

# BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES TAKES CREATIVITY

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## A state is only as strong and competitive as its communities.

- Communities compete for residents, a talented workforce, and investment.
- Workers are increasingly able to pick where they want to live.
- A robust creative sector is a competitive differentiator for Pennsylvania communities.

## When looking to capture attention, the quality of place makes a difference.

- Thriving arts and culture activities and amenities are natural attractors for visitors, residents, investment, and to incentivize relocation of talent critical to a community's prosperity.
- The creative sector not only raises the visibility of communities but also represents **the 4<sup>th</sup> largest sector for PA**, adding more than \$25 billion to our economy and employing more than 156,000.

## Did you know PA's creative sector GDP and employment numbers rank 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation?

- Creative sector assets are fundamental to prosperity, as many commonwealth communities—both rural and urban—face challenges related to business starts, population loss, and access to capital.
- The PCA is doing its part to connect PA communities with relevant tools and game-changing opportunities.

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## TOOLS TO HELP MAKE YOUR COMMUNITY COMPETITIVE

- [Creative Communities Initiative](#) – Jump start your quality of place with multi-year assistance up to \$100,000. Reactivate your main streets and commercial corridors, develop signature cultural events, or attract entrepreneurs and other key professional talent.
- [Pennsylvania Creative Business Loan Program](#) – Grow creative industries in your community with access to patient and flexible capital ranging from \$5,000 to \$250,000.
- [Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator Program](#) – Make your entrepreneurial ecosystem shine and attract and retain entrepreneurs in your community with access to free business development consultation and financial assistance for entrepreneurs up to \$2,000.
- [Grants for Arts Organizations and Arts Programs](#) – Ensure your community offers a variety of cultural amenities that enhance quality of life.

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## ABOUT THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The PCA's mission is to strengthen the cultural, educational, and economic vitality of Pennsylvania's communities through the arts.

- [Reaching all 67 counties.](#)
- [Focusing additional investment in communities](#) where the need for community and economic development is greatest.
- Securing additional [private sector](#) and [federal resources](#) for PA communities.

**Agency Mission**  
To strengthen the cultural, educational, and economic vitality of Pennsylvania's communities through the arts.

**Overarching Value: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**  
Promote equitable access for all Pennsylvanians to participate fully in a creative life and in the diverse forms of arts and culture in the commonwealth.

[arts.pa.gov](https://arts.pa.gov)