KIMBILIO

Kimbilio® means "safe haven" in Swahili. We are a community of writers and scholars committed to developing, empowering and sustaining fiction writers from the African diaspora and their stories. Projects include readings, presentations at professional conferences, social media networking, book prizes, and an annual summer retreat for fiction writers who are members of the Kimbilio community.

IMPACT POINTS

In 75% of communities, the arrival of new arts organizations correlates with reduced income disparity.

From 2000-2010, more than 75% of diverse, low-income, and highly disadvantaged neighborhoods with new arts organizations saw reductions in income disparity.

73% said the arts provide meaning.

The arts provide meaning in our lives. In a 2016 public opinion poll, 73% of Americans said that the arts provided meaning in their lives and were a positive experience in a troubled world.

40% feel more positive about their community after taking part in the arts.

Participatory arts projects celebrate local culture and heritage, making marginalized groups more visible and promoting positive community connections. In the UK, 40% of participants felt more positive about where they lived after participating in an arts activity.

9 out of 10 say the arts increase their connection to community.

New friends and connections are a primary positive outcome of arts participation and help to reduce social isolation. In the UK, 91% of participants reported making new friends by participating in arts activities.

Groups built around cultural experiences score highest on trust and tolerance.

Research into how different formations of people in associations work reveals that cultural groups scored highest on trust and second-highest on optimism and tolerance.


EXAMPLES OF PRACTICE

THE LAST WORD

Philadelphia

The Last Word is a collaborative of Illegal Art and gives people the opportunity to write down something they wish they had the chance to say but was left unsaid. Hundreds of pieces of rolled paper are stuck into a cardboard wall where people are able

POEM ACROSS THE CITY

New York

Poem Across the City had goals of moving from one point to another by creating a long chain of poetry written on the ground with chalk. After an hour 100 participants had created a collaborative poem 1/4 mile long in Central Park NYC.
CONFLICT KITCHEN
Pittsburgh

Conflict Kitchen serves cuisines from countries with which the United States is in conflict. It integrates food culture with programming that helps diners connect with the experiences of those often misrepresented and marginalized by the government.

GUERILLA GIRLS
New York

Guerilla Girls is an anonymous group of radical feminist female artists devoted to fighting sexism and racism within the art world. It has used everything from posters, direct actions, convenings, and art installations to critique society’s oppressive.

READING LIST

Arts Fact: Private Giving to Arts, Culture & Humanities: 2005 - 2015

Americans for the Arts, 2017
Publication Year: 2017

In 2015, private sector giving to the arts, culture, and humanities—by individuals, foundations, and corporations—was $17.07 billion, up 7.0 percent (6.8 percent when adjusted for inflation) from a revised $17.23 billion... Show More ⬤ in 2014. This marked the
The American Rescue Plan Act: Promoting Equity through ARPA Implementation

U.S. Conference of Mayors U.S. Conference of Mayors

Publication Year: 2022

This report published by the United States Conference of Mayors presents national best practices to drive equitable investment in communities using ARPA funds that emerged from a working group of... Show More ▼ cities we convened in 2022 to share strategies and best

Show Less ▲

10 Reasons to Support the Arts in 2021

Cohen, Randy Cohen, Randy

Publication Year: 2021

The arts are fundamental to our humanity. They ennoble and inspire us—fostering creativity, empathy, and beauty. The arts also strengthen our communities socially, educationally, and economically—benefits that persist even during... Show More ▼ a

Show Less ▲

ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Founded in 1780, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences honors excellence and convenes leaders from every field of human endeavor to examine new ideas, address issues of importance to the nation and the world, and work together to cultivate the arts and sciences.

AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS

Washington, District of Columbia

Americans for the Arts is a nonprofit organization that advances the arts and arts education advocacy in America.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Established by Congress in 1965, the NEA is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities.

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**LEARN MORE**
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