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6 Ways the Arts Can Help Business Thrive in 2016

1. Foster Critical Thinking & Innovation
Did you know that GE has a new division called FirstBuild (a 2015 BCA 10 honoree) that brings artists into the factory to help create the next generation of appliances? Or that litigation firm Faegre Baker Daniels LLP uses theater to train its lawyers? The increased demand for customized products and services and the rise in consumer power is leading to an emphasis on continuous innovation. Last year we learned from BCA 10 honoree U.S. Bank’s CEO Richard Davis that CEOs representing the country’s top companies now believe that creativity is the most important attribute of a future C-Suite senior leader. Americans for the Arts’ and The Conference Board’s Ready to Innovate study also supports their claim. To learn how businesses are using the arts to foster critical thinking and drive innovation, read this essay. You can find additional examples here.

2. Engage Employees, Especially Millennials
2014 BCA 10 honoree Hallmark displays employee art. Facebook offers art classes to employees, 2015 BCA 10 honoree NV Energy’s employees volunteer with local arts organizations and at arts events. "Employee engagement" is not just a buzzword or a passing trend. It holds powerful benefits for businesses. For example, many studies show that employees (particularly millennials) who frequently participate in workplace volunteer activities are more likely to be proud, loyal, and satisfied employees. The arts offers businesses many opportunities to engage employees both in and out of the workplace (a topic we’ll explore more on pARTnershipMovement.org in 2016). Find more examples of how the arts can help engage employees.

Read the rest on the pARTnership Movement!

2016 Diversity in Arts Leadership Internship Program - Applications Open!

The Arts & Business Council of New York is now accepting applications for the 2016 Diversity in Arts Leadership Internship Program!
The Diversity in Arts Leadership internship program strives to strengthen and advance diversity in the arts management field and provides college students working towards careers in the arts or business sectors with a hands-on introduction to arts nonprofits in New York City. The Arts & Business Council of New York matches undergraduate students from underrepresented backgrounds with energetic host arts organizations and business mentors, who guide the students’ personal and professional growth throughout the summer.

If you are an undergraduate student interested in applying, read the guidelines and apply online HERE!

If you are a New York City arts organization interested in hosting a Diversity in Arts Leadership intern, read the guidelines and apply online HERE!

Please direct any questions to Amy Webb, awebb@artsandbusiness-ny.org.

ABC/NY Events in 2016 - Save the Date

Diversity in the Arts Panel Discussion
Join the Arts & Business Council of New York, in partnership with Con Edison, for a discussion around the issue of diversity in the arts. Hear from panelists and thought leaders representing organizations and programs that advance diversity initiatives and stick around for a networking reception to follow.

Stay tuned to the event page for a list of panelists and a link to RSVP.

Thursday, February 18th, 2016
Lower Manhattan Headquarters
150 Broadway, 20th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Workshop: Building Partnerships with Local Corporations
Join ABC/NY for a workshop focusing on differentiating between securing foundation and corporate support for your arts organization. Facilitator Marli Fischer will speak about aligning your pitch with the goals of the corporation, keeping in mind its values and principles. Learn how to identify the right entry points and get tips for engaging the smaller business you may share a block with versus larger companies. Gain ideas on
how to add value to your proposal through employee engagement offerings and creating partnership opportunities beyond funding.

RSVP!

Tuesday, March 8th, 2016
Arts & Business Council of NY Theater Lobby
1 East 53rd Street
New York, NY 10022

Last Call for 2016 BCA 10 Nominations

Help Americans for the Arts recognize the best businesses partnering with the arts in America by nominating for the BCA 10 Awards by this Friday, January 8. Every year, Americans for the Arts recognizes 10 businesses of all sizes for their exceptional involvement with the arts that enriches the workplace, education, and the community. Nominate a business today!

Embracing Diversity by Supporting the Arts

BBVA Compass, a leading U.S. banking franchise, is committed to ensuring the availability of a broad array of artistic opportunities that reflect the diversity of the community, and it has been influential in bringing art from around the world to the communities it serves. BBVA Compass was named one of the BCA 10: Best Businesses Partnering with the Arts in 2014.

As the director of the Houston Symphony Orchestra’s (HSO) board of trustees, Manolo Sánchez, chairman and CEO of BBVA Compass assisted in creating programs and initiatives that resonate with Hispanic communities and also helped to establish the Houston Symphony Hispanic Leadership Council. Using the HSO Council as a model, BBVA Compass has initiated similar diversity programs in partnership with the Alabama Symphony Orchestra; the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; and the New Mexico Dance Institute, among other cultural institutions.

Continue reading on the pARTnership Movement.
ELNYA Joins ISPA's Night Out in Partnership with globalFEST

Kick off 2016 with fellow creatives around the world at International Society for the Performing Arts' Night Out in partnership with globalFEST! Enjoy great music whipped up by DJ 2melo, drinks and excellent company as the Emerging Leaders of New York Arts toasts to a happy, healthy, and fantastic New Year at Joe's Pub, one of the best music venues in NYC.

Other groups in attendance:
• International Society of Performing Arts (ISPA)'s Fellowship Programs
• Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP)'s Emerging Leadership Institute
• The Clore Leadership Programme, and
• New York 2016 ISPA Congress

Wednesday, January 13, 2016
10:45 PM - Midnight
Joe's Pub at The Public (435 Lafayette Street)

FREE with RSVP

Feature Your Business Volunteer & Employee Engagement Projects with ABC/NY

In 2015, the Arts & Business Council of New York launched its matching portal where individuals and business groups can connect with local arts opportunities - ABC/NY would love to feature your projects!
Projects range from individual and group volunteering, to arts-based training initiatives. Let ABC/NY connect you to local business professionals that are interested in contributing to and learning from the great work you are doing!

View the matching portal here, navigate around to see where your opportunities might fit into ABC/NY’s menu of options, and submit your own project(s) using our web-form!

For more information about ABC/NY’s work with volunteerism and employee engagement, please email our team at bva@artsandbusiness-ny.org.

**Americans for the Arts NABE Scholarship**

Apply now for the National Association of Business Economics/Americans for the Arts Scholarship awarded to a college or graduate student studying economics and the arts. The scholarship encourages the integration of the arts into the economic education process and is presented to recent high school graduates and college undergraduates who are majoring in economics and/or the arts. The award recipient must come from an economically disadvantaged household, have attended a public school, have participated in arts, have excelled academically, and have formally declared the intent to study economics. This $5,000 scholarship will be presented in March 2016 at the NABE conference in Washington DC. **Deadline 2/5/16.** For more details and to apply, click HERE.

**Want More?**

Stay connected to the Arts & Business Council of New York in between newsletters! Access more arts and business partnership stories or catch up on ones you may have missed. Visit the events section to stay up to date on upcoming professional development opportunities, networking events, webinars, and blog salons. Read more about our current programs, our board, and our advisory council!

Our Facebook page features even more news and amusements about the arts and business communities. You don't need to have an account to view our page!

You can also follow ABC/NY on Twitter, for even more arts news with a business focus (or, if you prefer, business news with an arts focus!). @ArtsBizNY

Do a kindness to ABC/NY! Please show your support of our work by making a tax-deductible contribution today.
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