

CULTURAL COALITION

serving southeastern & northeastern CT

2023

CULTURAL COALITION ACTIVITIES	CREATIVE COMMUNITY* <i>Businesses (nonprofit/for profit)</i> <i>Artist Specific</i>		MUNICIPAL - TOWNS & CITIES	NON-ARTS ENTITIES SUPPORTING CREATIVE COMMUNITY	NORTHEAST REGION (NER)
SERVICES					
Advocacy—Local, State including partnership with CT Arts Alliance & National	X	X			X
Designated Regional Service Organization (DRSO) for CT Office of the Arts/DECD—southeast & northeast CT CT Humanities—Eastern CT Regional Support	X	X	X		X
Representation & Strategic Partnerships with: Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut Southeastern CT Enterprise Region (SeCTer) Southeastern CT Council of Governments (SECCOG) Chambers of Commerce Connecticut Main Street Center	X		X	X	X
Professional Development Partnerships with: Assets for Artists/MASS MoCA Women’s Business Development Council	X	X			X
Research & Data Arts & Economic Prosperity 6 Report (AEP6)	X		X	X	X
Monthly E-News & What You Need to Know Today	X	X	X		X
Cultural Connections—Directory of SECT Arts & Culture	X	X		X	
C.O.R.E. Calendar (Calendar of Regional Events)	X			X	X
Municipal Services Advising, Consulting & Support for: Plans of Conservation & Development Public Art Projects Cultural Districts ARPA Municipal Funds for Arts & Culture Municipal Profiles Regional Report			X		X
Grant Programs (as funding allows)	X	X			
Fiscal Agent/Sponsor Service (case by case basis)	X	X			X
PROGRAMS					
Rising Tide Series Executive Directors/CEO Roundtable Regional Roundtables (by topic, location, category)	X	X			X
Funding Booster Program Monthly Drop-in Clinics Professional grant writer consultation services Getting Started with Grants Training (annual) Take the Leap to Federal Funding with NEA (annual) Grantmakers & Funders Panel (annual)	X	X			X
Arts in Health Collaborative	X			X	
Art at the Airport	X	X		X	X
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Anti-Racism	X	X			X
EVENTS					
Culture Connects (spring & fall)	X	X		X	X
Make Music Day—June 21st (annual)	X	X	X	X	
Legislative Breakfast/Briefing (annual)	X		X		X
Arts & Culture Outlook (annual)	X	X	X	X	X
Thrive! 2024 and mini-Thrive! events	X	X			X
TEAM SUPPORT					
Northeast CT Region Arts & Culture Coordinator	X	X			X
Norwich Arts & Culture Coordinator	X	X	X		
Outreach & Community Impact Coordinator	X	X		X	X

DESCRIPTIONS *(alphabetical order)*

- Advocacy** – Raising awareness of key issues, distributing alerts, and providing education about impacts on the arts & cultural sector.
- ARPA Municipal Funds for Arts & Culture** – Supporting cities & towns who have committed funds to local arts & culture recovery via technical support and recommendations that will address priority needs and meet the goals of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).
- Arts & Culture Outlook** – An annual event for the creative community, municipal & community leaders to hear updates from the Cultural Coalition, regional & state leaders on upcoming key topics, regional & statewide initiatives, legislative and advocacy issues.
- Arts & Economic Prosperity Report (AEP)** – The Cultural Coalition facilitates local data collection from nonprofit arts & cultural organizations in southeast and northeast CT, including 1,200 audience surveys. Conducted by Americans for the Arts, the study's final report provides regional economic impact of arts & cultural nonprofits, including revenue to local & state governments, jobs supported, household income, audience demographics & audience spending. AEP5 was issued in 2017 & AEP6 will be reported in fall of 2023.
- Art at the Airport** – In partnership with the Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA), the Cultural Coalition provides a free and accessible public art program at Groton–New London Airport, featuring exhibits by visual artists showcasing the region's uniqueness, history, industry, culture and geography. Groton Public Library offers exhibit-related public programs, lectures and activities.
- Arts in Health Collaborative** – 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. The group coordinates resources for cost savings and enhanced programming, peer-to-peer professional development, and increase accessibility to arts activities and venues.
- Assets for Artists** – MASS MoCA's Assets for Artists program offers free professional development workshops for artists to strengthen their financial and business capacity. Also works with Cultural Coalition as an ARPA Grant Professional Development Cohort partner.
- CORE Calendar (Calendar of Regional Events)** – Free, multi-agency, shared calendar of events in partnership with other regional organizations including the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT, seCTer, and The Day.
- *Creative Community** – individuals & entities that participate in arts, culture, history or creative pursuits.
- Cultural Districts** – The Cultural Coalition provides support for municipalities interested in forming a Cultural District, including information about the community input session(s), application processes and goals for designating an area as a Cultural District.
- Culture Connects** – Social and networking event with facilitated ice-breakers attended by the region's creative community.
- Cultural Connections** – Online directory of registered Cultural Coalition Partners/members in Southeast CT. This resource can be used to find and connect with arts and cultural resources by searches on keyword, primary category, town, or specific tags.
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Anti-racism** – Regional trainings and conversations with and for those engaged in the work of redesigning policies and operations from a diverse, equitable, inclusive and anti-racist lens, including the Cultural Coalition.
- Fiscal Agent/Sponsor Service** – The Cultural Coalition provides information and guidance about launching a new creative business. Fiscal sponsorship allows independent artists or small businesses to solicit and receive grants, donations, etc. via the Cultural Coalition, before federal nonprofit status is received. Evaluated on a case by case basis as capacity and/or grant/sponsorship criteria allows.
- Funding Booster Program** – 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 grant clinics, workshops, resources and technical support to improve the region's ability to capitalize on funding opportunities at all levels.
- Grant Programs** – As funding allows, the Cultural Coalition offers grant funding to the creative community (nonprofit & for-profit businesses & individual artists) in our region. Eligibility, application process, & timeline are specific to each grant/subgrant opportunity.
- Legislative Breakfast/Briefing** – The Cultural Coalition hosts an annual event for the creative community and the public to hear from and interact with state legislators prior to the start of the legislative session.
- Make Music Day** – The Cultural Coalition plans, coordinates, and markets more than 100 live, free music performances across the region as part of the annual Make Music Day SECT. This global music celebration held on the summer solstice, June 21, each year in more than 1,000 cities in 120 countries, brings people of all ages and skill levels together to share music in free public performances.
- Municipal Services** – The Cultural Coalition offers consulting and project support for Mayors and First Selectmen, town councils, economic development departments & commissions, committees and project managers. Program includes support for establishing Cultural Districts, updating Plan of Conservation & Development, and obtaining Sustainable CT certification. Assisting with ARPA Municipal Funds for Arts & Culture continues in 2023. Planning to compile and issue an annual Municipal Profiles Regional Report.
- Northeastern CT Region Arts & Culture Coordinator** – The Cultural Coalition's liaison to the northeast region, working to assess the arts & cultural landscape, respond to unique needs, and extend Cultural Coalition's programs and services to the creative community.
- Outreach & Community Impact Coordinator** – The Cultural Coalition's point of contact to identify, connect with, and support arts & cultural entities not currently being served by the Cultural Coalition, especially BIPOC creative community members in eastern CT.
- Rising Tide Series - Regional Roundtables** – The Cultural Coalition facilitates regular meetings for professional development, information sharing, and fostering collaboration, including Exec.Directors/CEOs, Northeast Region and Arts in Health Collaborative. Peer roundtables may include convenings by topic (i.e. marketing, program managers, artists) or location (rural, neighboring towns).
- THRIVE!** – Cultural Coalition's biennial conference to share, learn and celebrate the creative community. The format includes: information tables, panels discussions, and professional development breakout sessions featuring projects from across the region. After a 2 year postponement, THRIVE! 2022 was an in-person event held in December. An off-year Mini-THRIVE is being considered.
- Women's Business Development Council** – An ARPA Grant Professional Development Cohort partner that provides support through entrepreneurial and financial education services that create and grow sustainable jobs and businesses across Connecticut.