



Why You Should Support The Arts!

Julia Mitchell, Kylie Perron,
Aleena
Vega, and Anna Moquete

- We consulted both Jennifer Lagundino who works in arts administration and Flordelino Lagundino who works as a director, actor, and producer.
- Our purpose of creating this project is to educate the people of Boston on how well funded the arts programs are and to give an insight into what they are using their taxpayer dollars to fund in real time.
- The audience we intend to reach is 20-30-year-old taxpayers.
- Our stance towards the project is that more people need to be educated on why art funding is important. Also, how the funding is used in everyday life in order to provide art to kids who grow up in less fortunate communities.
- Our project is an infographic containing information on the amount of funding Boston schools and art programs receive that come from the taxpayer dollar. We want to acknowledge this and present why it is crucial that we keep funding these programs.
- Our rationale for choosing an infographic is that it will catch people's eyes while doing everyday tasks like walking or waiting at a bus shelter. We are targeting people participating in normalized activity and trying to educate them and further their thinking on the importance of art funding.

Why You Should Support The Arts!

1.) Art Allows For More Ingenuity

Art allows everyone to express themselves in different ways.

Professor Christianne Strang of Neuroscience at the University of Alabama Birmingham says, "**Creativity** in and of itself is **important for remaining healthy**, remaining **connected to yourself** and **connected to the world.**"

(Strang, Christianne "Feeling Artsy? Here's How Making Art Helps Your Brain" NPR npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/01/11/795010044/feeling-artsy-heres-how-making-art-helps-your-brain/)

Professor Girija Kaimal and researcher of art therapy of Drexel University says, "**Anything that engages your creative mind** – the ability to **make connections** between unrelated things and **imagine** new ways to communicate – **is good for you.**"

(Kaimal, Girija "Feeling Artsy? Here's How Making Art Helps Your Brain" NPR npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/01/11/795010044/feeling-artsy-heres-how-making-art-helps-your-brain/)

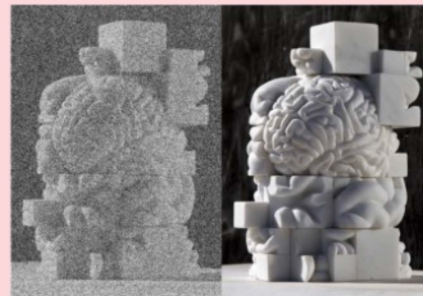


Chavez, Lopez, Silvia. Rise 2020. Boston. Public Mural <https://thesuffolkjournal.com/30055/ac/arts-campus-900-wall-murals-are-bringing-color-and-environmental-awareness-to-east-boston/>

2.) Art Allows For Better Academics

"In one four-year study done by **Johns Hopkins**, students [who were] motivated to practice a specific art form had **focused attention** which **increased the efficiency of their attention network** as a whole, even when working in other areas of study – and it **improved their fluid IQ scores.**"

(Hardiman, Mariale, Ed.D.; Magsamen, Susan; Mckhann, M.D.; Elber, Janet. "Neuroeducation: Learning Arts And The Brain" American For the Arts americansforthearts.org/by-program/reports-and-data/legislation-policy/naappd/neuroeducation-learning-arts-and-the-brain/)



Boyd, Ed Dr.; Váro, Márton; Domb, Paul. The Brain Sculpture 2019, Boston. streetinsider.com/Press-Release-Visual-Snow-Initiative-to-present-a-Varo-abstract-brain-sculpture-to-MIT-Neuroscientist-Ed-Boyd-for-his-support-to-advance-a-Visual-Snow-Syndrome-cure/15327701.html

3.) Art Allows For A Better Economy

Boston's art and culture sector is thriving and "[bring's in] a total of \$2 billion to the local economy annually".

"**ArtsBoston** a service organization along with **Bank of America** has direct[ly] infus[ed] **\$1.3 billion** into the **local economy**. **Arts, culture, and creativity** are **economic engines** for **Boston**, with **arts audiences** spending an adjacent additional **\$675 million** locally at restaurants, parking facilities, and other local **businesses**— **creating a \$2 billion** in total economic impact, **a 40% increase since 2014.**"

The **arts sector** creates over **30,000 jobs** by itself.

"**Local organizations** provided **9.8 million free admissions** to **arts and cultural events**, more than **2x** the population of greater **Boston.**"

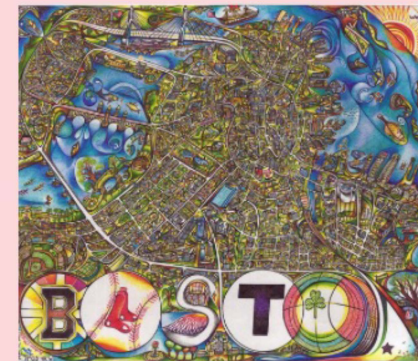
(ArtsBoston's The Arts Factor 2019 Report Finds Arts and Culture Bring \$2 Billion to Local Economy Annually." ArtsBoston, 21 May 2019. artsboston.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/TheArtsFactor2019_PressRelease_5-21.pdf.)

4.) Why Does This Benefit You?

The **arts are fundamental to shaping people's lives**. When engaging in the arts it allows people to open up their minds to new ideas and express themselves freely.

When you **provide money** for the any of the arts you are helping to **create a safe and inclusive cultural community** that **brings new jobs and businesses** into the area of **Boston**. **Your money** brings in **more foot-traffic, resources, and capital**. All these things **benefit Boston** and will **benefit you**.

Next time you see a question about **increasing the funding of the arts** vote **yes** because you will be helping your city of **Boston**.



DiNapoli, Jonathan. Boston Art Map. 2012, Boston. Map. fineartamerica.com/featured/boston-art-map-dino.html

Boston Public Schools Arts Festival

How your support of the
arts can be seen in the city
of Boston



Who?

Over **1,100 students** from **21** different
Boston schools participate

Why?



This festival allows **children of the Boston Public
School System** to exhibit their **artistic talents**

Since this initiative launched,
17,000 more children have had
access to the arts

This **festival** is one of the many
**examples of how taxpayers can
see how their funding is directly
aiding the children of Boston who
have a passion for the arts**



How Much Boston Spends on the Arts

Which District gets the Most Funding?

Some example of schools with more funding than others include the **Boston Latin Academy (BLA)** who receives **\$25,188,014**. The school used approximately **\$3,000** dollars into what is referred to as "services" or additional resources that would be provided for students. At the **Burke High School** the school was provided with **\$10,274,401**; they used **\$1,211,351** for the additional resources for the students. What is so drastic about these two schools are the types of classes provided. **The BLA provides multiple different forms of art** like music and theater. **The Burke High School does not offer as much variety** as BLA does for their students due to the lack of staff of them only having **one art teacher**

www.bostonpublicschools.org/cms/lib/MA01906464/Centricity/domain/184/budgetvisualization/index.html#/SchoolAllocationActivities/SchoolBySchool

What type of art programs are getting funded?

Boston International High School has gotten their theater program funded through the **Justice Playwriting Project** which gave them **\$5000** to "support a



Mosley, Tonya "Surviving and Coping": Immigrant and Refugee Students in Boston React to Travel Ban "Surviving And Coping": Immigrant And Refugee Students In Boston React To Travel Ban | WISUR News, WISUR, 1 Feb. 2017. www.wbur.org/news/2017/02/01/immigrant-refugee-students-boston.

curriculum unit exploring ethics". These types of programs help out schools that may be suffering financially and can not afford certain art programs.

From Where and Whom Does Funding Come?

The funding provided to the Boston Schools are from **state and federal grants**, each year the schools are provided with a specific budget they think would be ideal to resources these schools for a better education. **Who handles the budgeting for these schools are the members of the BPS Budget Office, this office ensures that the finances provided to the public Boston Schools are properly spread out throughout each school to provide a proper education as well as provide these students with activities to benefit them in the long run.** There is a specific way that the BPS office determines how much funding a school gets, and that's by something called "**Weighted Student Funding**". Each school is provided with their own budget.

www.bostonpublicschools.org/cms/lib/MA01906464/Centricity/domain/184/budgetvisualization/index.html#/SchoolAllocationActivities/SchoolBySchool

What to do to increase funding?

- Volunteer to help out at schools
- Donate art supplies you may not be using
- **TALK TO YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS ABOUT WHY ART IS IMPORTANT.**



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