



Allied Arts Council of St. Joseph, Missouri is participating in [**Arts & Economic Prosperity 6**](#) (AEP6), the most comprehensive economic impact study of the nonprofit arts and culture industry ever conducted in the United States. Administered by Americans for the Arts, AEP6 will examine the economic impact of the arts and culture in Buchanan County and 386 additional communities representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The Arts & Economic Prosperity® series is conducted to gauge the economic impact of spending by nonprofit arts and culture organizations and the event-related spending by their audiences. In 2017, [**AEP5**](#) documented that the nonprofit arts and culture industry generated \$166.3 billion in economic activity (spending by organizations plus the event-related spending by their audiences) which supported 4.6 million jobs and generated \$27.5 billion in government revenue. The AEP series demonstrates that an investment in the arts provides both cultural and economic benefits.

The Arts in Buchanan County mean Business!

The Allied Arts Council partnered with the Americans for the Arts in 2017 providing compelling evidence that the nonprofit arts and culture sector is a \$21.1 million industry in Buchanan County—one that supports 869 full-time equivalent jobs and generates \$1.7 million in local and state government revenue. Nonprofit arts and cultural organizations, which spent \$10.1 million in 2015, leveraged a remarkable \$11 million in additional spending by their audiences—spending that pumped vital revenue into restaurants, hotels, retail stores, parking garages, and other local businesses.

Audience-intercept surveys are being collected from attendees to arts and cultural events in Buchanan County now through April 2023. The findings will be made public in September 2023 including a customized report on the unique economic impact results for Buchanan County including the number of jobs that are supported and the amount of government revenue that is generated by our community's nonprofit arts industry.

These studies are important because they provide evidence that when nonprofit arts and cultural organizations are supported the investment is rewarded with more jobs and increased government revenue. The arts are an economic engine and a cornerstone of tourism, with the added benefit of lifting up our community and providing important creative opportunities for expression and exploration.

Your help is needed

- Support the study by volunteering to take the survey at the next arts or cultural event you attend.
- Volunteer to be a survey taker at one of the many arts and cultural events taking place in Buchanan County.

Participation in the Arts & Economic Prosperity Study is another of the many services provided by the Allied Arts Council of St. Joseph for the benefit of the community, our member agencies and all non-profit arts and culture organizations. Please support the Arts Council's good works with a donation to our [membership drive](#).