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COMMUNICATE Advocate  
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Spotlight



SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT  
**CULTURAL COALITION**

## Our Mission

The Southeastern Connecticut Cultural Coalition fosters region-wide economic growth in New London County by optimizing existing and new arts and cultural activities to assure that cultural sector and creative business assets are central to the vitality of the region.

## Our Values

**CONNECTING** arts, heritage, cultural, business and community activities to build on respective strengths and create successful partnerships;

**COLLABORATING** among arts, heritage, cultural, business and community activities to encourage and facilitate innovative solutions and opportunities;

**COMMUNICATING** with patrons, organizers and beneficiaries across the spectrum of arts, heritage, cultural, business, and community activities to promote opportunities and convey the sector's impact.

### PHOTOS

#### Front Cover:

*Make Music Day at RD86 Space - A. Vincent Scarano Photographer*

*Funding Booster Program drop-in grant clinic with Community Foundation of Eastern CT*

*"Art of Healing" preview & gallery talk with the Arts in Health Collaborative at Marquee Gallery*

*Cultural Coalition's Executive Director addressing legislators during Arts, Culture & Tourism Caucus*

#### Back Cover:

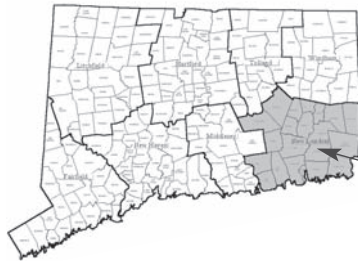
*Arts in Health Collaborative visit to Florence Griswold Museum during Wee Faerie Village*

*Local artists prepare "Open Spaces" exhibit as part of the Art at the Airport program*

*Make Music Day outside the Hygienic Art Park - A. Vincent Scarano Photographer*

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# 2019 Annual Report



The Coalition represents a diverse cross section of partners located in and/or serving southeastern CT.



## About This Annual Report

This annual report reflects a year that the Southeastern Connecticut Cultural Coalition realized the goals outlined six years ago - to define and gather the arts and cultural sector in our region, establish a connective network, serve as the spotlight, and create opportunities which would otherwise be unavailable. We are deeply grateful for the local, regional and state support of our organization and look forward to our next phase of helping our region thrive!

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## COMING IN 2020

### Culture Connects (Spring/Fall) April 28, Arts & Drafts at Epicure Brewing in Norwich

A social and networking event for our Partners and those involved in arts, culture and history in the region to come together to meet and mingle in a casual setting.

### Make Music Day Southeastern CT - Sunday, June 21

More than 100 live, free music performances in Southeastern CT featuring musicians of all abilities and music from all genres are held at a variety of public venues including parks and outdoor spaces, arts and cultural facilities, restaurants and shops, libraries and more!

### THRIVE! 2020 - early December

A biennial Conference that brings together over 100 attendees involved in creating, promoting and supporting arts, culture and history in Southeastern Connecticut.

### Arts in Health Collaborative - ongoing

Led by Cultural Coalition, a group of social service organizations with arts-based programs work to build awareness of and support for an arts approach to health and wellness.

### Funding Booster Program - ongoing

Led by Cultural Coalition in partnership with CT Office of the Arts, Community Foundation of Eastern CT, CT Humanities, New England Foundation for the Arts and Office of U.S. Rep Joe Courtney, CT 2nd District, this program provides support to improve arts and cultural nonprofits' ability to capitalize on local, state, New England and federal grant opportunities.



### NATIONAL TRENDS

#### Diversifying Revenue Streams/Sustainability

Arts, cultural and creative organizations, entities and individuals continue to reach new audiences and diversify revenue streams for long-term sustainability. From utilizing venues for special events (weddings, parties, corporate retreats, business meetings, conferences) to integrating non-arts programs (yoga, escape room games, culinary/brewery events) into public offerings, arts and cultural organizations are leveraging their unique facilities to create marketable experiences and add new revenue.

#### Arts and Social Impact

Arts are increasingly being utilized and recognized for their long-term social impact. In our region and across the nation, arts programs and projects are addressing issues such as health and wellness, the environment, and social justice to spark community conversation, raise awareness, and catalyze change. In addition, arts continue to be integrated into transportation, housing and infrastructure projects to build communities and connect diverse populations.



Find out more at [www.americansforthearts.org/socialimpact](http://www.americansforthearts.org/socialimpact)

### REGULATORY

#### Federal Tax Law

The Federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act went into effect in 2018. The impact on nonprofit organizations were: (1) the increase in the standard deduction; (2) the limit on state and local tax deductions, and; (3) the doubling of the estate and gift tax exemptions.

Individual giving declined 1.1% in 2018 to \$292.09 billion; it fell 3.4% adjusted for inflation, according to *Giving USA 2019: The Annual Report on Philanthropy for the Year 2018*. And giving by individuals decreased as a percentage of total giving from 70% in 2017 to 68% in 2018. It is expected that the 2019 data will show a similar decrease.

While the stock market has been thriving and the total amount of charitable giving has continued to increase since the Great Recession, the number of people who give has decreased likely due to the tax law changes. On the upside, impact investing and donor-advised funds are increasing, which creates opportunities for nonprofit arts and cultural organizations and donors.



### LEGISLATIVE

#### Tourism Fund

Established in 2017, the Tourism Fund invests in the Connecticut experience – building vibrant communities, attracting tourists and employers, and boosting our economy. It is a non-lapsing special fund, dedicated revenue source that is solely funded by a portion of the hotel occupancy tax. Funds are deposited into the Tourism Fund after every quarter.

The Tourism Fund invests in arts, culture and tourism through a variety of line items in the budget appropriated by legislators, including: CT Office of the Arts (Arts Commission), CT Office of Tourism (Statewide Tourism Marketing), Arts, Cultural & Tourism Direct Line Items (individual organizations and consortiums), and CT Humanities.

#### Arts, Culture and Tourism Collaboration

An outcome of the 2018 Lamont/Bysiewicz Transition Arts, Culture and Tourism Policy Committee (co-chaired by our Executive Director) was a new collaboration between the arts, cultural and tourism industries. During 2019, the CT Arts Alliance and the CT Tourism Coalition began working together on statewide advocacy issues and a common legislative agenda centered on investment in the Tourism Fund.



## Overview 2019

The Cultural Coalition continued to provide a variety of services, signature programs and events serving the creative community and municipalities in New London County to benefit the region's residents, employees and visitors. Highlights of key efforts and new programs are listed below, with details of the past year of Cultural Coalition activities on the pages that follow.

### 2019 Highlights

#### Advocacy & Representation

- represented the region during Arts, Culture and Tourism Advocacy Day in Hartford
- hosted an Arts, Culture and Tourism Policy Update in the region with the chair of the Arts, Culture and Tourism Caucus, State Senator Paul Formica, and other state officials

#### Improving Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

- participated in the Community Foundation of Eastern CT's six-month intensive training and coaching cohort
- created the Cultural Coalition's Board Diversity Action Plan to guide internal improvements and model the process for others in the region

#### New & Expanded Activities

- NEW signature programs for Partners: Funding Booster and Arts in Health Collaborative
- more performances and venues for second annual Make Music Day Southeastern CT
- increased municipal support by advising on arts & cultural projects in Groton and New London

#### Strengthened Regional Partnerships

- with Community Foundation of Eastern CT as an active participant in the Nonprofit Capacity Building Collaborative to bring relevant training and support to arts & cultural nonprofits
- with Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT to work collaboratively on select events/programs to increase the positive impact on those we serve

### Early Outcomes Achieved

Six years ago, the Cultural Coalition had a vision:

- to define and gather the creative community in our region,
- establish a connective network among arts, cultural and creative assets,
- serve as a spotlight for our Partners and the region,
- and create economic opportunities which would otherwise be unavailable.

We've accomplished those goals!

There is much more to be done to fulfill our mission.



### Strategic Planning

During the second half of 2019, the Board and staff worked on the vision for the next phase of the Cultural Coalition.

- 6 Partner and stakeholder meetings were held across the region from September to November, with 100+ people participating in the input process
- 75 online surveys also provided feedback on Cultural Coalition strengths and opportunities
- 16 new ideas were evaluated, many of which were incorporated as strategies or tactics in the new plan
- Cultural Coalition staff prepared the "Strategic Plan 2020-2025 - Together We THRIVE" document outlining the key goals, strategies, tactics, metrics and desired outcomes for the next five years
- In January 2020, the Cultural Coalition Board adopted the 20-page Strategic Plan 2020-2025, including the recommended services, programs, events and the resources required to implement them

The Cultural Coalition celebrates and thanks the founding Board members and original Transition Team, our former and current Board members, our Advisory Council, the 550+ Partners that have registered with us, funders, regional agency partners, and many more who have helped us achieve our initial goals. **The future of the Southeastern CT Cultural Coalition is bright and we look forward to working together to achieve the goals we have laid out for the next 5 years.**

## ADVOCACY

The Southeastern CT Cultural Coalition serves as the "voice" of our 500+ Partners and the region's arts and cultural community by providing information and educating policy-makers about issues affecting the sector.



The Cultural Coalition is a member of the Connecticut Arts Alliance (CAA), a non-profit advocacy organization established to inspire support for the arts. CAA is led by artists, educators, and arts executives from all over the state, including the Cultural Coalition's Executive Director who serves as Vice President and co-chairs the Policy and Issues Committee.

Following the success of the gubernatorial campaign "Create the Vote CT," CAA worked on a new Strategic Plan during 2019 that seeks to increase its capacity to serve as the "Arts Champion" for the state.

### Arts, Culture and Tourism (ACT) Advocacy Day



Over 200 legislators, arts & cultural leaders, and tourism advocates attended the spring event at the Legislative Office Building coordinated by the CT Arts Alliance and the CT Tourism Coalition. Arts and Cultural representatives provided recommendations to legislators regarding adjustments to the Tourism Fund (supporting arts, culture, and tourism through a percentage of lodging tax revenue) and addressed other arts and cultural issues. **Members of the General Assembly's Tourism Caucus voted to change their name to the Arts, Culture and Tourism Caucus.**

### ACT Policy Update

The Cultural Coalition and Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut presented a post-legislative session update on Arts, Culture and Tourism at the Lyman Allyn Art Museum.



## Overview 2019

## REPRESENTATION

The Cultural Coalition represents our Partners and the sector in collaborations with local, regional and state entities engaged in tourism, business and economic development, and municipal services.

### Capacity Building



Community Foundation  
of Eastern Connecticut

The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut was the fiscal agent for the Cultural Coalition during inception and launch six years ago, and remains an anchor partner today. With similar goals to support and serve nonprofits and a commitment to work toward improving the region's health and vitality, the Cultural Coalition has been an active member of the Foundation's collaborative initiatives including, New London Partnership for Student Success, Thriving Community Conversations, and Nonprofit Capacity Building Collaborative.

### Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Action Plan

Following two DEI workshops in 2018 coordinated by the Cultural Coalition in partnership with the Community Foundation of Eastern CT, the Cultural Coalition applied and was selected to participate in a six-month intensive Board Diversity Initiative (BDI) with the Minority Inclusion Project (MIP). As one of four organizations in the New London County cohort, the Cultural Coalition's Equity Team (2 staff/2 Board members) received monthly training and one-on-one coaching from the MIP staff.



At the BDI Cohort's closing ceremony in September, the Cultural Coalition's Equity Team publicly presented our Action Plan for improving DEI practices in our organization. The Cultural Coalition is committed to this on-going work that will require continuous education, meaningful discussions and intentional practices. We look forward to inspiring ourselves and others as a model organization in improving diversity, equity and inclusion in our sector and region.



## Coalition Partners

Our Partners – Representatives who live, work and support the arts, heritage, cultural and creative sector in southeastern Connecticut.

Partnership with the Coalition is a two-way street. The Coalition provides leadership, core services, and advocacy on behalf of our Partners. Our work depends on the sharing of information and a Partner's desire and willingness to connect and collaborate.

**546**

**Total registered Partners**

(as of Jan. 2020)

### Partner benefits include:

- Advocacy on your behalf (region & sector)
- Professional development opportunities
- Connecting with people and opportunities
- Participating in regional initiatives/projects
- Receiving information (monthly e-news, info from national, state, regional and local sources)

### Partners per Town

Bozrah.....	2
Colchester.....	11
East Lyme.....	23
Franklin.....	2
Griswold.....	7
Groton.....	58
Lebanon.....	5
Ledyard.....	14
Lisbon.....	2
Lyme.....	1
Montville.....	7
New London.....	104
N. Stonington.....	6
Norwich.....	65
Old Lyme.....	23
Preston.....	7
Salem.....	7
Sprague.....	3
Stonington.....	65
Voluntown.....	1
Waterford.....	16
NL County.....	3
Outside NLC.....	114
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>546</b>

## Cultural Connections

All registered Partners are included in the online Directory, Cultural Connections.



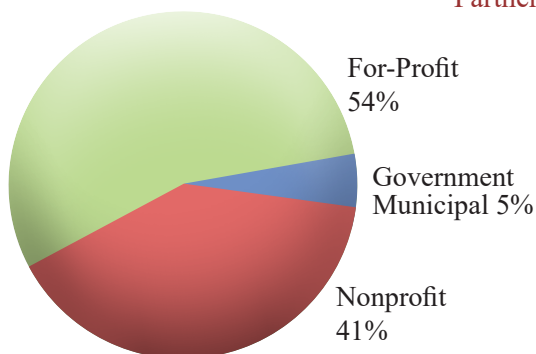
Partners and the public can find and connect with arts and cultural resources by keyword search, by primary category, by town, or by specific tags.

Photos, Partner website and Creative Ground link, NEFA's listing of creative enterprises and artists, is also included for each listing.

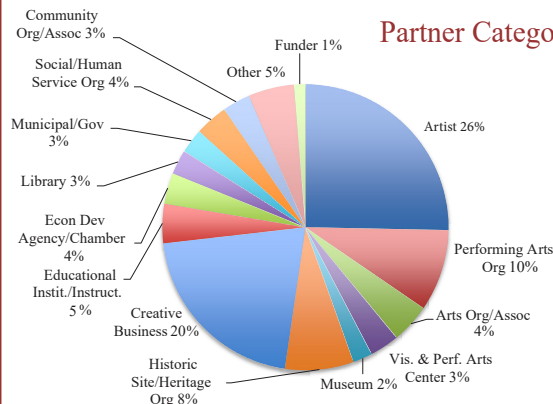


Primary categories on Cultural Connections

### Partner Type



### Partner Category





### FUNDING BOOSTER PROGRAM



Monthly drop-in grant clinics featured speakers who shared information about local, regional and state grant opportunities. A grant writer answered questions, provided best practices, and reviewed drafts resulting in successful grant awards, a first for some of the organizations.



### Federal Grant Forum



Co-hosted with the Office of Joe Courtney, at the Lyman Allyn Art Museum, the Cultural Coalition brought together representatives from the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities and the CT State Library to share information about Federal grant programs.

### RIISING TIDE REGIONAL ROUNDTABLES

The Cultural Coalition continued to facilitate meetings for professional development, information sharing, and fostering collaboration, including quarterly Museum Directors Roundtable, and monthly Arts in Health Roundtable.

### ARTS IN HEALTH COLLABORATIVE

A group of social service organizations led by the Cultural Coalition, worked to build awareness and support of an arts-based approach to health and wellness.



Group field trips to Mystic Aquarium, Lyman Allyn Art Museum and Florence Griswold Museum resulted in cost savings, enhanced programming, and increased accessibility to arts activities and venues.



The Collaborative also created a traveling public art exhibit "The Art of Healing," with each organization working with a professional artist who helped interpret and share the stories of healing, resiliency, and wellness. The diverse presentation included paintings, collage, video and journaling that traveled to five venues in Southeastern Connecticut during the summer. The project was featured in Artscope Magazine - New England's Premiere Culture Magazine.



## Supporting Our Partners

### Culture Connects



The fall social and networking event, co-hosted with the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT, was held on the campus of the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. Over 50 members of the region's creative community interacted with business associates and participated in facilitated ice-breakers.



### Calendar of Regional Events (CORE)

The CORE Calendar feature continues to be one of the most trafficked links on the Cultural Coalition website. Anyone can use this free calendar for finding, sharing, planning or promoting events.

### Assets for Artists Workshop



In partnership with the CT Office of the Arts, Southeastern Connecticut hosted Mass MoCA's Assets for Artists program facilitated by Dee Boyle-Clapp of the UMass Arts Extension Service. This free, annual professional development workshop is for artists to strengthen their financial and business capacity.

### Art at the Airport



The Cultural Coalition and Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA) feature local visual artists in quarterly public art exhibits at the Groton-New London Airport's main terminal. Students from New London's Interdistrict School for Arts and Communication (ISAAC) presented photos, video and websites in the winter exhibit: "Community Faces – Humanizing the Immigrant Label." The spring exhibition featured panels from "Brought to Light: Ellis Ruley in Norwich" developed by the Slater Museum. During the summer, posters and artwork by local artist and graphic designer Rita Rivera, owner of Love & Pop Designs, adorned the walls. The fall exhibit, "Open Spaces" featured the works of artists Susan MacKay, Liz McGee, Mark Patnode, and Susan Stafford celebrating Southeastern Connecticut's coastal vistas and landscapes.



### Regional Career Fair

Cultural Coalition staff provided information about careers in the creative sector to high school students during the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT's annual regional career fair.





## CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF THE ARTS

The Southeastern CT Cultural Coalition is one of nine Designated Regional Service Organizations (DRSOs) of the CT Office of the Arts (COA) to support the Department of Economic and Community Development. As a COA field office, the Cultural Coalition provides arts and cultural leadership to regional constituents and supports the state's creative economy.

## REGI Grant Awardees

The Department of Economic and Community Development, Connecticut Office of the Arts Regional Initiative (REGI) grant program, encourages and supports small arts projects (\$1,000-\$4,000) that are relevant to the community's current



society, culture and trends. The Cultural Coalition coordinated the local selection panel that reviewed the FY2020 REGI applications and provided recommendations for

the awards totaling \$21,500 to be distributed to six recipients in our region.

## Office of the Arts Workshops in SECT

The Cultural Coalition hosted two workshops for the CT Office of the Arts as part of their Creative Conversations program of Americans for the Arts. "Arts & Economic Development – Build Your Local Economy with Creativity" brought together municipal officials, economic development and planning practitioners to learn about best practices in arts-based community revitalization and place-making across the nation and in Connecticut.



"ADA: Principles and Practices for Arts Administrators" presented in partnership with Shoreline Arts Alliance and co-hosted by the Florence Griswold Museum, focused on the Americans with Disabilities Act structure and provided participants with information on applying ADA in the evaluation of their own programs and services.

## COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Cultural Coalition is the arts and cultural liaison to the Southeastern CT Council of Governments (SECCOG) providing an update from our sector at the monthly meeting of municipal CEOs.

## MUNICIPAL SUPPORT

The Cultural Coalition works directly with municipalities to provide a range of support that meet the needs and goals of the municipality. Mayors/First Selectmen, town councils, economic development staff/commissions, and project managers have called on the Cultural Coalition for various roles including, advisory and strategic partnership, project facilitation and community conveners. In addition to work with the Town of Groton and City of New London mentioned below, the Cultural Coalition consulted with Town of North Stonington and Town of Stonington to begin to develop plans for future cultural districts.



Convened Community Conversations to discuss the formation of a New London Arts Council with the City and arts community



Assisted the Groton Beautification Committee in identifying and prioritizing areas to enhance safety and aesthetics in their town.

## Arts and Culture Awards

As part of the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut's annual meeting, the Cultural Coalition honored Otis Library as "Outstanding Arts and Cultural Organization" and Dominion Energy - Millstone Power Station as "Outstanding Business Supporter of Arts and Culture." The recipients were presented with engraved original works of art by local artist Jeffrey P'an.



## Donors, Grants & Sponsors

### Supporting Cast

Members of the Supporting Cast are part of the region's ensemble helping the Cultural Coalition with a three-year commitment to AMPLIFY our voice for the cultural sector, our programs and services, and our impact.

### Patrons

(\$2,500 - \$4,999/year)

Robert G. Youngs Family Foundation, Inc.

### Ambassadors

(\$1,000 - \$2,499/year)

Anonymous

Connecticut College

Tom & Marcia Marien

Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center

Lorna Pulver

### Stewards

(\$500 - \$999/year)

Conway, Londregan, Sheehan & Monaco, P.C.

Eugene O'Neill Theater Center

Morgan & Lisa McGinley

Mystic Seaport Museum

Robert A. Richter

### Friends

(\$300 - \$499/year)

Anonymous

Nadinia Ballestrini

Daniel & Kathryn Brandl

Tom Dittmeier

Florence Griswold Museum (new)

Lyman Allyn Art Museum

Robert Mills

Mystic Knotwork, LLC

Bob & Nita Ross

Saybrook Point Resort & Marina (new)

Keith Turner

### 2019 Donors

Anonymous

Caleb Bailey & Sarah Baker

Kia Baird

Dara Blackstone

Borough of Stonington

Kathy Calnen & Michael McKinley

Collins & Jewell Company Inc.

Marie-Ann Coravell

Lee Cornish-Muller

Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation

Carrie Dyer

East Lyme Historical Society

Eaton Vance Distributors

Essex Steam Train & Riverboat

Eric Garofano

Goodspeed Musicals

Government Relations Consulting, LLC

Shiela Hayes

Fritz Jellinghaus

Lavender Design

Carol Androccio Lewitt

Gail and Bruce MacDonald

David Madacsi

Andrea Marcille

Linda Mariani

Mariani & Reck Lane, LLC

Matt McCauley & Ashby Carlisle

Jane and Daniel Meiser

Jeanne Milstein & JoAnn Church

Mohegan Tribe \*

Muddy Waters Cafe

Norwich Free Academy

Joanne Paradis

Patricia McManus, LLC \*

Barbara Phillips & Richard White

Daniel Potter & Marya Ursin

Putnam Bank

Quicksilver Communication

Lori Robishaw

Nishant Sahoo

Tony & Peggy Sheridan

Sideways Studio

Stonington Community Center

Town of Ledyard

Town of Stonington

Preston Whiteway

Karin Forde Whittemore & Peter Kepple

Emily Williams and Lee Cole-Chu

*\*In-kind donation*

*Thank you also to donors who have supported us online through **Facebook Fundraiser/Network for Good** and **AmazonSmile Foundation** programs.*



### 2019 Matching Gifts

Bank of America Employee Giving  
Charter Oak Federal Credit Union  
Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation

### 2019 Grants

Chelsea Groton Bank Foundation  
Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut  
Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation  
Edward and Mary Lord Foundation  
ForGood Fund  
Frank L Palmer FD TR, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee  
Make Music Alliance Inc.  
Robert G. Youngs Family Foundation, Inc.  
State of CT Office of the Arts/Department of  
Economic and Community Development

### 2019 Sponsors

Atlantic Broadband  
Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT  
Charter Oak Federal Credit Union  
Chelsea Groton Bank  
Expresiones Cultural Center Inc.  
Garde Arts Center  
Norcom Mortgage  
Spindrift Guitars  
Yale New Haven Health/Lawrence +  
Memorial Hospital

## Make Music Day

In Southeastern Connecticut, the annual Make Music Day on June 21, 2019 featured more than 120 live, free performances. From Norwich, Colchester and East Haddam to Old Lyme, New London, Groton to Ledyard, Stonington and more, individual musicians and groups shared their time and talents. In its second official year in Connecticut, the celebration grew in our region with performances and activities coordinated by Make Music New London and Make Music Old Lyme, and new multi-performance venues such as Groton Family Farm, Mashantucket Pequot Museum, and Mystic Naik YMCA.



A. Vincent Scarano Photographer



A. Vincent Scarano Photographer



A. Vincent Scarano Photographer



A. Vincent Scarano Photographer

Make Music Southeastern CT is part of Make Music Day, a global music celebration held on the summer solstice each year that brings people of all ages and skill levels together to share music in free public performances. Make Music Day began in France in 1982 as the Fete de la Musique and has spread to over 1,000 cities across 120 countries.

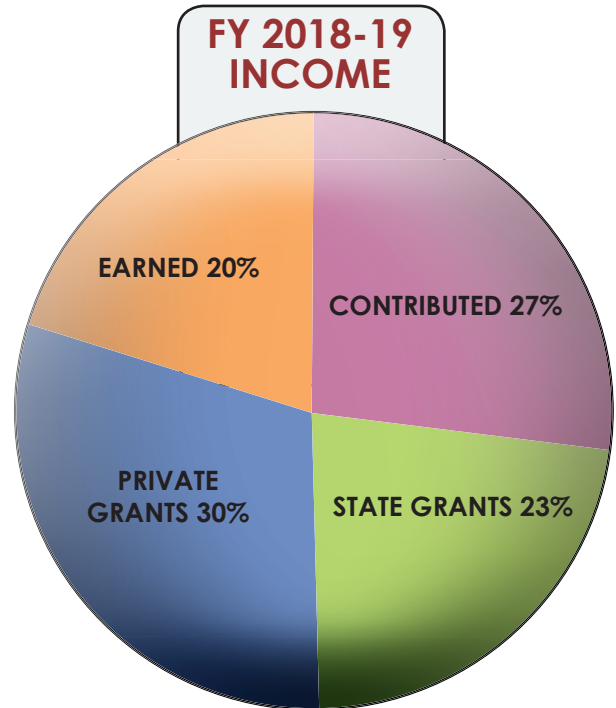
## Financial Overview

2019 was the Cultural Coalition's sixth year of operations. With two full-time staff, and an office at the Foundry 66 co-work space in Norwich, our major expenses are our personnel and administrative costs.

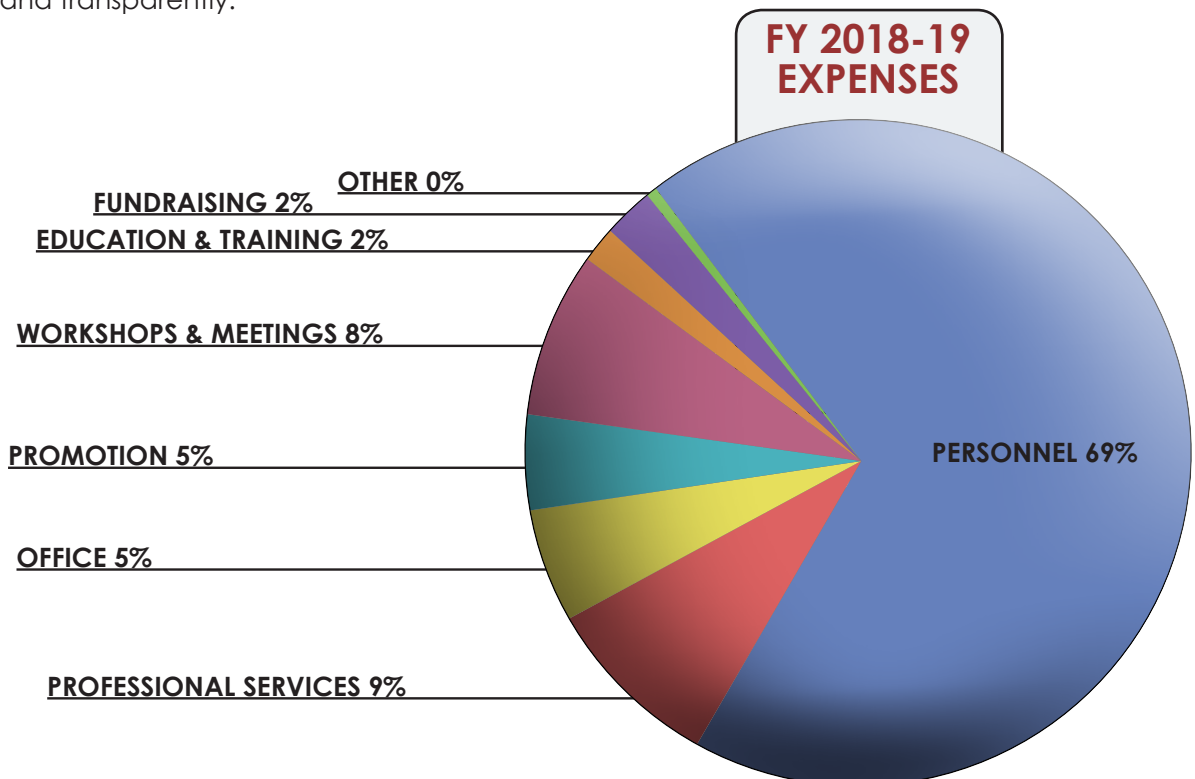
We are grateful to numerous donors, sponsors, and Supporting Cast members for their support and to businesses for their in-kind donations of services. Reflecting the Board of Directors' belief that the Coalition ensures concomitant growth of resources to advance our mission, including personnel, financial resources and facilities, our goal is to financially invest in the future.

Our largest grants come from the CT Office of the Arts/Department of Economic and Community Development to deliver services as the Regional Service Organization for southeastern Connecticut, the ForGood Fund, and the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut.

The Southeastern Connecticut Cultural Coalition is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. We pursue our mission with financial conservatism and transparency. The Coalition is committed to the highest level of integrity in its administrative, service and outreach activities; and we maintain records accurately and transparently.



*\*Deferred revenue as of 06/30/19 was \$51,970*



## Board of Directors

### Chair

Nancy Bulkeley - Senior Community Affairs Representative, Dominion Energy (Waterford)

### Vice Chair

Keith Turner - Mortgage Loan Representative, Homestead Funding (New London)

### Treasurer

Captain Wes Pulver (Ret. USCG) - President, National Coast Guard Museum (New London)

### Secretary

Dan McMahon – Director of Marketing and Public Relations, Goodspeed Musicals (East Haddam)

### Chair of Governance Committee

Nishant Sahoo – Financial Advisor, Devoe/Schrage/Sahoo and Associates – Merrill Lynch (Stonington)

Caleb Bailey – Executive Director, Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra (New London)

Carrie Dyer – Chief Operating Officer, Reliance Health, Inc. (Norwich)

Jose Garaycochea-Ulloa – Executive Director, Expressiones Cultural Center (New London)

Eric Garofano – Attorney, Conway, Londregan, Sheehan & Monaco, P.C. (New London)

Kolton Harris – Artistic Director, Writer's Block InK, Inc. (New London)

Captain Andrea Marcille (Ret. USCG) – President, U.S. Coast Guard Academy Alumni Association (New London)

Chandler Smith – Associate Producer, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center (Waterford)

*Cultural Coalition Board meetings are open to visitors and held at various locations across the region. If you would like to attend, we encourage you to do so. You may contact Wendy Bury at (860)448-5135 to obtain meeting location and/or be put on the agenda if desired.*

## Advisory Council *(established in 2018)*

Lisa McGinley – Retired, Deputy Managing Editor, The Day (New London)

Julie Menders – Community Engagement and Adult Programming Coordinator, Otis Library (Norwich)

Robert Mills – President, Norwich Community Development Corporation (Norwich)

Robert Richter – Director of Arts Programming, Connecticut College (New London)

Robert Ross – Executive Director, Connecticut Office of Military Affairs (Hartford/Groton)

Steve Sigel – Executive Director, Garde Arts Center (New London)

Steve White – President, Mystic Seaport Museum (Stonington)

Christopher Zendan – (Groton)



*The Cultural Coalition's Board member "House Band" entertains at the Garde's Oasis Room and Advisory Council member Steve Sigel showcases his fiddle talents at a Cultural Coalition fun-raiser.*

## Staff

Wendy Bury, Executive Director

Deb Mathiasen, Assistant Director

Please contact Wendy Bury, Exec. Dir., if your name has been inadvertently omitted or misspelled in this report: [W.Bury@CultureSECT.org](mailto:W.Bury@CultureSECT.org) and (860)448-5135.





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