Community Partnership for Arts and Culture

CPAC is a nonprofit with a mission to strengthen, unify and connect greater Cleveland’s arts and culture. Research is a core component of our work, and one of many ways we support arts and culture. CPAC provides counsel related to public policy that benefits the sector and the broader community. It provides a number of tools through cultureforward.org and mycreativecompass.org for arts and culture professionals and those who would like to engage with them. CPAC also carries out a variety of programs and services that help build the sector’s organizational and business practices to support a vibrant, thriving greater Cleveland.

www.cultureforward.org

Culture Pulse

an annual checkup on arts and culture nonprofits in Cuyahoga County

March 2013

The rhythmic beat of a drum builds tempo and helps drive a song’s momentum forward. A beat is counted and occurs with regularity throughout a song just as a person’s pulse rate can be monitored as a basic measure of health. Like the beat in a song or the rate of a pulse, regular measurement of indicators helps to track our arts and culture sector’s health and momentum.

In Culture Pulse, Community Partnership for Arts and Culture (CPAC) leveraged 2009-2011 data from the Ohio Cultural Data Project on a sample of 93 arts and culture nonprofits in Cuyahoga County. Through this analysis, CPAC has gained a deeper understanding of their financial, human capital and infrastructure health. Cuyahoga County’s arts and culture sector is an extraordinary asset, and careful examination will help to sustain its strength.

The highlights in this report illuminate the ways in which the sector is responding to and evolving with community-wide changes and shifting priorities.
Growth in the number of arts and culture nonprofits accelerated during the period following 1950. Strategies being implemented by funders like the Ford Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts were key contributors to this growth.

In 2011, 3,444 full and part-time employees earned a total of $110,024,035. Volunteers contributed $8,022,177 in payroll taxes.

City, state, federal, and foundation support has decreased. While the sector has seen an increase in individual and board support, city, state, federal, and foundation support has decreased.

Endowments have risen by $184.2 million to a total of $1.1 billion in 2011.