

Creative Workers and Cultural Groups in MA lost \$500M since March 2020



The Cultural Sector is Key to Our Economic Recovery and Renewal

- Arts and Culture deliver \$25.8B in value to the Commonwealth's economy - more than retail, construction and agriculture.¹
- In 2017, compensation to arts and cultural workers totaled \$12.4B in Massachusetts.²
- Tourism is the third largest industry in the Commonwealth³ and cultural organizations power the tourism economy across the Commonwealth.⁴
- Cultural programs and creative services contribute to community cohesion,⁵ combat isolation⁶ and support young people's learning and growth.⁷

The Cultural Sector is in Crisis

- Nonprofit cultural organizations reported \$483M in lost revenue since COVID-19 arrived in MA.⁸
- Nationally, independent live venues reported nearly \$9B in lost revenue since last year.⁹
- Reopening costs for organizations are estimated at \$116.8M.¹⁰
- MA Artists and creative workers lost \$20M in personal income.¹¹
- It will take an estimated 25.5 months to full recovery of nonprofit arts, entertainment and recreation jobs.¹²
- The Mass Cultural Council received 424 applications requesting \$30M for the \$10M Cultural Organization Economic Recovery Grant program in December.¹³

Without significant stability funding, the cultural sector will not survive the prolonged shutdown.

Please Cosponsor SD.2105: An Act to Rebuild the Commonwealth's Cultural Future

- Leverages Federal Dollars: the COVID-19 Cultural Economy Relief Grant program, will be funded from any future eligible Federal COVID-19 Relief State and Local Aid.
- Strategizes Economic Recovery: grant awards will prioritize impact on job creation and tourism spending prior to the pandemic.
- Meets Sector Immediate Need: grants can be used for payroll and benefit costs, mortgage interest, rent and utilities.
- Benefits the Entire Cultural Sector: nonprofit cultural organizations, arts businesses as well as individual artists and creative workers are eligible.
- Incentivizes Adaptation and Innovation: grants can be used for programmatic adaptation, technology and infrastructure costs for safe reopening.
- Centers Equity: grant awards will consider racial diversity and equity, diversity of programming and geography.

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Sources

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