

MISSISSIPPI ARTS COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT FY2021



Who We Are

The Mississippi Arts Commission is a state agency serving nearly three million people through grants and special initiatives that enhance communities, assist artists and arts organizations, promote and facilitate arts education, and celebrate Mississippi's cultural heritage. MAC receives funding through the National Endowment for the Arts, the Mississippi Legislature, and private sources.

Economic Impact of the Arts

According to a 2019 study (the latest data available) by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, arts and cultural production accounts for \$2,506,142,000 and 2.2% of the Mississippi economy, contributing 24,697 jobs.



24,697
Jobs



2.2%
Share of Total MS GDP



\$2.5B
Value Added to MS Economy

Supporting the Arts through Grants

FY2021 Grants to Artists, Organizations & Schools

255
Grants

\$1.2M
Funds Awarded

87
House Districts

49
Senate Districts

Does **not include COVID-19-related grant funding.*

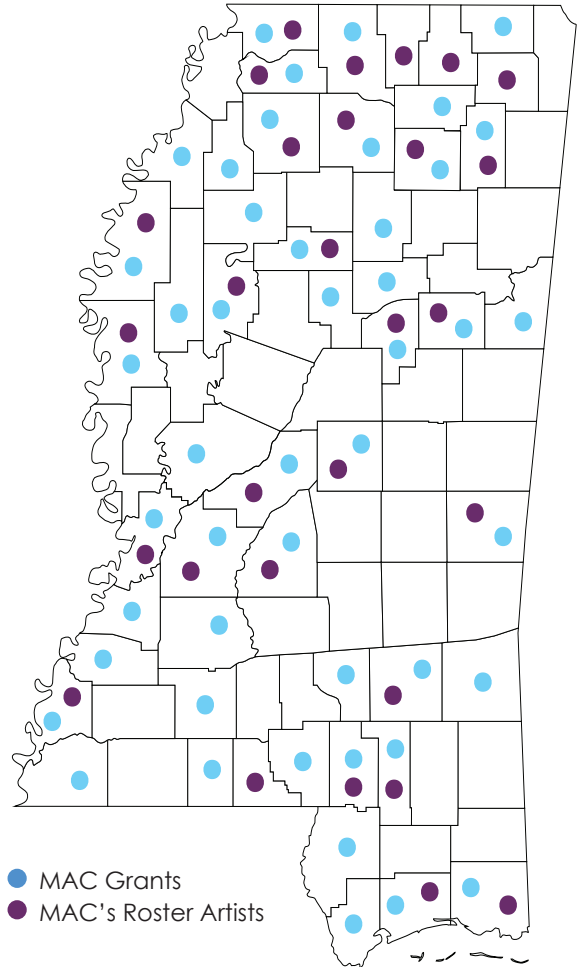
Grants to Organizations



Project Grants of up to \$5,000 fund a broad range of arts projects to municipalities, libraries, nonprofits and schools.

Minigrants for Organizations of up to \$1,000 help fund professional development and artist performances.

Operating Grants of up to \$30,000 help nonprofit arts organizations maintain financial stability and improve programming.



Grants to Individuals



Artist Fellowships of up to \$5,000 are awarded for artists achieving a high standard of artistic merit.

Folk Arts Apprenticeships of up to \$2,000 allow master traditional artists to work with emerging artists in their discipline to pass down expertise.

Artist Minigrants of up to \$500 to support professional development, promotional materials, or supplies.



Artist Roster

MAC's **Artist Roster** is a juried listing of nearly 100 artists and educational professionals who are available to perform or present their artform in communities around the state.

Communicating the Story of the Arts in Mississippi

115K Website Hits



Strategic Plan Pillar 1: Expand MAC's role as a catalyst and public supporter of the arts.

Governor's Arts Awards, an annual event produced by MAC since 1988, honors outstanding artists, organizations and celebrates Mississippi's cultural legacy. Recipients in 2021's broadcast-only event included Arthur Jafa, Nellie McInnis, Raphael Semmes, Tutwiler Quilters, Jesmyn Ward, and Benjamin Wright.

MAC, along with its partners, unveiled one new **Mississippi Writers Trail** marker in FY2021 honoring Anne Moody in Centreville.

Gov. Tate Reeves named Catherine Pierce as Mississippi's new **Poet Laureate** in April 2021. An accomplished poet and English professor at Mississippi State University, Pierce will serve as the official state poet for a term of four years.

Mississippi Arts Hour is a weekly arts interview radio show produced in partnership with Mississippi Public Broadcasting. In FY2021, MAC featured 50 artists on the broadcast including Mac McAnally, Cary Hudson, Aimee Nezhukumatathil, and Alexis McGrigg.

Mississippi Folklife is an online journal dedicated to present-day folk and traditional arts in the state. In FY2021, six online essays were published.

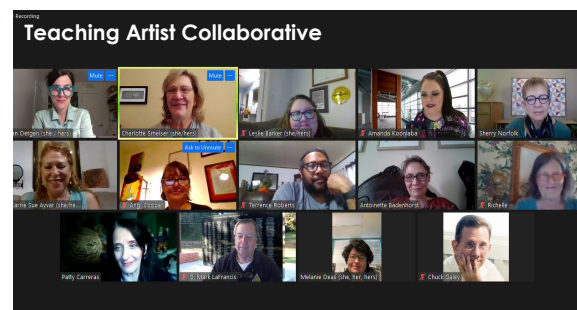
Convening & Offering Professional Development

260+ State Arts Conference Registrants

Strategic Plan Pillar 2: Create opportunities to strengthen connections among artists and staff from cultural institutions.

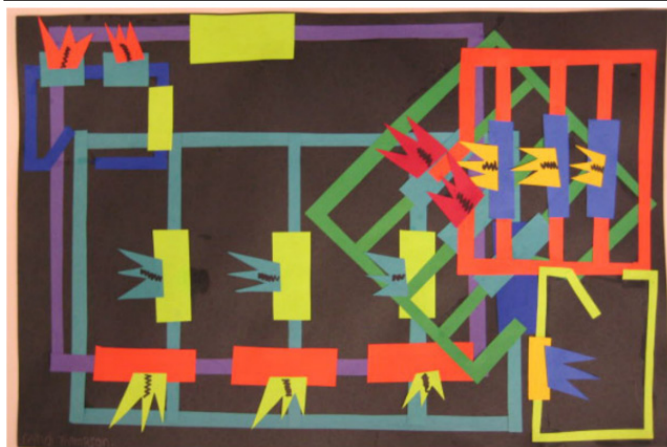
Through the pandemic, MAC continued to offer opportunities for professional development and convening, often through virtual platforms. The annual **Statewide Arts Conference** was held virtually in FY2021 with more than 260 registrants.

MAC also formed the **Arts Industry Network** and **Teaching Artist Collaborative** during the pandemic as a way to provide a networking opportunities and professional development for these groups.



Invigorating & Expanding Lifelong Learning through the Arts

13K Students benefit from MWS



This artwork, created by an MWS student, is the result of a project where students designed their own working circuit.

Strategic Plan Pillar 3: Continue MAC's commitment to arts education and arts integration.

Mississippi Whole Schools is MAC's statewide arts education program. In FY2021, 29 schools participated in the program, benefiting 13,329 students. Hundreds of educators receive professional development in arts integration through the MWS Winter and Summer Institutes each year. MWS also launched a new website in FY2021 at mswholeschools.org.

Poetry Out Loud, a poetry recitation contest created by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, helps high school students master public speaking skills and learn about literature. In FY2021, the contest was held virtually for the first time with 947 Mississippi students participating.

Expanding and Diversifying Fiscal Resources

\$31K raised for Governor's Arts Awards 2021

Strategic Plan Pillar 4: Expand resource capacity beyond annual appropriations.

MAC regularly raises funds from private entities to support programs including **Mississippi Whole Schools**, **Governor's Arts Awards** and **Mississippi Writers Trail**. In FY2021, MAC raised more than \$31,000 for the Governor's Arts Awards.