

## CONTACT

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### **Our Southern Indiana RDA Urges Participation in READI Arts & Culture Webinar** *IEDC hosted Feb. 10 informational session on arts and culture funding*

Jeffersonville, Ind. — Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) encouraged artists, cultural organizations, nonprofits, local governments, and community partners across Southern Indiana to participate in an informational webinar focused on the READI Arts & Culture Initiative.

The webinar was hosted by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) on Tuesday, February 10, at 3 PM. The READI Arts & Culture Initiative was advanced under the leadership of Governor Mike Braun in partnership with the Indiana Arts Commission. The session provided an overview of the READI Arts & Culture grants program, including program goals, eligibility, application requirements, and evaluation criteria, and was intended to help potential applicants prepare projects for future funding opportunities.

“This initiative aligned directly with the work our region has been doing to elevate arts and culture as an economic driver,” said RDA Chair Dana Huber. “Southern Indiana has a strong foundation of creative assets, from historic downtowns and cultural districts to music, festivals, and public art and spaces. This program offered a path to turn those strengths into long-term regional impact.”

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation indicated it anticipated awarding READI 2.0 Arts & Culture Initiative funding to select projects across the state beginning in 2026. The Our Southern Indiana RDA shared this opportunity as part of its role as the regional convener for READI efforts across Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington counties. The webinar built on recent regional planning and engagement that emphasized arts and culture as essential components of economic development, tourism, talent attraction, and quality of place throughout Southern Indiana.

For more information about the READI Arts & Culture Plan and available resources, visit [IndianaREADI.com](http://IndianaREADI.com).

### **About Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority**

Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) is a regional economic development entity serving Clark, Floyd, Jefferson, Scott, and Washington counties. The RDA Board of Directors consists of five members appointed by the Boards of Commissioners of the five founding counties. Board members serve four-year terms and may be appointed to subsequent terms. The Board of Directors includes: Dana Huber, Chair, Huber's Orchard, Winery, & Vineyards and Starlight Distillery, Clark County; Chris Fordyce, Vice Chair, Agriculture and Banking, Washington County; Steve Meyer, Secretary-Treasurer, retired, Scottsburg High School, Scott County; Kevin Kellems, Business and Public Affairs Consultant, Jefferson County; Cory Cochran, Vice President at McRae Enterprises, Floyd County.

The RDA is administered by the River Hills Economic Development District, led by Executive Director Lisa Long. Together, the RDA and River Hills coordinate regional planning, investment, and implementation of the State of Indiana's Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI), advancing projects that strengthen economic opportunity and quality of life across Southern Indiana. Learn more at [oursoinrda.org](http://oursoinrda.org).