

Art Shapes Lives -
Help It Thrive

YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK

Arts Fund
2026



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Together, We Create.

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St. Joseph News-Press

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Performing
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ARTS
FUND



HOW YOUR MONEY HELPS *



OUR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The arts benefit patients, their caregivers, and the systems that provide the care – saving money, reducing pain, medication needs and the length of hospital stays, strengthening immune levels, decreasing depression, increasing memory and cognitive function, and improving communication and behavioral skills.

- \$2.25 billion in prospective savings. Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare saved \$567 per procedure by using a musician during preparation period for pediatric CT scans.
- 50% of hospitals have arts programs.
- 43% of frontline clinical staff believe the arts have a positive effect on healing.



OUR CHILDREN



The rich and well-documented links between the arts and education, both formal and informal, create a robust case for supporting pro-arts education funding and pro-arts education policy in every community.

- For every \$1 spent on after-school arts programs, \$9 is saved by reducing welfare & crime costs, improving academic performance, & increasing kids' earning potential.
- Low-income students who are highly engaged in the arts are 2x as likely to graduate college than their peers with no arts education.
- Students who take 4 years of arts and music classes average almost 100 points better on their SAT scores than students with only a half-year or less.

OUR ECONOMY

The Arts Fund agencies are part of the \$20.2 million economic impact of the non-profit arts and culture community in Buchanan County.

- \$2.6 million in tax revenue to local, state, and federal governments in Buchanan County.
- Arts and culture organizations spent \$9.9 million while their audiences spent an additional \$10.3 million in event-related expenditures.
- 51.6% of attendees who live in Buchanan County said they would have "traveled to a different community to attend similar arts or cultural activity," taking their money elsewhere.



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2026



The arts inspire, connect, and enrich our community. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the generous individuals, businesses, and community partners who contributed to the 2026 Arts Fund. Your support brings creative experiences to life, expands access to the arts, and provides meaningful opportunities for artists and audiences alike. Every contribution—at every level—helps build a more vibrant and inclusive community. Thank you for investing in the power of the arts.