

LOCAL ARTS AGENCY REPORT

Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County's Budget in Context

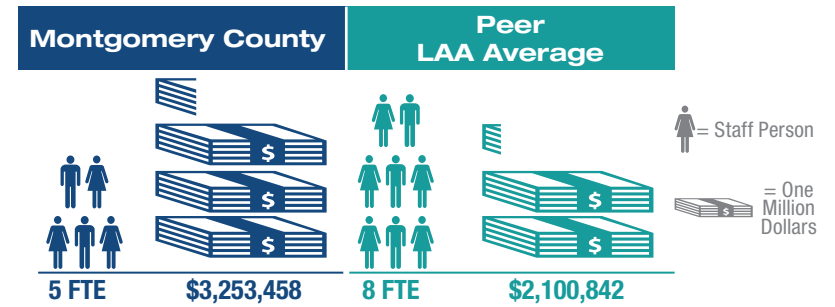
The Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County (AHCMC) is Montgomery County's designated local arts agency (LAA) and manager of the Public Art Trust. In partnership with the community, AHCMC cultivates and supports excellence in the arts and humanities, expands access to cultural expression, and contributes to the economic vitality of the region, **supporting 4,233 Montgomery County Jobs, \$90,072,021 in Montgomery County salaries, and a total public/private investment of \$225,162,227 in the Montgomery County Economy***.

However, an analysis of data from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Americans for the Arts** indicates that **the administrative capacity of AHCMC has not kept pace with the growth of its stakeholders, the population of our county, or its peer nonprofit local arts agencies.**

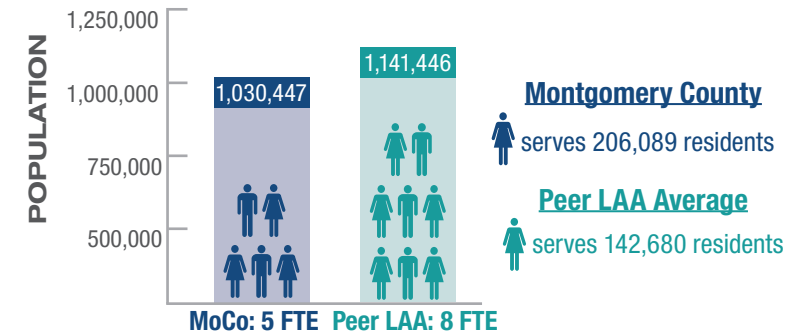
Local Arts Agency Budget Comparisons

	Montgomery County, MD	Peer LAA Average	Jacksonville, FL	Oklahoma City, OK	Fairfax County, VA	Hartford, CN	Memphis, TN
Population	1,030,447	1,141,446	1,418,218	1,300,000	1,081,726	967,820	939,465
Total Grants Awarded	\$3,253,458	\$2,100,842	\$2,461,447	\$2,569,481	\$556,422	\$1,616,862	\$3,300,000
Payroll Expenditure	\$347,719	\$616,713	\$413,406	\$648,566	\$401,925	\$823,966	\$795,703
Total Expenditure	\$4,248,003	\$2,955,313	\$3,160,733	\$3,825,148	\$1,230,238	\$3,469,913	\$3,090,535
Fulltime Staff	5	8	7	11	3	11	8
Population/FT Staff Ratio	206,089	142,681	202,603	118,182	360,575	87,984	117,433

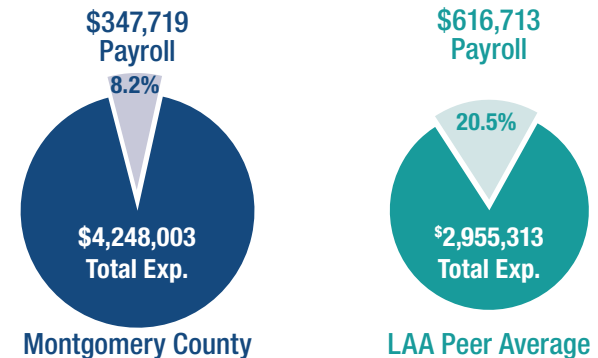
AHCMC operates with a 38% staff deficiency while managing 55% more grant funds on average than LAA peers



AHCMC staff serve 60,000 more residents per Full Time Employee (FTE) on average than other similar LAA's



AHCMC Payroll expenditures are 44% lower than LAA peers despite overall expenditures being over 30% higher on average



* The Strength of the Creative Economy — The data used for this report was provided by the Cultural Data Project and the Arts and Economic Prosperity IV Study, a project of Americans for the Arts.

** 2014 Local Arts Agency Census — Data used from local arts agencies with most similar and comparable populations, operating budgets, and grants awarded.

AHCMC's Administrative Strain Threatens the Local Economy

Since 2011, the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County (AHCRC) has grown from 5 grant categories to 9 in order to effectively meet the needs of the field; yet it has not been able to increase staffing in response to this increase in demand. AHCRC staff expenditures hover 44% below that of our peers on average.

Inadequate funding limits the services available to organizations and underrepresented communities.

The County's growth in population brings new demands for marketing, fundraising, and professional development services. These demands are at an all-time high at a time of increased programming needs for traditionally underrepresented and underserved communities across the County.

Insufficient staffing will negatively affect judicious oversight and potentially create liabilities for the County.

Without adequate staffing, AHCRC cannot continue to provide adequate, impactful grants, technical assistance or properly oversee the County's cultural grant recipients through programmatic audits and oversight.

A compromised arts & humanities sector decreases the vibrancy, livability and desirability of the County for current and future businesses and residents.

Montgomery County is one of the country's most "livable" regions because of its world-class facilities, diverse communities, integration of public art in community spaces, generous support of the creative economy, and robust Arts & Entertainment Districts (A&E Districts). These investments make the County a national destination of choice for families, investors, and employers. Adequate administrative funding will enable AHCRC and The Public Art Trust to fully support the continued cultivation and success of our three A&E districts as well as bolster Montgomery County's efforts to develop communities and amenities that are attractive to residents, developers, and businesses.

“ TOP CHALLENGES

[for nonprofits]:

Achieving Long-Term

Sustainability, Covering

Full Costs, and Offering

Competitive Wages”

– Nonprofit Finance Fund,
2015 State of the
Nonprofit Sector Survey



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For more information on the Cultural Data Project, please visit www.culturaldata.org. To see the full Arts and Economic Prosperity IV Study from Americans for the Arts please visit www.creativemoco.com/aep4