



We, the arts and creative community of the Pikes Peak region, DECLARE that...

We are powerful together and our voices matter.
We commit to speaking up and wielding our influence to **CHAMPION CREATIVE INTERESTS** in local and regional decisions.

OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN REACH:

KEY:  IMPLEMENTATION TACTIC

 EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION FOCUS

1. Develop a multi-year advocacy and public relations plan to incrementally build the case for public funding for the arts.
2. Support statewide and national arts advocacy efforts.
3. Develop specialized rosters of qualified artists to encourage contractors, developers, business/building owners and event planners to hire more local artists and creatives.
 -  a. Conduct a biennial “request for qualifications” to verify quality and accuracy of information in the listings.
 -  b. Promote the roster to potential consumers of artistic works and programs.
4. Position artists and arts leaders to be informed and sought-after contributors in development decisions about the region’s growth and future.
 -   a. Promote and support diverse arts leaders as policy makers, political leaders and board members.
 -  b. Formalize creative sector representation on boards and committees across the region so the arts don’t miss out on opportunities, funding, and decision making.

OPPORTUNITIES TO REACH FOR:

1. Hire an arts and development advocate to engage with the development community to encourage and facilitate art in public places, creative placemaking, and employment of local artists, designers, and vendors.
-  2. Hire a dedicated arts political advocate for the region to support a robust advocacy program.
 -   a. Designate and facilitate inclusive coalitions of arts advocates to address the many issues that affect artists, creatives, and arts entities, with emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion. Important issues include equitable distribution of public art throughout the region, affordable/attainable housing, living wage, transportation access, workforce development, displacement, etc.
 -  b. Develop white papers and political platforms to distribute to city and town councils and political leadership about the importance of the arts in the area.
 -  c. Develop “talking points” during election time and make these available to all politicians, board members and general public regardless of affiliation.
 -  d. Collect data that captures the economic activity of creative industries and distribute the information regularly.
 -  e. Centralize access to current research and reports on creative sector topics.