



New Hampshire Arts Business Resources

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EXHIBIT, RESIDENCY, EDUCATION, AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Artist Associations

Organizations providing exhibition opportunities, education, and community for artists; often membership-based and arts discipline-specific. NH associations include:

[Guild of NH Woodworkers](#)

[NH Furniture Masters](#)

[NH Center for Photography](#)

[NH Professional Photographer's Association](#)

[NH Dance Collaborative](#)

[NH Potters' Guild](#)

[NH Writers' Project](#)

[NH Art Association](#)

Regional Artist Associations

[Creative Ground](#)

A free crowd-sourced database of New England-based artists, arts organizations and others operating within the creative sphere. Profiles are free and help artists and others connect and collaborate. A resource of New England Foundation for the Arts.

Local & Regional Arts Agencies & Commissions

Arts commissions may be organized under the municipal government to facilitate arts development in the community. Activities may include overseeing cultural plans, releasing calls for art, facilitating public art installations, distributing municipal funds in the form of grants to artists and arts organizations, and more. Related organizations may be nonprofits or unincorporated entities and may also act as regional agencies. The NH State Council on the Arts facilitates a statewide Arts Commission Peer Exchange; email Lisa Burk-McCoy to inquire about arts agencies/commissions serving your community or region.

[New England Foundation for the Arts \(NEFA\)](#)

A regional arts services organization supporting artists and arts businesses in the New England Region. Grant programs tend to focus on performing arts, with some exceptions. See Funding section for an abbreviated list of grant opportunities. Events include:

[Idea Swap](#) – Annual event for New England based nonprofit cultural organizations and touring artists to network and share ideas for touring projects.

[NH State Council on the Arts](#)

A state agency serving New Hampshire's creative sector via grants and programs. See Funding section for a partial list of grant opportunities.

[E-Opps](#)

A monthly list of opportunities in the arts community, including grants, jobs, fellowships, RFQ's for art installations, professional development opportunities, and more.

[Artist Rosters](#)

A directory of artists that are vetted by a peer panel based on their expertise in the areas of Arts Education, Arts in Health, and Traditional Arts.

[Percent for Art](#)

A NH statewide program whereby ½% of the capital expense to renovate or construct state facilities is allocated for public art installations. NHSCA works with stakeholders to generate RFP's and oversee submissions.

[NH Creative Communities Network](#)

A consortium of cross-sector organizations and professionals working to enhance local vibrancy and economies via the arts. Sign up for a free NHCCN listserv and Facebook group to receive announcements of events, opportunities, and developments related to community arts in NH.

[NH Arts Learning Network](#)

A collaborative of individuals, organizations, and groups working to support quality arts learning for NH students through sharing information, resources and services.

[North Country Studio Works](#)

Bi-annual five-day gathering for artists and craftspeople in intensive workshops in a variety of artistic mediums.

Makerspaces

Makerspaces are membership-based maker communities providing access to tools, equipment, and other resources and studio space for artists and makers. The NH State Council on the Arts facilitates the NH Makerspace Network; email Lisa Burk-McCoy for additional information about makerspaces located across NH.

[Queerlective](#) & [Community Engagement Lab](#), New England Teaching Artist Collaborative (NETAC):

A multi-day immersive experience where teaching artists work collaboratively in an arts learning community to strengthen their skills, build a supportive network, and prepare them to work in school and community settings. This partnership with Queerlective is working to build opportunities for NH teaching artists.

[The BIG List of NH Performing Venues](#)

A comprehensive list of performing venues by NH region.

[Women's Caucus for Art, New Hampshire](#)

Promotes the advancement of women in the visual arts through educational programs, networking and exhibition opportunities. Organized into regional pods.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT/SERVICES

[10,000 Small Businesses](#)

Free 12-week program online and in-person (Manchester Community College); training in financial management, marketing, sales, business planning, and access to an extensive professional network.

[Arts Alive!](#)

Arts Alive! serves, promotes and advocates on behalf of the Monadnock region's creative sector, providing professional development, networking opportunities, fiscal sponsorship, and more to grow the creative economy and help regional arts businesses thrive.

[Arts & Business Council, Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts](#)

Patent Pro Bono program for NH creatives. Other pro bono legal services target MA creatives. They've told us they wouldn't turn away NH creatives; if you put it to the test, let us know how it goes!

[Center for Women and Enterprise](#)

Provides resources and support for business owners, especially (but not exclusively) women-owned businesses.

[Creative Guts, #ShopNHCreatives](#)

A free listing for artists who retail their work at brick-and-mortar or online sites. Designed to connect consumers with opportunities to purchase art by NH artists.

[Hannah Grimes Center](#) (Monadnock Region)

Provides strategic business development for Monadnock region entrepreneurs through incubator programs, training, and building regional connections.

[NH Music Collective](#)

Assistance with artistic and business development, bookings, and production for NH musicians.

[NH Small Business Development Center \(SBDC\)](#)

No cost confidential business advising for NH small businesses. Includes one-on-one advising, online business training, pitch clinics, resiliency education, and more. The [Leaf program](#) is open to SBDC clients and offers no-cost legal, accounting, and financial support.

[Queerlective](#)

A peer network facilitating access to resources, education, and exhibition opportunities for NH's LGBTQ+ community.

[First Timer's Guide to the Gallery and Exhibiting Your Art](#)

[SCORE](#)

No cost small business mentoring and support provided by experienced business professionals.

[Sunlight Tax](#)

Tax consulting specifically serving artists and creative freelancers.

[IRS Direct File](#)

A pilot program launched in NH and several other states providing free tax filing and support for individuals who meet qualifying criteria.

[NH Tax Help](#)

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free tax preparation for people earning less than \$64,000, people with disabilities, and limited English-speaking taxpayers.

[Women's Rural Entrepreneurial Network/WREN](#) (North Country)

WREN provides technical assistance training and market access for local entrepreneurs, artists, and makers, and organizes educational, cultural and social events for the entire community. The Store and Gallery at WREN support the livelihoods of local artists while contributing to the vitality of the North Country.

TOOLS & RESOURCES

[Springboard for the Arts](#)

Reaches nationally to provide tools to help artists make a living and contribute to building more creative communities. Springboard's Creative Exchange provides a wealth of top-notch resources to support business skill development and creative engagement in communities.

[Artists Thrive](#)

Customizable and adaptable tools to help artists and others assess and measure progress toward identified goals.

DISASTER RELIEF

[Craft Emergency Relief Fund \(CERF+\)](#)

CERF+ serves artists who work in craft disciplines by providing a safety net to support strong and sustainable careers via education, advocacy, network building, and emergency relief.

[National Coalition for Arts Preparedness \(NCAPER\)](#)

NCAPER helps to build the stability and resilience of the art sector through coordination across arts preparedness programs to provide planning, networking, and education; promoting a coordinated system of communication; advocating for improved disaster service delivery to the arts sector.

FUNDING & FINANCIAL RESOURCES

NH State Council on the Arts, [Artist Entrepreneurial Grant \(AEG\) & Project Grants](#)

[Artist Entrepreneurial Grants \(AEG\)](#) – Funding to support opportunities that will benefit artists' careers, including the development of business skills, participation in programs to raise the level and quality of their art, and participation in programs that will bring their art to the widest possible markets.

[Project Grants](#) – Funding for nonprofits, municipalities, libraries, and schools to support projects and programs that employ artists to deliver benefit via the arts activities, events, and engagement. Grant priorities areas include youth arts education; folklife & traditional arts presentation, preservation, and learning; arts in health (including health & healing and public health); community engagement and the creative economy; and unrestricted operating funds for arts nonprofits.

Fractured Atlas, [Grant Opportunities for Artists](#)

[Fiscal Sponsorship for Artists](#)

Artwork Archive, [Best Artist Grants & Opportunities](#)

[The Awesome Foundation](#)

\$1,000 micro-grants to support awesome projects, no strings attached.

New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA)

Support for artists via grants and residencies. Opportunities include:

[National Dance Project Grant](#) – Funding to support the creation and touring of new dance works.

[National Theatre Project Grant](#) – Funding to support the creation and touring of U.S.-based theatre ensemble works.

[New England States Touring \(NEST\) Grant](#) – Funding to support presentations by regional, national, and international performing artists at New England-based nonprofit venues.

[Public Art Learning Fund](#) – Funding to support professional development opportunities for New England artists to strengthen their public art practices.

Grants for Entrepreneurs

National Association for the Self-Employed, [Business Development Growth Grants](#)

WomenNet, [Amber Grant for Women-Owned Businesses](#)

Municipal Arts Commissions may distribute public funds via artist grants.

[Municipal Economic Development Directors and Regional Economic Development Corporations](#)

EDC's are regional agencies that assist entrepreneurs with financing and business development tools.

Your municipality may also employ an economic development director to support local business growth.

[NH Small Business Development Center \(SBDC\)](#)

Provides referrals the Small Business Administration and Regional Economic Development Corporations for access to business grants and loans available through the Small Business Administration.

NETWORKING & PEER EXCHANGE

[NH Creative Club](#)

Providing opportunities for artists to connect, socialize, collaborate, learn, and grow their businesses.

[NH Theatre Alliance](#)

Working with NH theatre companies and artists to foster collaborative conversation, resource sharing, and audience engagement.

[Chambers of Commerce](#)

Chambers of Commerce are located throughout the state to connect and support the local business community.

Local Service Organizations (e.g., Rotary Club) are great places to connect and network with other local business owners.

MISCELLANEOUS

[Making Your Life as an Artist, Andrew Simonet](#)

A beautifully written and inspiring book written by an artist for other artists.