



The County Arts Council
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ArtsinStark

ArtsinStark.com -- Kids, Jobs, Communities

1. ArtsinStark began **41 years** ago in **1968**, with the dream of building a **Cultural Center for the Arts** along side the Canton Civic Center. In 1972, that dream came true. We are a non profit organization that gives out grants, manages the Cultural Center, and runs the Annual Arts Campaign.
2. We use arts to create **smarter kids, new jobs, and healthier communities.**
3. Our annual budget: \$2.6 million --- **99%** of it --- from the private sector.
4. What we don't earn, we raise from individuals, companies, and foundations. Every spring ArtsinStark conducts the **Annual Arts Campaign.**
5. In the last 4 years we've increased giving to the arts by **50%**. In May 2009, in the middle of a recession, we raised the largest amount in 41 years: **\$1,450,000.**
6. Out of every dollar raised --- **91 cents** goes directly to support programs that "create smarter kids, new jobs, and healthier communities."
7. **Smarter Kids:** To date, we've put **55** SmArts projects in **38** Stark County schools for **10,000** kids totaling **\$170,000**. Just one amazing result: While 4th grade writing scores in one Stark County school system increased on average by 2% last year --- for students in SmArts classrooms they skyrocketed up **23%**!
8. This year we will provide **\$960,000** in Operating Grants to the seven largest arts organizations: **Canton Ballet, Canton Museum of Art, Canton Palace Theatre, Canton Symphony Orchestra, Massillon Museum, Players Guild Theater and Voices of Canton.**
9. We'll provide another **\$150,000** in Special Project Grants to 75 county non profits and artists. (Over last 4 years, we have awarded over **\$850,000** in Special Project Grants to more than 200 Stark County non-profits never funded before.)
10. There is a **cultural industry** in Stark County made up of **100** arts, history, and cultural organizations, and **500** artists and craftsmen. That cultural industry has an annual economic impact of **\$18** million.
11. **Revitalizing our downtowns.** In Massillon we funded a year of monthly art openings in vacant storefronts. In Alliance we helped start Jupiter Studios in a vacant building. In Canton we partnered on the creation of an Arts District with **4** new galleries and **22** new artist studios --- all in vacant buildings. Over **100,000 square feet** of vacant space is being transformed. We also have installed almost **40** new pieces of public art, and co-host the monthly celebration **First Friday.**
12. **Arts Tourism.** In 2009, the Canton Museum of Art and ArtsinStark co-hosted the Japanese blockbuster show KIMONO. **100,000-plus** people came to the exhibit or to the related events and generated an economic impact of **\$6 million.**
13. What's happening has been called an **"arts explosion."** We are putting the arts, **meaning innovation,** back into our downtowns, our schools, and our communities. The programs we support reach **200,000 people a year.**

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