Community Arts Councils: Bringing a local focus to creativity and the arts

Community arts councils do so much for local communities, supporting the creative mindset that helps their communities thrive. As you can see from the map and list of organizations, these groups really cover our state in every region!

Importantly, the work community arts councils (CACs) do is specific to serving their local need—so they come in all shapes and sizes. Run entirely by volunteers or fully staffed, they range from full-blown arts centers, to providers of performance series and bookers, to gathering places for arts education classes—and whatever else needs to be done to support the unique needs of their areas. This allows CACs to be nimble, focusing on community identity, vitality and creative problem solving.

By Andrew Reinartz, Community Development Director, Arts South Dakota

Like many organizations, CACs have been innovating during the past year to find ways to serve their communities safely. With the Arts South Dakota community arts network, they have collaborated, shared successes, concerns and paths forward in uncertain times.

Please support your local arts groups, like these arts councils, as they work to support your communities. Think of what your life would be like without the many creative artists, performers, teachers, students and bold thinkers around you. We need the arts now more than ever! Find the full directory and contact info of these arts councils, or submit your organization to be added, at www.ArtsSouthDakota.org/Arts-Directory/.