

ARTS & CULTURE

1. Cabinet Summary
2. Office of Arts & Culture

Arts & Culture

Joseph Henry, Chief of Arts and Culture

CABINET MISSION

The mission of the Arts & Culture Cabinet is to foster the growth and well-being of the cultural community and promote participation in the arts. Recognizing the importance of creativity across all policy areas, the cabinet seeks to promote access to arts and culture to all the City's residents, and to make Boston a municipal arts leader.

OPERATING BUDGET

Department Name	Total Actual '24	Total Actual '25	Total Approp '26	Total Budget '27
Office of Arts & Culture	3,685,311	4,040,177	4,611,840	3,365,057
Total	3,685,311	4,040,177	4,611,840	3,365,057

EXTERNAL FUNDS BUDGET

Department Name	Total Actual 24	Total Actual 25	Total Approp 26	Total Budget 27
Office of Arts & Culture	3,431,054	4,339,537	4,836,000	3,696,376
Total	3,431,054	4,339,537	4,836,000	3,696,376

CAPITAL BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Capital Department	Total Actual '24	Total Actual '25	Estimated '26	Total Budget '27
Office of Arts & Culture	850,575	1,662,074	1,150,000	1,598,000
Total	850,575	1,662,074	1,150,000	1,598,000

Office of Arts & Culture Operating Budget

Joseph Henry, Chief of Arts and Culture, Appropriation 414000

DEPARTMENT MISSION

The mission of the Office of Arts & Culture is to foster the growth of the cultural community and promote participation in the arts.

SELECTED PERFORMANCE GOALS

Arts and Culture

Increase Diversity in COB Workforce

OPERATING BUDGET

Program Name	Total Actual '24	Total Actual '25	Total Approp '26	Total Budget '27
Arts and Culture	3,685,311	4,040,177	4,611,840	3,365,057
Total	3,685,311	4,040,177	4,611,840	3,365,057

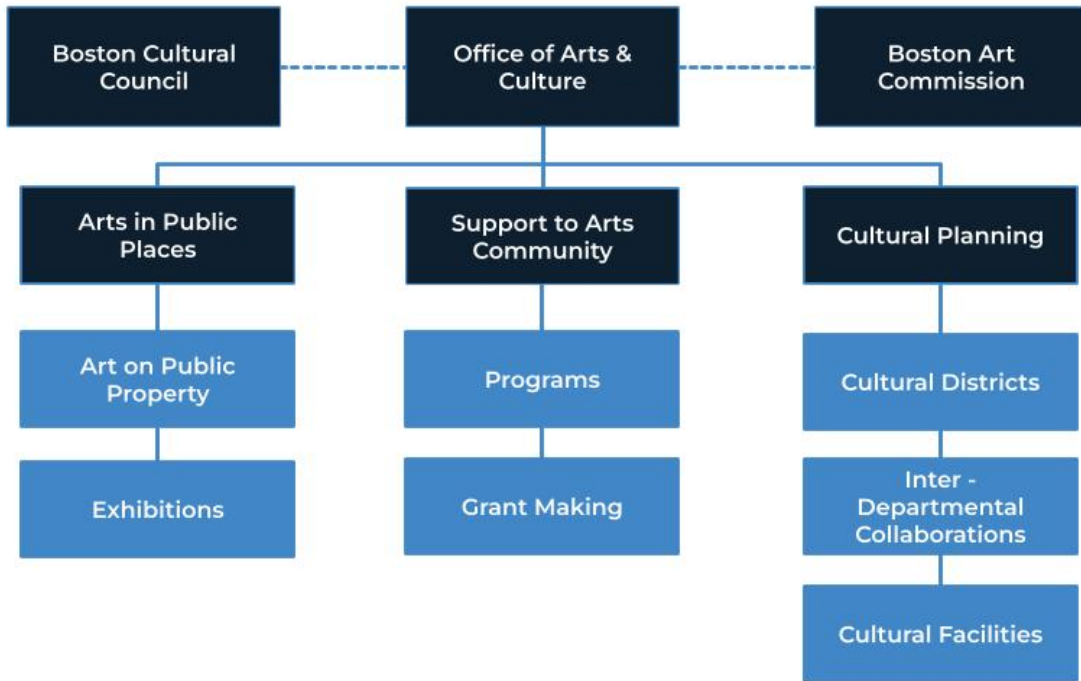
EXTERNAL FUNDS BUDGET

Fund Name	Total Actual 24	Total Actual 25	Total Approp 26	Total Budget 27
Boston Cultural Council	1,118,310	1,013,824	306,000	500,000
Boston Family Days	429,350	868,250	1,050,000	800,000
Boston Red Sox Arts Fund	230,000	159,985	100,000	0
Emerging Artists Program	0	10,160	10,000	10,000
GCG / HoC Arts & Placemaking	1,065,000	738,480	1,200,000	900,000
Grants to Individual Artists	3,103	0	0	0
Mellon Foundation	4,804	1,107,690	1,000,000	386,376
National Arts Program	950	0	0	0
Public Art Fund	205,386	169,330	800,000	800,000
Strand Theatre	356,650	246,803	300,000	300,000
Surdna Foundation	17,500	25,015	70,000	0
Total	3,431,054	4,339,537	4,836,000	3,696,376

OPERATING BUDGET

Category	Total Actual '24	Total Actual '25	Total Approp '26	Total Budget '27
Personnel Services	1,677,995	1,777,425	2,316,892	2,490,083
Non-Personnel	2,007,316	2,262,752	2,294,948	874,974
Total	3,685,311	4,040,177	4,611,840	3,365,057

Office of Arts & Culture Operating Budget



AUTHORIZING STATUTES

- Enabling Legislation, CBC Ord. §§ 15-3.1- 15-3.2.
- Boston Arts Lottery Council, CBC Ord. §§ 5-9.1-5-9.10.
- Art Commission Enabling Legislation, 1890 Mass. Acts ch. 122, §§ 1-4.
- Establishing Arts & Humanities Division, CBC Ord. §§ 15-9.1-15-9.5.

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

The Office of Arts and Culture enhances the quality of life, the economy, and the design of the city through the arts. The role of the arts in all aspects of life in Boston is reinforced via equitable access to arts and culture in every community, its public institutions, and public places. Key areas of work include support to the cultural sector through grants and programs such as the Boston Cultural Council, the Opportunity Fund, and the Poet Laureate; the production and permitting of art in public places via exhibitions, temporary installations, the stewardship of the City’s collection of permanent sculpture, memorials and monuments; the creation and preservation of cultural spaces; and the management of the Strand Theatre. The Office of Arts and Culture fosters further investment in the arts community, deepens intergovernmental collaborations, and makes the case for public support of the arts.

Department History

Personnel Services	FY24 Expenditure	FY25 Expenditure	FY26 Appropriation	FY27 Recommended	Inc/Dec 26 vs 27
51000 Total Permanent Employees	1,677,995	1,775,429	2,316,892	2,490,083	173,190
51100 Total Emergency Employees	0	0	0	0	0
51200 Total Overtime	0	0	0	0	0
51300 Tot Part-Time Employee	0	0	0	0	0
51400 Tot Health Insurance	0	0	0	0	0
51500 Tot Pension & Annuity	0	0	0	0	0
51600 Tot Unemployment Compensation	0	1,996	0	0	0
51700 Tot Workers' Compensation	0	0	0	0	0
51900 Total Medicare	0	0	0	0	0
Total Personnel Services	1,677,995	1,777,425	2,316,892	2,490,083	173,190
Contractual Services	FY24 Expenditure	FY25 Expenditure	FY26 Appropriation	FY27 Recommended	Inc/Dec 26 vs 27
52100 Communications	1,494	1,493	2,472	2,472	0
52200 Utilities	85,289	140,628	198,326	132,780	-65,546
52300 Contracted Educational Services	0	0	0	0	0
52400 Tot Snow Removal	0	0	0	0	0
52500 Garbage/Waste Removal	0	0	0	0	0
52600 Repairs Buildings & Structures	0	0	0	0	0
52700 Repairs & Service To Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
52800 Transportation of Persons	15,599	4,130	5,000	2,500	-2,500
52900 Contracted Services	1,863,553	2,075,413	2,011,120	691,000	-1,320,120
Total Contractual Services	1,965,934	2,221,664	2,216,918	828,752	-1,388,166
Supplies & Materials	FY24 Expenditure	FY25 Expenditure	FY26 Appropriation	FY27 Recommended	Inc/Dec 26 vs 27
53000 Auto Energy Supplies	0	0	0	0	0
53200 Food Supplies	765	9,450	2,500	2,500	0
53400 Custodial Supplies	17	0	0	0	0
53500 Medical, Dental, & Hosp Supply	0	0	0	0	0
53600 Office Supplies and Materials	1,249	400	2,500	2,500	0
53700 Tot Clothing Allowance	0	0	0	0	0
53800 Educational Supplies & Mat	0	0	0	0	0
53900 Misc Supplies & Materials	1,890	1,076	8,800	2,500	-6,300
Total Supplies & Materials	3,922	10,926	13,800	7,500	-6,300
Current Charges & Obligations	FY24 Expenditure	FY25 Expenditure	FY26 Appropriation	FY27 Recommended	Inc/Dec 26 vs 27
54300 Workers' Comp Medical	0	0	0	0	0
54400 Tot Legal Liability Premium	0	0	0	0	0
54500 Tot Aid To Veterans	0	0	0	0	0
54600 Current Charges H&I	0	0	0	0	0
54700 Indemnification	0	0	0	0	0
54800 Reserve Account	0	0	0	0	0
54900 Current Charges	36,117	28,649	62,230	37,222	-25,008
Total Current Charges & Obligations	36,117	28,649	62,230	37,222	-25,008
Equipment	FY24 Expenditure	FY25 Expenditure	FY26 Appropriation	FY27 Recommended	Inc/Dec 26 vs 27
55000 Automotive Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
55400 Lease Purchase	0	0	0	0	0
55600 Office Furniture & Equipment	220	1,383	0	0	0
55900 Misc Equipment	1,122	130	2,000	1,500	-500
Total Equipment	1,342	1,513	2,000	1,500	-500
Other Expenses	FY24 Expenditure	FY25 Expenditure	FY26 Appropriation	FY27 Recommended	Inc/Dec 26 vs 27
56200 Tot Special Appropriations	0	0	0	0	0
57200 Structures & Improvements	0	0	0	0	0
58000 Tot Land & Non-Structural	0	0	0	0	0
Total Other Expenses	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	3,685,311	4,040,177	4,611,840	3,365,057	-1,246,783

Department Personnel

Title	Union	Grade	Position	FY27 Salary
Administrative_Asst	MYO	06	1.00	75,959
Arts Commissioner	CDH	NG	1.00	164,336
Chief Of Staff	MYO	12	1.00	99,200
Communication Associate	EXM	05	1.00	87,113
Dir	MYO	10	3.00	335,182
Director*	MYO	11	2.00	239,008
DirectorofAdministration&Finan	MYO	13	1.00	117,060
Executive_Asst	MYO	08	1.00	96,898
Prj Manager	MYO	08	4.00	353,038
Program Manager.	MYO	08	1.00	95,764
Project Manager	EXM	07	1.00	110,181
Project Mngr III	MYO	10	1.00	84,512
Spec_Asst	MYN	NG	1.00	150,018
Special Assistant	EXM	08	1.00	120,266
Special Assistant Admin	EXM	05	1.00	92,291
Sr Admin Asst	EXM	06	1.00	95,319
Staff Assist I	MYO	04	2.00	131,367
Staff Assistant II	MYO	06	1.00	78,890
Staff Asst III	MYO	07	1.00	88,651
Theatre Technical Director	MYO	08	1.00	70,577
Total			27.00	2,685,630

Adjustments

Differential Payments	0
Other	9,453
Chargebacks	0
Salary Savings	-205,000
FY27 Total Request	2,490,083

External Funds History

Personnel Services	FY24 Expenditure	FY25 Expenditure	FY26 Appropriation	FY27 Recommended	Inc/Dec 26 vs 27
51000 Total Permanent Employees	0	196,126	211,918	36,133	-175,785
51100 Total Emergency Employees	0	0	0	0	0
51200 Total Overtime	0	0	0	0	0
51300 Tot Part-Time Employee	0	0	0	0	0
51400 Tot Health Insurance	0	7,777	0	0	0
51500 Tot Pension & Annuity	0	17,325	0	0	0
51600 Tot Unemployment Compensation	0	0	0	0	0
51700 Tot Workers' Compensation	0	0	0	0	0
51800 Tot Indirect Costs	0	0	0	0	0
51900 Total Medicare	0	2,514	0	0	0
Total Personnel Services	0	223,742	211,918	36,133	-175,785
Contractual Services	FY24 Expenditure	FY25 Expenditure	FY26 Expenditure	FY27 Recommended	Inc/Dec 26 vs 27
52100 Communications	0	0	0	0	0
52200 Utilities	0	0	0	0	0
52300 Contracted Educational Services	0	0	0	0	0
52400 Tot Snow Removal	0	0	0	0	0
52500 Garbage/Waste Removal	0	0	0	0	0
52600 Repairs Buildings & Structures	0	2,100	0	0	0
52700 Repairs & Service To Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
52800 Transportation of Persons	2,250	3,467	0	0	0
52900 Contracted Services	3,304,547	4,157,033	4,624,082	3,654,580	-969,502
Contractual Services	3,306,797	4,162,600	4,624,082	3,654,580	-969,502
Supplies & Materials	FY24 Expenditure	FY25 Expenditure	FY26 Expenditure	FY27 Recommended	Inc/Dec 26 vs 27
53000 Auto Energy Supplies	0	0	0	0	0
53200 Food Supplies	6,442	941	0	5,663	5,663
53400 Custodial Supplies	0	0	0	0	0
53500 Medical, Dental, & Hosp Supply	0	0	0	0	0
53600 Office Supplies and Materials	0	0	0	0	0
53700 Tot Clothing Allowance	0	0	0	0	0
53800 Educational Supplies & Mat	0	0	0	0	0
53900 Misc Supplies & Materials	0	708	0	0	0
Supplies & Materials	6,442	1,649	0	5,663	5,663
Current Charges & Obligations	FY24 Expenditure	FY25 Expenditure	FY26 Expenditure	FY27 Recommended	Inc/Dec 26 vs 27
54100 Tot Unemployment Comp	0	0	0	0	0
54300 Workers' Comp Medical	0	0	0	0	0
54400 Tot Legal Liability Premium	0	0	0	0	0
54500 Tot Aid To Veterans	0	0	0	0	0
54600 Current Charges H&I	0	0	0	0	0
54700 Indemnification	0	0	0	0	0
54800 Reserve Account	0	0	0	0	0
54900 Current Charges	0	0	0	0	0
Current Charges & Obligations	0	0	0	0	0
Equipment	FY24 Expenditure	FY25 Expenditure	FY26 Expenditure	FY27 Recommended	Inc/Dec 26 vs 27
55000 Automotive Equipment	0	0	0	0	0
55400 Lease Purchase	0	0	0	0	0
55600 Office Furniture & Equipment	4,564	0	0	0	0
55900 Misc Equipment	113,251	-48,454	0	0	0
Equipment	117,815	-48,454	0	0	0
Other Expenses	FY24 Expenditure	FY25 Expenditure	FY26 Expenditure	FY27 Recommended	Inc/Dec 26 vs 27
56200 Tot Special Appropriations	0	0	0	0	0
57200 Structures & Improvements	0	0	0	0	0
58000 Tot Land & Non-Structural	0	0	0	0	0
59100 Award/Gift	0	0	0	0	0
Other Expenses	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	3,431,054	4,339,537	4,836,000	3,696,376	-1,139,624

External Funds Personnel

Title	Union	Grade	Position	FY27 Salary
Staff Assistant II	MYO	06	0.50	36,133
Total			0.50	36,133

Adjustments

Differential Payments	0
Other	0
Chargebacks	0
Salary Savings	0
FY27 Total Request	36,133

Program 1. Arts and Culture

Joseph Henry, Chief of Arts and Culture, Organization 414100

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Arts & Culture program works with the local arts ecosystem to support the creative economy through grants and programs, public art in all neighborhoods, and accessible opportunities for creative expression.

OPERATING BUDGET

Category	Actual '24	Actual '25	Approp '26	Budget '27
Personnel Services	1,677,995	1,777,425	2,316,892	2,490,083
Non-Personnel	2,007,316	2,262,752	2,294,948	874,974
Total	3,685,311	4,040,177	4,611,840	3,365,057

PERFORMANCE

Goal: Increase Diversity in COB Workforce

Performance Measures	Actual '24	Actual '25	Projected '26	Target '27
% of employees who self-identify as a Person of Color	52.4%	58.3%	53.8%	
% of employees who self-identify as female	71.4%	70.8%	65.4%	

External Funds Projects

Boston Cultural Council

Project Mission

The Boston Cultural Council allocates funds from the Massachusetts Cultural Council annually to Boston.

Boston Red Sox Arts Fund

Project Mission

Programs supported by the Boston Cultural Council, with a portion directed specifically to Fenway-area groups or artists. The award is funded by the Boston Red Sox, to be expended through FY26.

Cultural Facilities Fund Grant

Project Mission

Financial assistance for the 1965 Freedom Plaza on the Boston Common, which will commemorate the leaders who worked for social and racial equity alongside, and in parallel, with the Coretta Scott King and Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr in Boston. The award is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, to be expended by FY25.

Emerging Artists Program

Project Mission

Supported by the Boston Foundation, the Fay Chandler Emerging Artist was a five-year grant ending in FY27 that awarded three local artists who produce fresh, original, and contemporary work.

GCG / HoC Arts & Placemaking

Project Mission

High quality public art and placemaking (may include but not limited to fabrication, installation, place-based programming and endowment) and City Hall Plaza programming seed funding. The award is funded by the Boston Planning and Development Agency, to be expended by FY27.

Grants to Individual Artists

Project Mission

The Grants to Individual Artists programs give support to artists for activities that enable them to share their work, teach others, and continue their professional development. Funding is used for materials, stipends for teaching artists, or anything that helps an artist develop their artistic practice. The award is funded as part of a public benefit obligation of the Russia Wharf Redevelopment Project and supplements funding on the operating budget for individual artist grants.

Mellon Foundation

Project Mission

This grant was awarded by the Mellon Foundation. The overarching goal is to promote a far more engaged, reflective, creative, and active relationship to the city's landscape and built environment and to engage in imagining the future of long-term monuments and their alternatives in Boston. Un-monument | Re-monument | De-Monument: Transforming Boston will include temporary artworks commissioned through an open Call to Artists, as well as artworks commissioned directly by curatorial partners, public talks at The Embrace, and educational content and engagement activities supported by the Mellon Foundation's Monument Project. The total award is \$3M and will be expended over 2 years.

National Arts Program

Project Mission

Funded by the National Arts Program Foundation, this annual grant supports the City of Boston's National Arts Program Awards, an annual exhibition that invites City employees and immediate family members to display their art in City Hall.

Public Art Revolving Fund

Project Mission

The purpose of this fund is to purchase goods and services to support public art throughout the City of Boston. Funding is received from easements granted by the Public Improvement Commission, per G.L.c44, §53E ½.

Quest Eternal Sculpture

Project Mission

Funded by a one-time donation by Boston Properties, this grant supports maintenance of the Quest Eternal sculpture and will be expended by FY25.

Ruggles Corridor Public Art

Project Mission

The Public Works Department, The Department of Neighborhood Development, and The Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture of the City of Boston 2022 agreement for the use of Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI) funding, not to exceed \$685,000, to support Art Installations and Amenities along the Ruggles Street corridor between Ruggles Station and Nubian Square/Washington Street.

Strand Theatre Revolving Fund

Project Mission

The purpose of this fund is to pay for expenses related to the operations of the Strand Theatre. Funding is received through receipts from theater rental fees, per G.L.c44, §53E ½.

Surdna Foundation Grant

Project Mission

Mission Funds from the Surdna Foundation have provided project support for MOAC's implementation of Surdna's refined strategy, Radical Imagination for Racial Justice (RIRJ). In addition, Surdna's RIRJ Grant supports a three-year collaboration with the Center for Art and Community Partnerships and MassArt to invest in artists, artists collectives, and small arts organizations of color proposing projects to imagine and practice more racially just systems and structures.

Waterfront Cultural Planning

Project Mission

an analysis of existing, pending, and planned civic and cultural facilities in Boston waterfront neighborhoods. The award is funded by the Boston Planning and Development Agency, to be expended by FY25. lighting; may include but not limited to fabrication, installation, place-based programming and endowment) and \$2m City Hall Plaza programming seed funding. The award is funded by the Boston Planning and Development Agency, to be expended by FY26.

BPS Family Days

Project Mission

The Boston Family Days program, known during its pilot period as BPS Sundays, supports cultural institutions in Boston providing free admission to all elementary and secondary school students who live in Boston, and children enrolled in Boston Pre-K classrooms, as well as two of their family members, on the first and second Sunday of each month. This program is funded by Pilot House Philanthropy, the Barr Foundation, the Boston Foundation, and the Highland Street Foundation.