



# MISSOURI CITIZENS FOR THE ARTS ADVOCACY AGENDA

## FY27

Through creativity and shared experiences, the arts help Missourians build understanding, communication, and resilience — the foundations of strong, connected communities.

### NONRESIDENT PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE AND ENTERTAINERS' TAX

Required by statute (Section 143.183 RSMo), 60% of the Non-Resident Athletes and Entertainers Tax (A&E Tax) should be allocated to the Missouri Arts Council Trust Fund.

**FY25 Collections: \$40.9M**

**FY25 Allocation to the Missouri Arts Council: only \$10.1M (25%)**

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**60% required by statute is \$24.5M**

### MISSOURI NONPROFIT ARTS AND CULTURE ORGANIZATIONS GENERATE:

- ◆ \$1.725 billion in direct and associated economic activity
- ◆ 13,356 jobs

### IN FY27, MISSOURI CITIZENS FOR THE ARTS REQUESTS:

- ◆ \$24 million to the Missouri Arts Council Trust Fund.
- ◆ 10% of the A&E tax to four cultural partners:
  - Missouri State Library Networking Fund,
  - Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund
  - Missouri Public Broadcasting Corporation Special Fund
  - Missouri Historic Preservation Revolving Fund
- ◆ \$1 million to support the 2027 Missouri Fine Arts & Scholars Academy
- ◆ 100% funding in House and Senate districts

Complete information on requests is listed on the back.



# **MCA ADVOCACY AGENDA**

## **FY27**

The arts make Missouri a better place to live, learn, work, visit, and do business. Arts and cultural organizations are economic drivers that support good paying jobs, attract tourists, and grow the state's tax base.

### **MISSOURI ARTS COUNCIL**

Missouri Citizens for the Arts (MCA) requests that the Governor and Legislature invest in the arts by allocating \$24 million to the Missouri Arts Council Trust Fund. This would be a \$13.9 million increase to fund new and existing programs at the Missouri Arts Council. The Missouri Arts Council supports hundreds of quality arts programs throughout the state of Missouri. Additional funds are needed to sustain current programming, target underserved districts, and support new initiatives.

### **A&E TAX CULTURAL PARTNERS**

MCA supports the current cultural partners distribution formula, which calls for each of the partners - Missouri State Library Networking Fund, Missouri Humanities Council Trust Fund, Missouri Public Broadcasting Corporation Special Fund, and the Missouri Historic Preservation Revolving Fund - to receive 10% of the A&E tax, as required by the statute.

### **ARTS EDUCATION IN MISSOURI SCHOOLS**

Missouri Citizens for the Arts and the Missouri Alliance for Arts Education believe that Missouri's PK-12 students deserve access to quality education in the fine arts - music, visual-arts, theatre, media arts, and dance. In addition to its intrinsic value, arts education stimulates compassion and empathy, develops problem-solving and critical thinking skills, and improves academic performance in other disciplines.

- MCA and the Missouri Alliance for Arts Education support fully funding the school foundation formula and transportation fund.
- MCA and the Missouri Alliance for Arts Education recommend that legislation supporting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) be expanded to include the Arts (STEAM).

### **MISSOURI FINE ARTS ACADEMY**

Missouri Citizens for the Arts is requesting \$1 million to support the 2027 Missouri Fine Arts Academy (MFAA), a two-week summer residential program at Missouri State University for highly motivated high school students who study visual arts, theatre, dance, creative writing, and music. The funding will ensure that students of limited financial means can participate.

### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS**

MCA supports state funding for capital improvement projects for arts and cultural facilities in Missouri.