

# **Comptroller of Maryland Workgroup on Pandemic Spending**

**Maryland State Arts Council**

Steven Skerritt-Davis, Executive Director

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## Agency Overview

- Part of the Department of Commerce
  - 17 member appointed body, 18 staff
- Vision: MSAC plays an essential role ensuring every person has access to the transformative power of the arts.
- Mission: advance the arts in our state by providing leadership that champions creative expression, diverse programming, equitable access, lifelong learning, and the arts as a celebrated contributor to the quality of life for all the people of Maryland.

## Agency Overview

- FY22 Revenue
  - \$25,317,737 General Funds
  - \$1,300,000 Special Funds
  - \$1,651,600 Federal Funds\*
- 14 Grant Programs
  - ~\$25 million in regular grants
  - 700-800 grants annually
- Professional Development
  - FY21 - 238 free virtual professional development opportunities for 8,434 participants

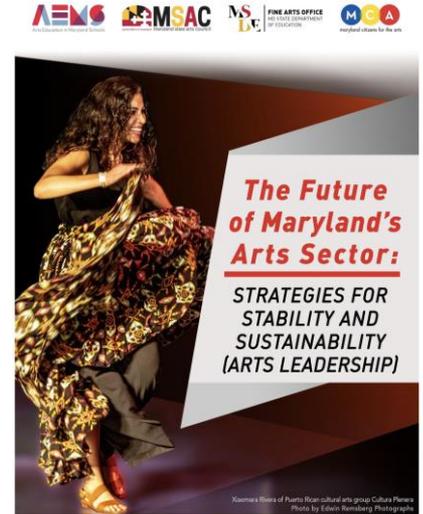
\*includes \$831,700 ARPA Funds

# What Happened

- March 2020 State of Emergency
- Effects on Maryland's Arts Sector
  - Performing Arts Venues and Independent Artists felt the effects especially hard
  - In total, Maryland Citizens for the Arts reports
    - Total economic loss of \$134 million
    - Loss in attendance of 15.2 million people
    - Drop in visitor spending of \$79.4 million
- Effects continued through the Omicron surge

# What MSAC Did

- Listening Sessions
- Information Sharing
- Maryland Arts Recovery Task Force
- Emergency Grant Program
- Virtual Professional Development



## Emergency Grants April 2020 - June 2021

5 rounds = \$12,126,824, 1,579 grants

- \$1M, 125 grants - 64 organizations, 61 artists
  - sources: National Endowment for the Arts, general funds
- \$3M, 222 grants - 131 organizations, 91 artists
  - source: CARES Act
- \$3M, 334 grants - 137 organizations, 197 artists
  - source: Maryland Strong: Economic Recovery Initiative
- \$126,824, 59 grants - 59 roster artists
  - source: general funds
- \$5M, 839 grants - 180 organizations, 659 artists
  - source: RELIEF Act

# Professional Development FY20 & FY21

- 273 free virtual professional development opportunities, approximately 10,500 participants
  - Listening Sessions
  - Coffee with the Executive Director (Council)
  - Envision Workshops
  - Creative Conversations
  - Regional Arts Summits
  - Maryland Arts Summit

# What We Learned

- The Arts Sector is Resilient!
  - Adaptation and Innovation



## What We Learned

- MSAC can pivot
  - Our structures are adaptable
  - We have to consider staff capacity



## What's Next

- Emergency Grants for Independent Artists Cont.
  - FY22 - 98 grants totalling \$178,000 July 21 – Jan. 22
- FY22 National Endowment for the Arts ARPA
- Focus on Artist Employment
- Potential State ARPA Funding



**Thank you!**

**Maryland State Arts Council**

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