DIVERSITY & EQUITY

Local arts agencies (LAAs) are community unifiers. They use the arts to build bridges between cultures and connect communities regardless of age, race, ethnicity, or economic standing. Sixty-one percent of LAAs increase the diversity of the arts organizations and individuals they serve through their programs, funding, and partnerships.

- One-third of LAAs (35 percent) felt they “have an appropriate level of diversity” in their organization.
- 39 percent have written staff diversity policies. These LAAs show more diversity on their staffs compared to LAAs with no policy.
- Among grantmaking LAAs, 78 percent consider diversity when selecting grant panelists for the grant review process (66 percent have an informal process, 12 percent have written guidelines).
- 42 percent of grantmaking LAAs require grantees to demonstrate diversity in a specific area such as audiences, artists, culture, or ethnicity.
- 14 percent have written guidelines about consideration of diversity of artistic disciplines.

LOCAL ARTS AGENCIES BY THE NUMBERS

- 24% have adopted diversity policies that guide program and funding decisions.
- 33% have policies to encourage diversity in the selection of their own staff.
- 39% seek to increase the diversity of the arts organizations and individuals they serve through their programs, funding, and partnerships.
- 61% target specific underrepresented segments of the community or fill a void through “gap programming.”