

The Arts Affirm Life

In a democratic society, government has an important role in supporting culture and arts as a benefit for all people. The Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts provides leadership in promoting, preserving and perpetuating the diverse and unique culture and the arts for people of all ages throughout the State of Hawai'i, fulfilling government's role.



“ALL” SPEAKS TO ACCESS. Inclusiveness is an inherent value in a democratic society, and access is key to accomplishing that goal. The people of Hawai'i have demonstrated their desire to preserve and nurture the cultures that are the foundation of their heritage. Every person should have the opportunity to develop their mind and spirit; for this they need the stimulus of good music, vital drama, lively visual arts, and other challenging cultural experiences.

THE LEGACY of Hawai'i has been retold in chants and stories, while the spectrum of music and dance portray our unique heritage and harmony of cultures. We have overcome biases of what makes an artist and what qualifies as art. In Hawai'i folk art is art. At a deeper level, it is the umbilical cord that connects each generation to the next as a valued legacy. Hawaiian kapa and quilts, Japanese shishu embroidery and taiko drumming, saddles and `ukulele, and other multi-ethnic traditions, honor our creative and industrious past.

THE FOUNDATION showcases artwork of excellence in the Hawai'i State Art Museum and all state buildings with access to everyone. Our state-of-the-art convention center features major works by Hawai'i artists, and also celebrates the creativity of our school-age children. Artwork at judiciary buildings and airport terminals celebrates our heritage and vision; our fortitude and ingenuity. Access to the arts has continuously raised standards of excellence. Access has also reconstructed the arts and cultural landscape by creating island-wide participation that spans from civic centers to rural communities, from the rich heritage of our past to contemporary innovations, and from generations of kūpuna to keiki.

IDEAS stimulated by creative concepts and inventions forged the new technological age and global economy. Creativity is the bridge that will carry us through the changes of this millennium and must be nurtured. Through arts and culture, we educate, enrich, and identify Hawai'i as the multi-ethnic, multi-cultural community that embraces creativity and adapts to each other's ideas.

GOVERNMENT must provide the necessary leadership to protect our island vitality, diversity and creativity. We treasure quality of life as a major asset in recruiting and retaining a skilled workforce, as well as attracting visitors and investments. The over arching goal for government is to safeguard the link between our common values and our common purpose, because as a society we value and thrive on creative and individual expression.

THE HAWAI'I STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS

The HSFCA stimulates the economy, strengthens communities, and supports creativity and innovation.

NATIONAL REPRESENTATION — The HSFCA represents Hawai'i in the national arts agenda set by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the United States Congress and administers federal grants to support arts and culture.

PUBLIC ACCESS — The HSFCA promotes physical and intellectual access to arts and culture to all citizens of Hawai'i.

HSFCA LEADERSHIP — The HSFCA enriches the lives of the people of Hawai'i by promoting and perpetuating culture and the arts through a wide range of programs: art in public places, arts in education, community arts, ethnic heritage and folk arts, foundation grants, history and humanities, literary arts, media arts, visual arts, and the performing arts. The HSFCA awarded grants to 109 projects in FY 2008.

EXCELLENCE — The HSFCA encourages artistic and professional excellence.

VISION — Hawai'i was the first state in the nation to adopt a "Percent for Art Law" and to establish a statewide "Artists-in-the-Schools" program.

The Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts was established by the Hawai'i State Legislature in 1965 as the official state agency charged with administering arts and cultural programming in Hawai'i.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

The HSFCA stimulates the economy and arts industry of Hawai'i through its grants, fellowships, commissions, and purchases of art.

The HSFCA

- Leverages federal, private, and other matching funds at more than 12:1
- Adds \$28.2 million to Hawai'i's economy thru arts programs
- Produces \$1,082,638 in taxable income thru employment in the arts
- Triples arts in education funding with non-HSFCA funds
- Builds dynamic public-private partnerships
- Supports more than 2,300 jobs through its Biennium Grants Program alone; more than 12,000 jobs are in arts-related businesses statewide
- Attracts audiences to the capital cultural district
- Generates the purchase of goods and services
- Supports the cultural infrastructure for our diverse communities and the State's tourism industry
- Enhances quality of life that attracts and retains a highly skilled workforce

SOCIAL IMPACT

The HSFCA strengthens communities and families through cultural heritage and the arts.

The HSFCA

- Celebrates and promotes cultural diversity
- Provides central leadership for the arts throughout the state
- Offers statewide access to the arts, reaching more than 1.5 million people annually
- Empowers grassroots opportunities through technical assistance
- Provides community outreach
- Brings the arts to urban and rural areas
- Preserves cultural heritage
- Promotes lifelong education in the arts
- Reaches more than 56,000 people from preschool to adults through arts education programs

CREATIVE IMPACT

The HSFCA supports creativity and innovation.

The HSFCA

- Encourages individuals of all ages to reach their creative potential
- Sets standards for artistic excellence
- Empowers a professional community of cultural specialists
- Nurtures perpetuation of cultural traditions and folk arts
- Provides a venue in the Hawai'i State Art Museum to showcase art and artists
- Makes artwork accessible to the public in State buildings
- Supports vital creative achievements
- Contributes to the development of a creative, competitive work force
- Facilitates innovation and creative solutions

EDUCATIONAL IMPACT

The HSFCA increases opportunities for arts education and arts experiences.

The HSFCA

- Leads a consortium of Arts Partners in implementing ARTS FIRST, a curriculum-based plan in arts education for all students
- Established the nation's first statewide Artists-in-the-Schools Program and doubled the program budget in FY 2009 through a public-private partnership with the Hawai'i Community Foundation
- Provides 219,029 students with arts education programs each year
- Develops instructional tools for classroom teachers using curriculum standards
- Builds self-esteem, strengthens identity and provides a channel for the pursuit of individual and collective goals

STATE COMMITMENT FOR THE ARTS

The Hawai'i State Constitution states:

CONSTITUTIONAL POLICIES

- The State shall have the power to conserve and develop objects and places of historic or cultural interest and provide for public sightliness and physical good order
- The State shall have the power to preserve and develop the cultural, creative and traditional arts of its various ethnic groups

The Hawai'i State Plan calls for (1) a strong and viable economy, (2) a desired physical environment, and (3) the physical, social and economic well being of its people.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STATE PLAN AS THEY RELATE TO THE HSFCA

- Foster an understanding by visitors of the aloha spirit and of the unique and sensitive character of Hawai'i's cultures and values
- Encourage visitor industry practices and activities which respect, preserve, and enhance Hawai'i's significant natural, scenic, historic, and cultural resources
- Enhance and promote Hawai'i's role as a center for international relations, trade, finance, services, technology, education, culture, and the arts
- Provide incentives to maintain and enhance historic, cultural, and scenic amenities
- Assure the availability of sufficient resources to provide for future cultural, artistic, and recreational needs
- Support educational programs and activities that enhance personal development, physical fitness, recreation, and cultural pursuits of all groups
- Promote educational programs which enhance understanding of Hawai'i's cultural heritage
- Foster and preserve Hawai'i's multi-cultural heritage through supportive cultural, artistic, recreational, and humanities-oriented programs
- Support activities and conditions that promote cultural values, customs, and arts that enrich the lifestyles of Hawai'i's people and which are sensitive and responsive to family and community needs
- Increase opportunities for appreciation and participation in the creative arts, including the literary, theatrical, visual, musical, folk, and traditional art forms
- Encourage the development of creative expression in the artistic disciplines to enable all segments of Hawai'i's population to participate in the creative arts



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