government coffers every year.

FY 2021 program allocations for County dollars include investments in the following programs: \$250,000 for grants and technical assistance services for artists and arts organizations, \$20,000 for arts education and assessment (not including The Right Brain Initiative), \$10,000 for advocacy programs, and \$20,000 for general management and sustaining services such as accounting and information technology/web services. RACC receives separate funding from Multnomah County to fund public art projects through the County’s 2%-for-art ordinance.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY19 Actual	FY20 Budgeted	FY20 Estimate	FY21 Offer
Output	Dollars leveraged from other sources (in millions)	\$12	\$11	\$11.5	\$12
Outcome	Multnomah County children engaged in creative learning	9,750	9,750	9,275	15,000
Output	Number served by RACC-funded projects (total attendance in millions)	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75
Outcome	Improvement in reading and math scores	2.5 times	2.5 times	2.5 times	2.5 times

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

FY 2021 engagement will be measured by an in-depth assessment of the impact of arts pathways created by sustained funding from the Arts Education Access Fund and its continued partnership with the Right Brain program through Young Audiences. RACC will continue to focus on bringing resources to historically under-served communities, artists, arts organizations and schools.

## Legal / Contractual Obligation

RACC operates as a steward of Multnomah County investments in arts and culture via contract #440000704.

## Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2020	2020	2021	2021
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>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	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

## Significant Program Changes

**Last Year this program was:** FY 2020: 10020-20 Regional Arts & Culture Council

In FY 2017, funding for RACC was increased by \$130,000 to help RACC provide significantly more grants and services for artists & arts organizations in underrepresented communities including East County, communities of color, low-income Oregonians, and other marginalized populations. This program continues those investments.

In FY 2020, RACC will complete the transfer of the Right Brain Initiative (RB) to its long-time partner, Young Audiences. This shift will enable RB to scale while also enabling RACC to provide more grants and services for artists & arts organizations in underrepresented communities including East County, communities of color, low-income Oregonians, and other marginalized populations.