



Creative Community Resources & Toolkits

COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

[Arts, Culture & Community Development](#)

Launched in collaboration with ArtPlace America and PolicyLink, this site presents evidence, ideas, resources, and voices from the intersection of public health, community development, economic opportunity, and the arts.

[Arts & Social Impact Explorer](#), Americans for the Arts

Interactive visual tool linking public sectors and community priorities, presented as downloadable arts impact fact sheets and case studies.

[Arts, Culture & Creativity](#), American Planning Association

A series of briefs demonstrating how planners can work with arts and culture partners, using creative strategies to achieve economic, social, environmental, and community goals.

[Community Initiatives](#), New England Foundation for the Arts

Creative economy projects leveraging local creativity and cross-sector partnerships to address social, economic, and cultural issues in New England communities.

[Community Visioning Forum Workbook & Toolkit](#), Americans for the Arts (2015)

A DIY toolkit to facilitate cross-sector think tanks to prototype “arts-and” opportunities, build new relationships, and make and surface new knowledge about the role of the arts in communities.

[Springboard for the Arts](#)

Community building & creative sector support toolkits and how-to guides.

CREATIVE ASSETS DIRECTORY (New Hampshire/New England)

[Creative Ground](#) (New England Foundation for the Arts)

New England-wide database of artists, creative organizations, and other participants in the region’s creative economy. Searchable by a range of input criteria, including by town/city and by New Hampshire State Council on the Arts juried artist rosters (Arts Education, Traditional/Heritage Arts and Arts in Health).

CREATIVE PLACEMAKING

AARP Livable Communities

A collection of [articles, reports, case studies and surveys](#) highlighting art and placemaking strategies to make communities livable for people of all ages.



[ArtPlace America](#)

A ten-year collaboration between foundations, federal agencies, and financial institutions to position arts and culture as a core sector of community planning and development. Includes cross-sector field scans, case studies, a comprehensive resources list, and an engaging blog detailing national cross-sector creative placemaking projects.

[Creative Placemaking Public Resources Guide](#)

A federal funding resource guide that identifies and provides information about public grant programs that may fund creative placemaking projects.

National Endowment for the Arts, [Creative Placemaking Resources](#)

Soup-to-nuts toolkits, case studies, and trainings, including the [How to Do Creative Placemaking](#) guide and guidelines for the [Our Town](#) grant for creative placemaking projects.

[Project for Public Spaces](#)

Funding, training, and partnerships to help communities uplift their public spaces through placemaking.

CULTURAL PLANNING

[Building a Cultural Equity Plan](#), PolicyLink

An online tool that explicitly focuses on cultural equity as a dynamic, regular practice to promote equity-centered planning and development through arts and culture.

[Cultural Planning Toolkit](#), Creative City Network

An adaptable model and practical checklists for navigating and charting progress through a cultural planning process.

[What is Asset Mapping?](#)

A user-friendly guide and [workbook](#) to community asset-mapping from VISTA Campus/ Americorps.

PUBLIC ART

[Community Mural Toolkit](#)

An introduction to the nuts and bolts of community mural making and an invitation to consider and explore shared goals for creating community art.

[Public Art Resource Center](#), Americans for the Arts (AFTA)

Online portal to find tools, resources, and opportunities for public art; useful for artists, administrators, partners, and community stakeholders interested in leveraging public art to enrich communities. AFTA also hosts an active and informative Public Art Network (PAN) listserv for their members.



RURAL COMMUNITY ARTS

[Citizens' Institute on Rural Design \(CIRD\)](#)

A partnership initiative with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Housing Assistance Council, leveraging arts-based strategies to build capacity in rural communities. Offers design workshops and an online design-learning cohort for up to 15 communities, invited through an annual application process.

[Places of Possibility: Public Art & Placemaking Toolkit for Rural Communities](#), Jackson Hole Public Art

[Rural Placemaking: Making the Most of Creativity in your Community](#) (2017)

Focus of *Rural Voices*, Volume 2, No. 2, a publication of the Housing Assistance Council offering articles and case studies about rural creative community development.

State, Regional, and National Arts Organizations

[New Hampshire Business Committee for the Arts](#)

A statewide membership organization that builds relationships between businesses, artists, and arts organizations to more broadly define how business and the arts can support one another and their communities.

[New Hampshire State Council on the Arts](#)

A state agency enhancing the quality of life for all New Hampshire citizens by stimulating economic growth and community vibrancy through investment and support of the arts. These are a few of the services NHSCA provides to support New Hampshire arts opportunities as part of a vibrant community.

- [Artist Rosters](#)
The Arts Council maintains three juried rosters (Arts Education, Arts in Health, Traditional Arts) to assist organizations and schools to find professional, qualified artists for their programs.
- [Funding](#)
NHSCA provides a range of annual grant programs to support arts organizations; artists; and projects that enhance, uplift, and engage New Hampshire communities.
- [New Hampshire Arts Commission Peer Exchange](#)
A mutually supportive exchange that helps to deepen Art Commission work to promote a lively statewide environment and economy through public artwork, community arts activities, and placemaking.
- [New Hampshire Creative Communities Network](#)
A statewide, cross-sector consortium working to strengthen and promote economic and



community development across New Hampshire through the arts via events, resource-sharing, collaboration, and connection. Interested individuals can subscribe on the website to the listserv and Facebook group.

- [New Hampshire Makerspace Network](#)

Makerspaces support and serve creative entrepreneurs and emerging businesses that foster innovation in New Hampshire communities and contribute to our local and statewide creative economies. The Makerspace Network invites a robust exchange of ideas and resources, helping to strengthen makerspace businesses and expanding resources for small businesses, residents, and communities in New Hampshire.

[New England Foundation for the Arts](#)

A regional arts service organization that cultivates and promotes the arts in New England, providing funding, research, resources, and initiatives that support the region's arts ecosystem and spotlight its creative economy.

[National Endowment for the Arts](#)

An independent federal agency providing funding, research, and support to give Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts and develop creative capacity in U.S. communities.

Data: Creative Economy Impact in New Hampshire

[Arts & Culture Production Satellite Account](#), U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (2020)

Assesses arts and culture economic value-added, employment and compensation, and the impact of the creative sector relative to other industries, nationally and by state.

[Arts & Economic Prosperity – NH Surveys](#), Americans for the Arts (2011, 2016)

Local, regional and statewide surveys aggregating the economic impact of nonprofit arts organizations and determining the spending trends of arts audiences.

Creative Industries Reports, Americans for the Arts (2017)

Reporting and geographic mapping of nonprofit and for-profit arts-related businesses and employment.

[NH Creative Industries Report, Congressional District 1](#) (pdf)

[NH Creative Industries Report, Congressional District 2](#) (pdf)

[The Jobs in New England's Creative Economy and Why They Matter](#), New England Foundation for the Arts (2017)

Comprehensive report on the number of employed and self-employed individuals within the creative sector and their contribution to the New England regional and state economies.