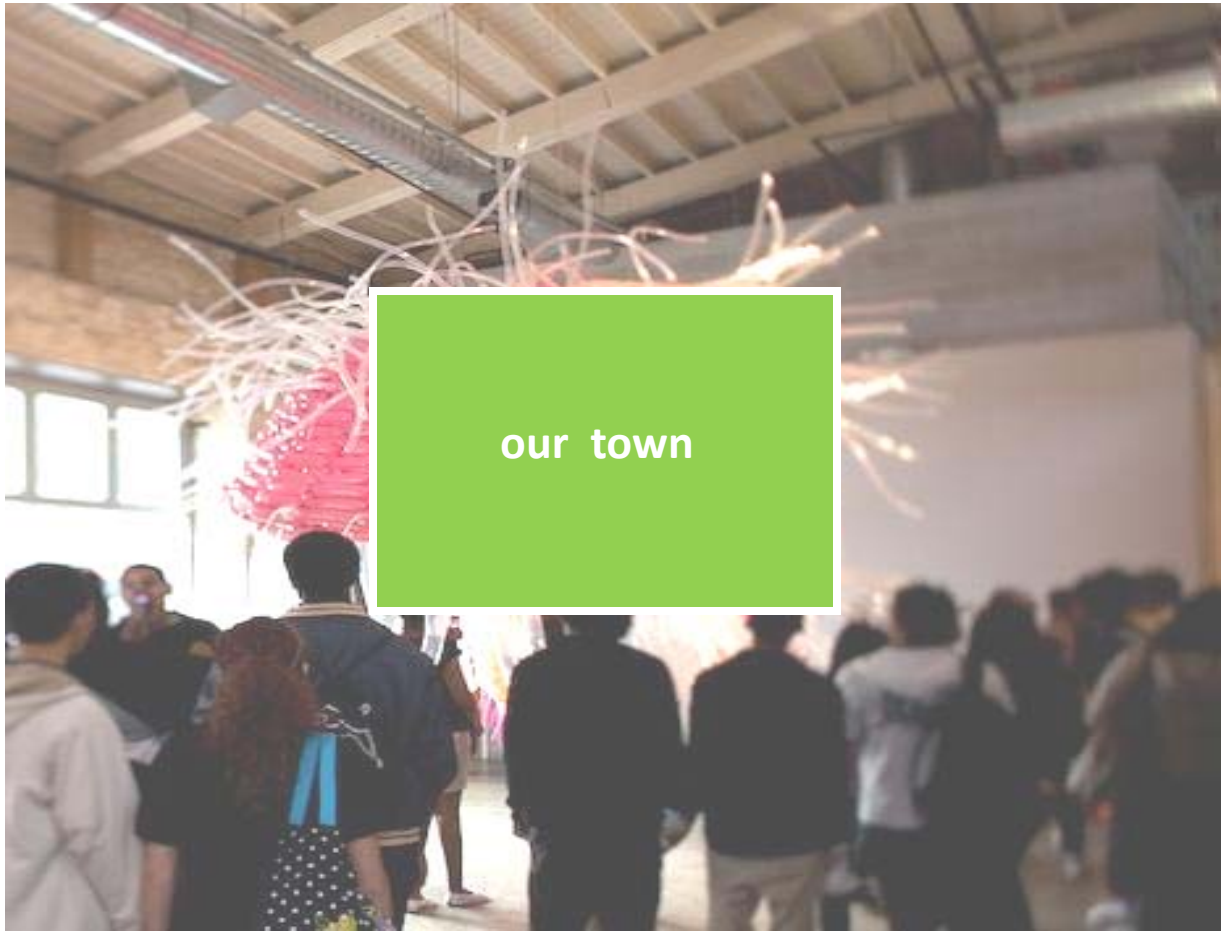
Jason Schupbach, Director


our town

our town

In creative placemaking, partners from public, private, nonprofit, and community sectors strategically shape the physical and social character of a neighborhood, town, city or region around arts and cultural activities.

- Markusen, A. & Gawda, A (2010) Creative Placemaking

partnership and livability

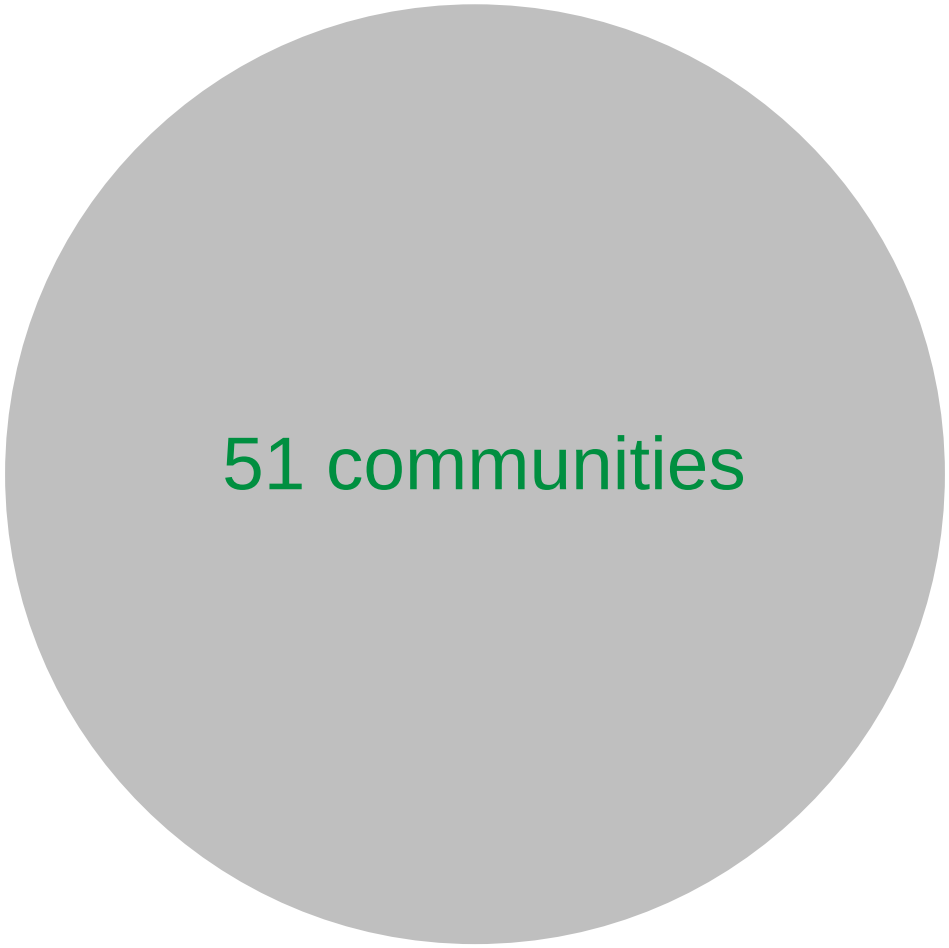
- Required **partnership** between local government entity and arts or design organization

- Our Town projects are intended to achieve the outcome of **Livability: American communities are strengthened through the arts**

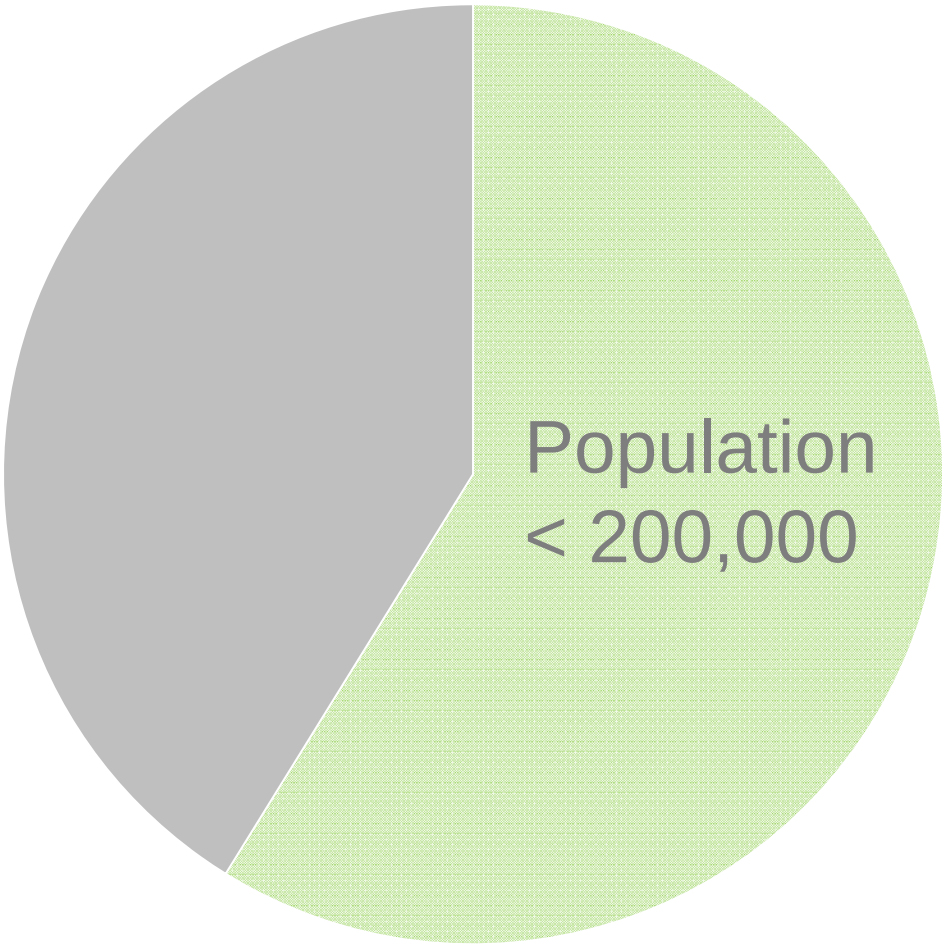
awardees

51 communities

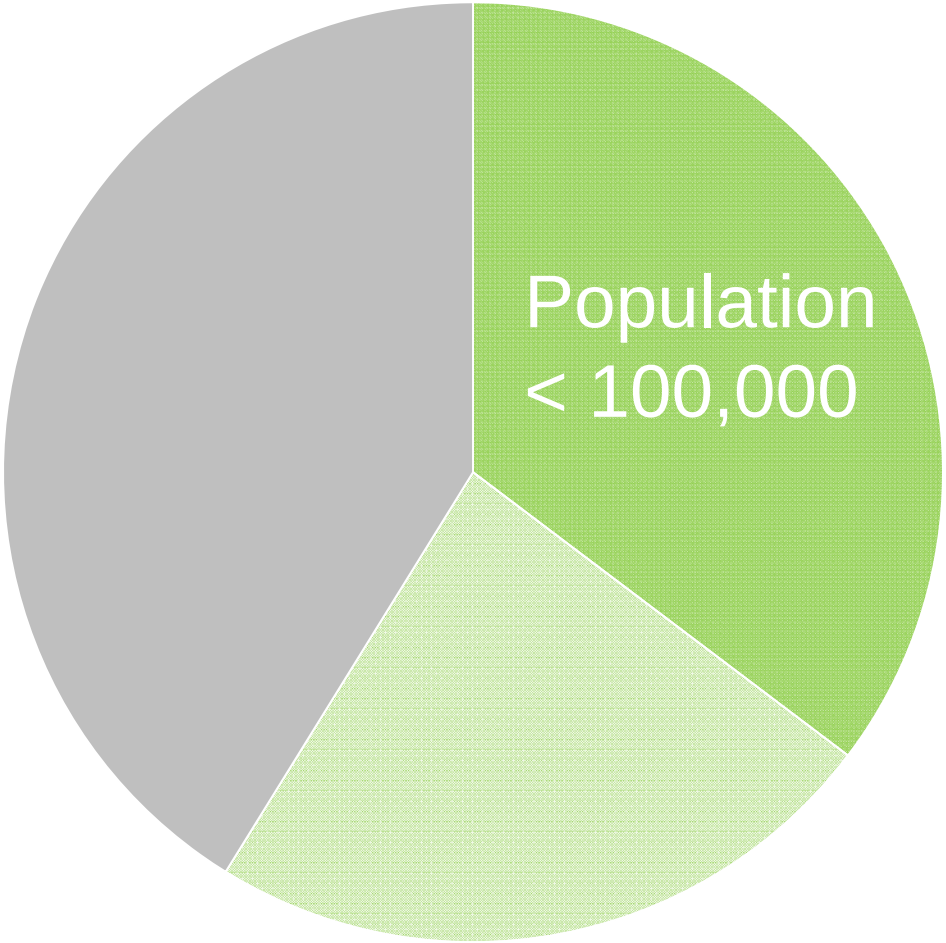
community size



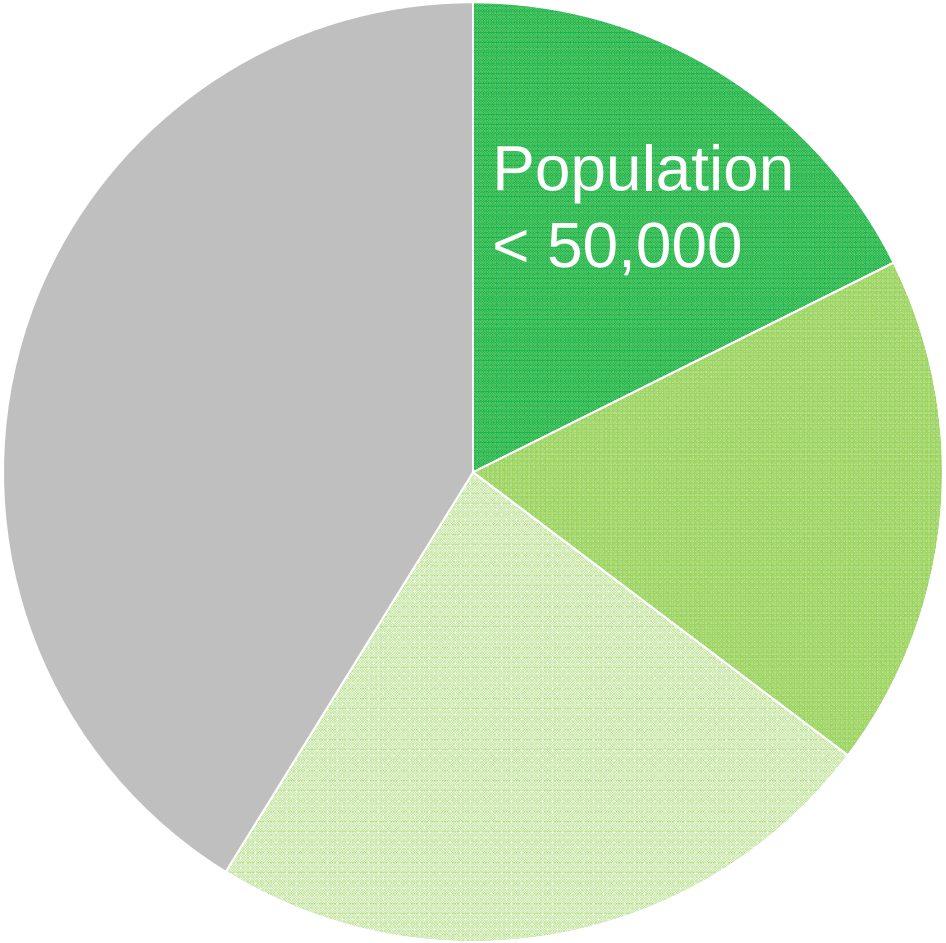
community size



community size

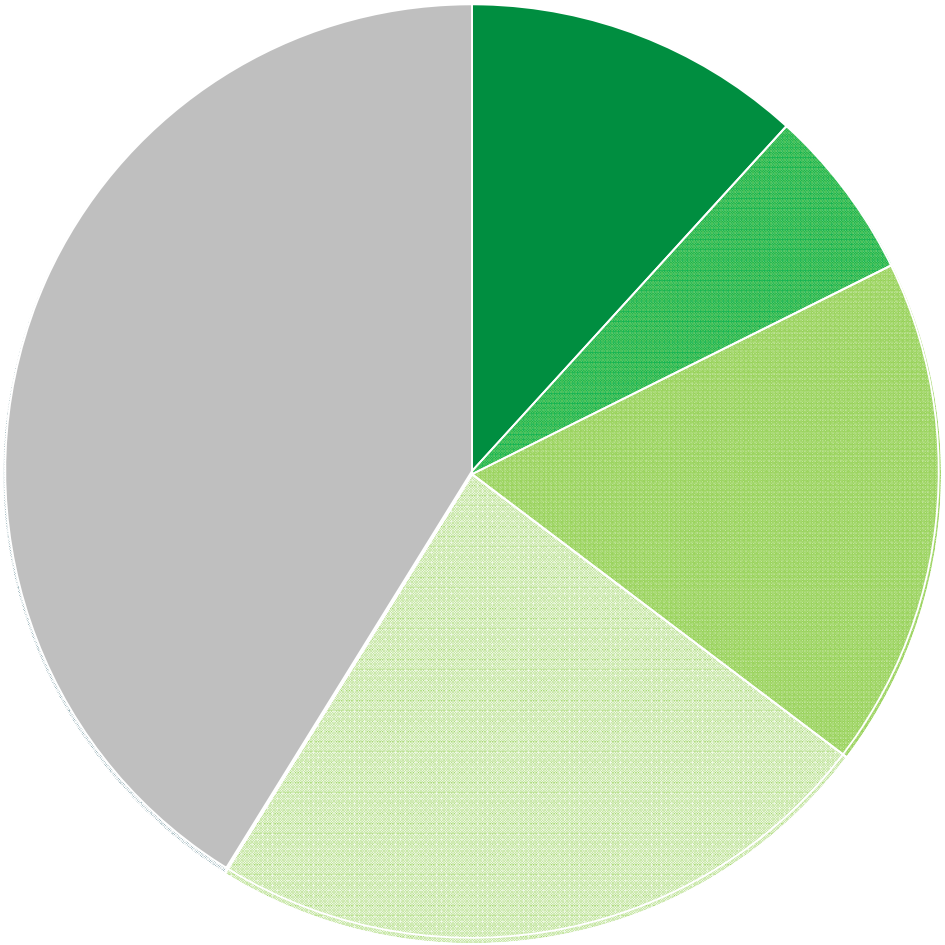


community size



community size

6 rural communities



cultural planning

cultural asset mapping

festivals

artist space

cultural facilities

public space design

public art

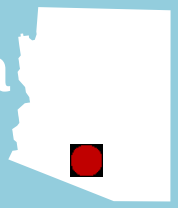
creative entrepreneurship

arts engagement

Cultural Planning

Ajo, Arizona

Pop: 3,750



International Sonoran Desert Alliance

$100,000

Plaza and Town Center Master Plan

Primary Partner:

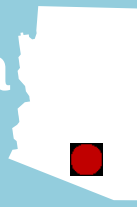
- Pima County, AZ

Aerial view looking towards the Curley School campus from the Ajo Plaza, Mark Boozer

Front entrance to Curley School artist live/work housing project, Ron McCoy

Looking towards the Ajo Train Depot (soon to be Visitor's Center) from the Ajo Plaza park, Maria Gmuca

Ajo, Arizona



Master plan for adaptive re-use of buildings and outdoor spaces, including:

- Public space use
- Wayfinding
- Streetscape design
- Public art siting
- Linkages

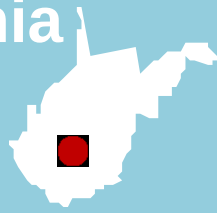
Aerial view of the Ajo Train Depot with arcades on either side, Nick Francis

The Hia C-ed O'odham Basket Dancers perform in the Ajo Plaza for Ajo's annual International Day of Peace Celebration, Jewel Clearwater

Diagram of project site, Maria Gmuca

Charleston Public Art Project

Charleston, West Virginia
Pop: 51,400



City of Charleston

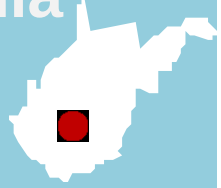
$50,000

Primary Partners:

- Charleston Urban Renewal Authority
- Charleston Area Alliance
- Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences

Bridge Lighting Installed on Elk River Bridge (funded by McGee Foundation), City of Charleston

Charleston, West Virginia

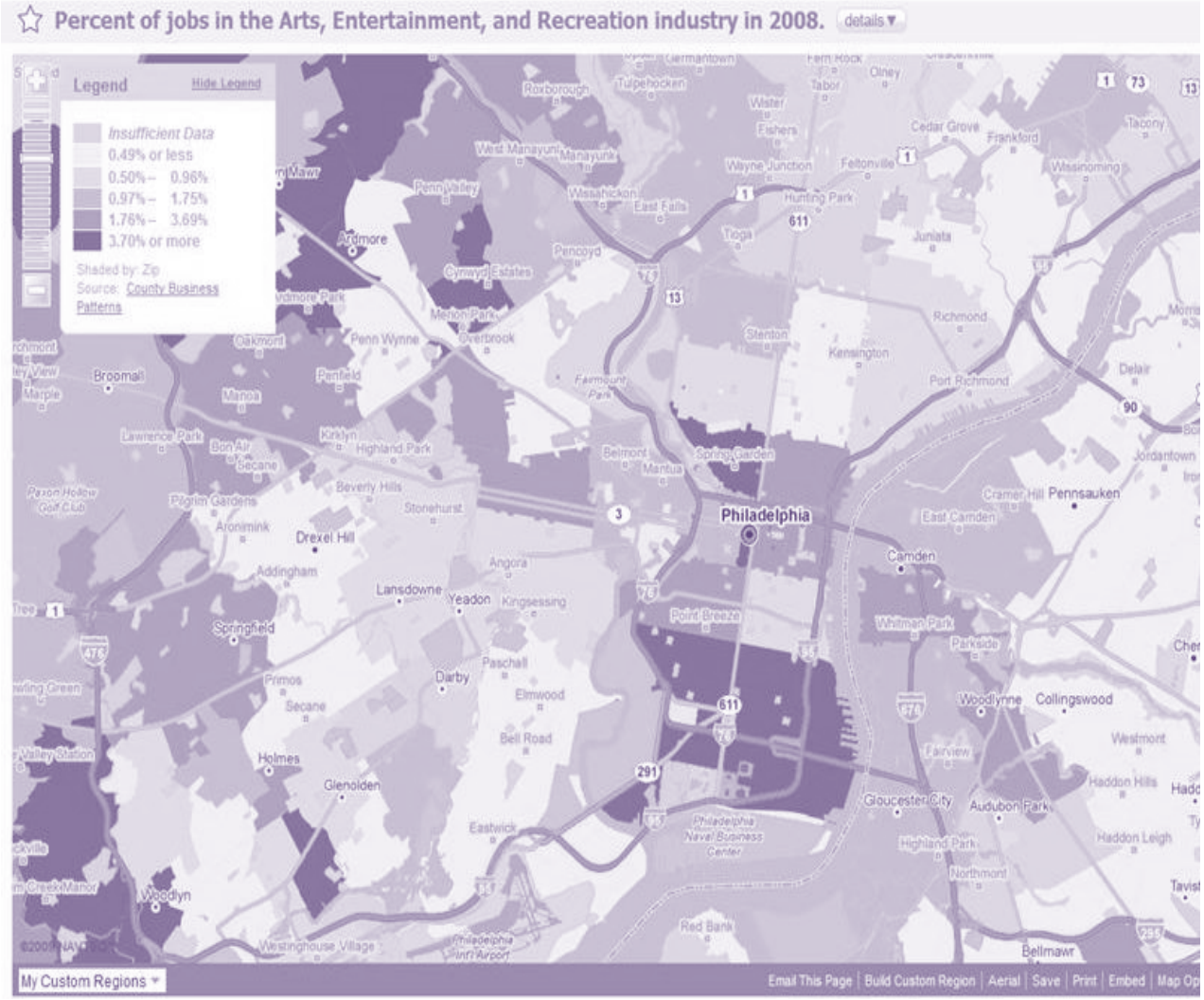


- Policies for public art
- Inventory of existing art
- Sites for future art installations & outreach

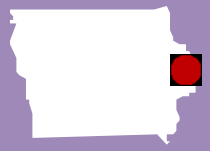
Image credits clockwise from left: Hallelujah, artist Albert Paley,http://charlestonian.blogspot.com, 64 ft tall monumental corten steel, bronze and stainless steel (gift of McGee Foundation); Festival delle Arti, artist Harry Marinsky, Joel Williams, bronze and patina (gift of Angus Peyton); Fountain, http://kd8jhj.blogspot.com/2010/10/sheryl-crow-charleston-wv.html

Image credits: Top left, Charleston Urban Renewal Authority; Bottom right, Naomi Bays

Cultural Asset Mapping



Dubuque, Iowa



Pop: 60,000

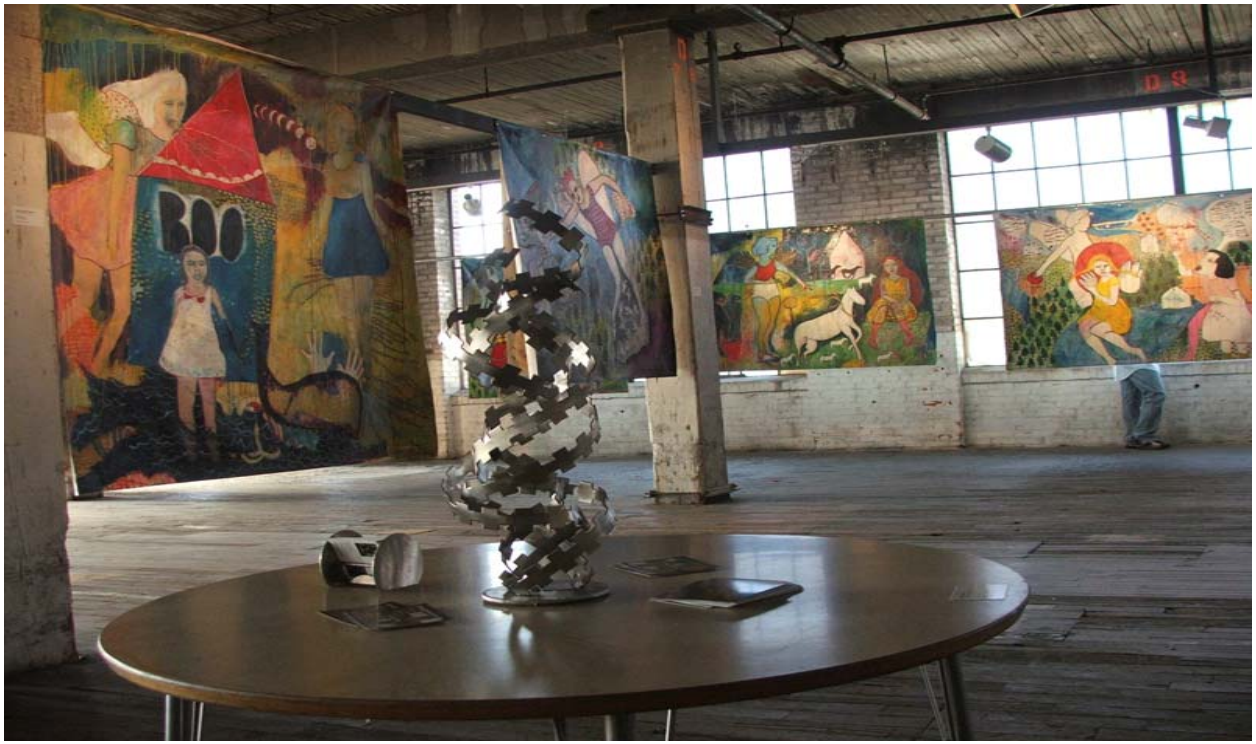
City of Dubuque

$100,000

Dubuque Historic Millwork District

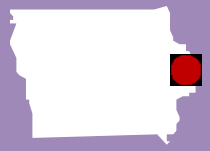
Primary Partners:

- Dubuque Main Street
- Downtown Dubuque Cultural Corridor
- Gronen Restoration
- Jeffrey Morton Associates
- PLACE (Projects Linking Art, Community & Environment)
- Dubuque Museum of Art
- Dubuque County Fine Arts Society
- Fly-By-Night Productions
- Dubuque Art Center
- Julien International Film Festival



2009 Voices from the Warehouse District exhibit, Dubuque Main Street

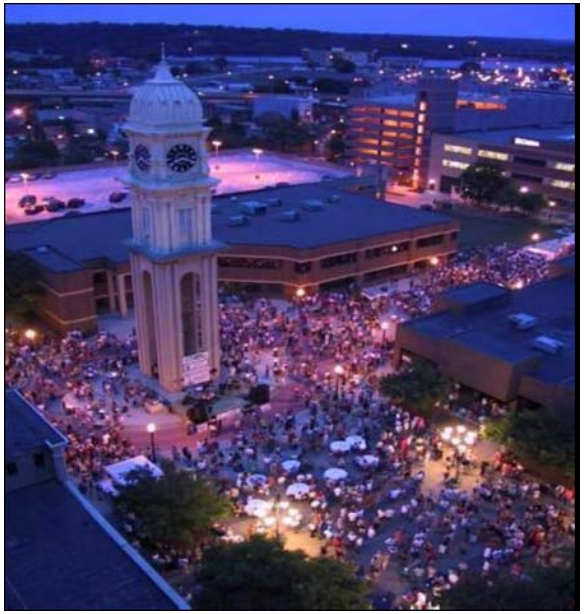
Dubuque, Iowa



Planning of Dubuque Historic Millwork District:

- Design for renovation
- Adaptive reuse of historic structure
- Creation of artist live/work space

"Resolution" by Gene Tully



"Dubuque … And All That Jazz" event, Dubuque Main Street

Restoration of 1100 Block of Main Street, Dubuque Main Street

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Pop: 1,526,006

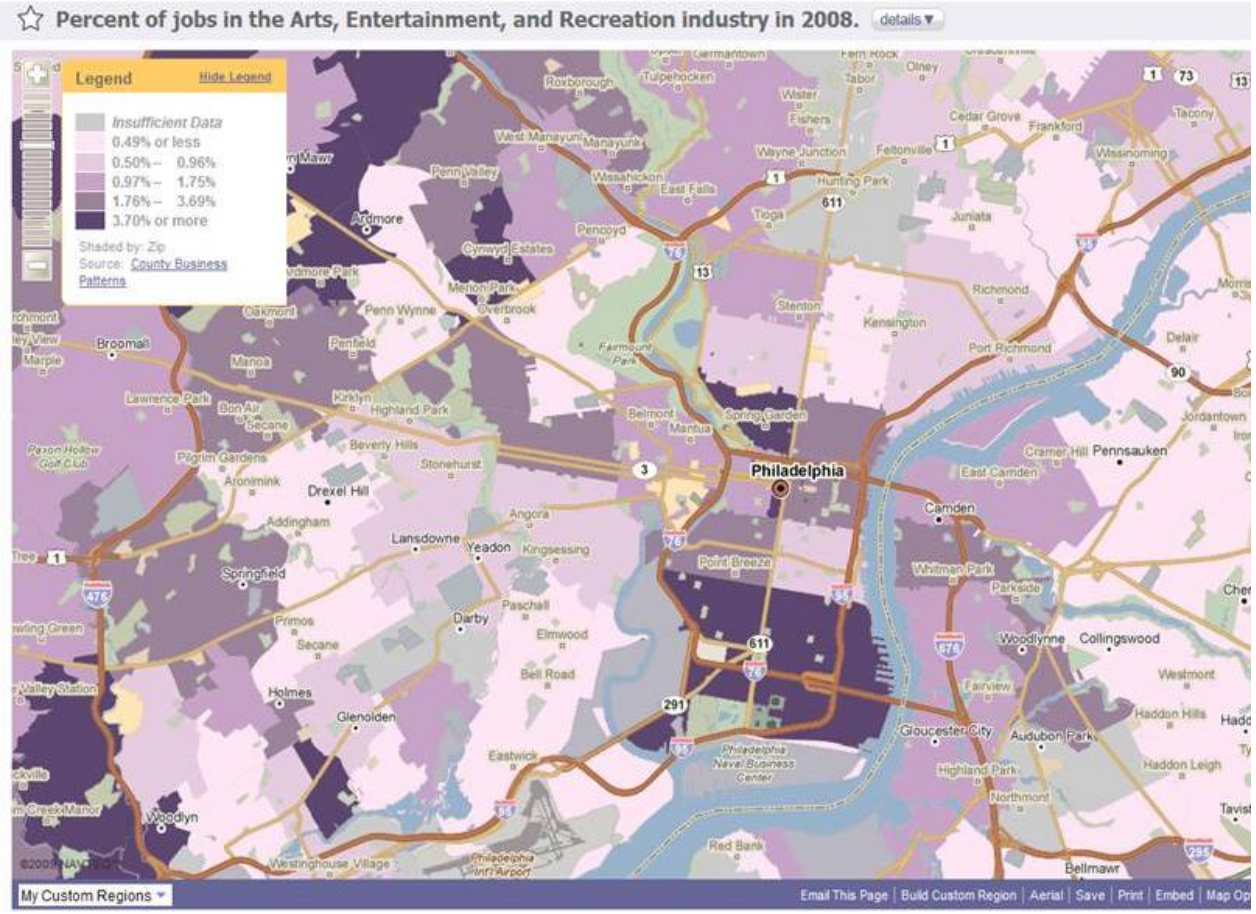
The Reinvestment Fund

$250,000

Creative Assets Mapping Database

Primary Partners:

- City of Philadelphia
- University of Pennsylvania's Social Impact of the Arts Project



Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Develop database to:

- Identify clusters of creative activity
- Develop prototype
- Collect community feedback
- Build Web site

Festivals

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Pop: 180,000

ArtPrize

$100,000

ArtPrize 2011

Primary Partners:

- Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts
- Grand Rapids Downtown Development Authority
- Several large sponsoring corporations

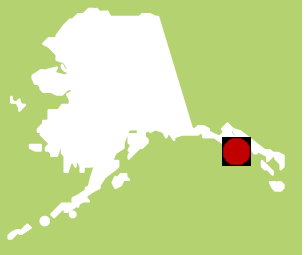
Students view a balloon sculpture by artist Jason Hackenwerth at the Urban Institute for Contemporary Art, Brian Kelly Photography and Film

Grand Rapids, Michigan

- Free two-week festival
- International art competition
- Winners determined by public vote
- 300,000 attendees
- 3 square miles of Grand Rapids

More than 50,000 people flood the streets of downtown Grand Rapids to participate in experimental performance art by Rob Bliss, Brian Kelly Photography and Film

Sitka, Alaska
Pop: 8,500



Alaska Arts Southeast, Inc.

$100,000

Sitka Festival of the Arts, Humanities, and Natural Sciences

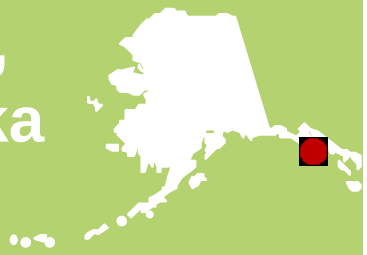
Primary Partner:

- Sitka City & Borough

Old power plant with campus behind, Sitka Sentinel, James Poulson

Patching roof of Whitmore building, Sitka Sentinel, James Poulson

Sitka, Alaska



- 10-week festival
- Transform former college campus into a multidisciplinary arts education campus
- Community planning
- Volunteer restoration

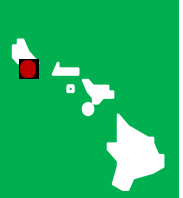
Ballerinas, Sitka Fine Arts Camp, Jayleen Beedle

Dancers, Sitka Fine Arts Camp, Berett Wilbur

Sonic Boom Class, Sitka Fine Arts Camp, Scott Fassett

Artist Space

Honolulu, Hawai'i



Pop: 953,207

PA'I Foundation

$150,000

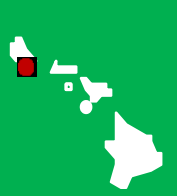
Traditional Hawaiian Cultural Center

Primary Partners:

- University of Hawai'i
- City & County of Honolulu
- Artspace Projects, Inc.

City of Honolulu, Greg Handberg

Honolulu, Hawaii



Develop cultural center to include:

- Classroom & performance space
- Artist live/work space
- Educational workshops
- Community outreach activities

Gordon 'Umi Kai at the Bishop Museum Arts Market making lua weaponry and tools

Pua Ali'i 'Ilima on O'ahu at the Prince Lot Hula Festival

Pua Ali'i 'Ilima on O'ahu at the Prince Lot Hula Festival

Hamilton, Ohio

Pop: 62,447

Artspace Projects

$50,000

Artspace Hamilton Lofts

Primary Partners:

- City of Hamilton
- Hamilton Community Foundation
- Hamilton Vision 2020 Commission
- Fitton Center for the Arts

Existing Conditions, SHP Leading Design

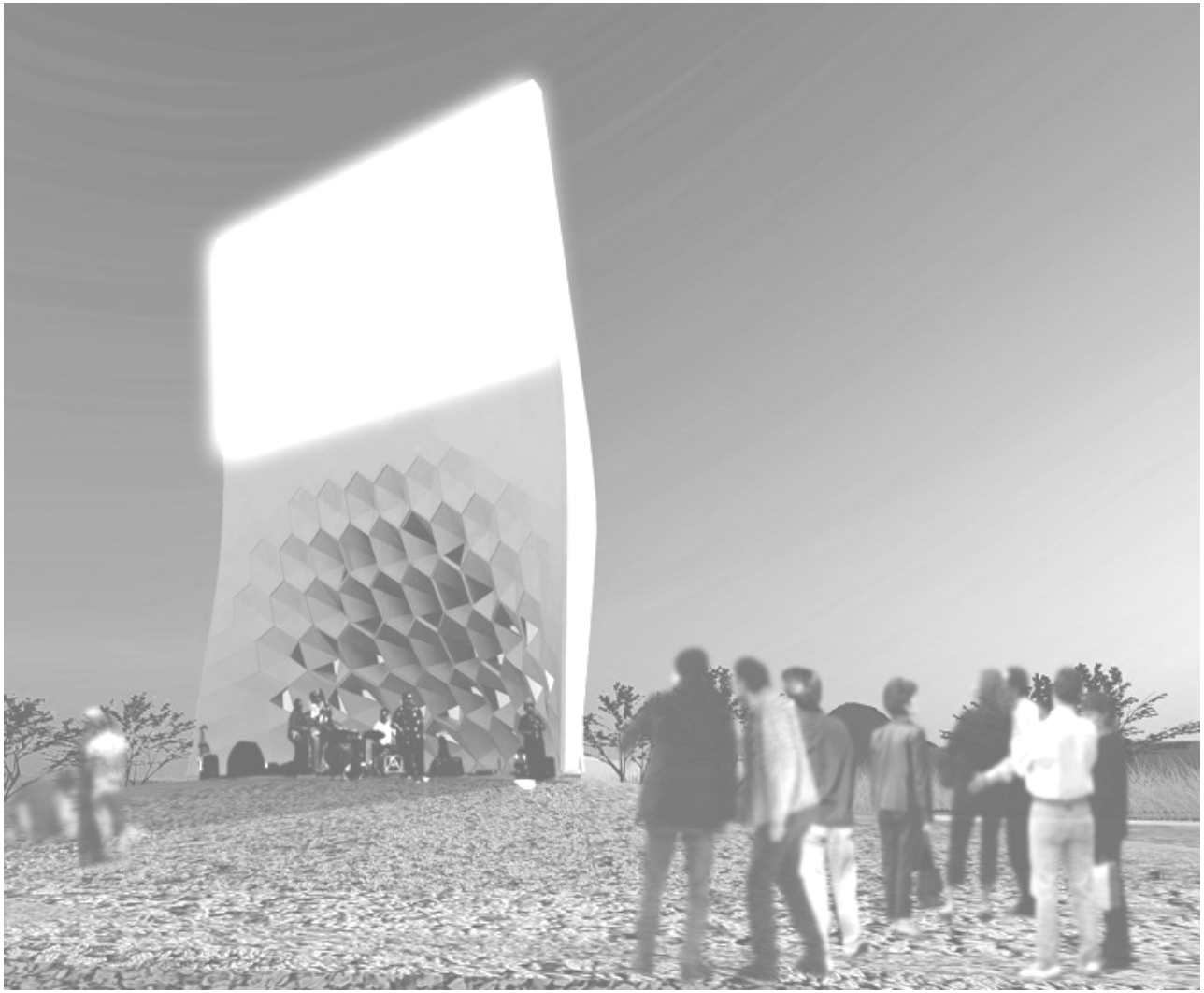
Hamilton, Ohio

Design artist live/work space:

- Transform 2 vacant buildings into 36 units
- Serve artists and families
- Provide 3,000 square feet of space for retail
- Create new pedestrian plaza and walkway

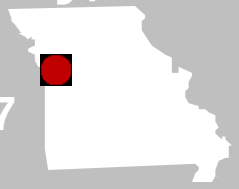
Rendering, SHP Leading Design

Cultural Facilities



Kansas City, Missouri

Pop: 459,787



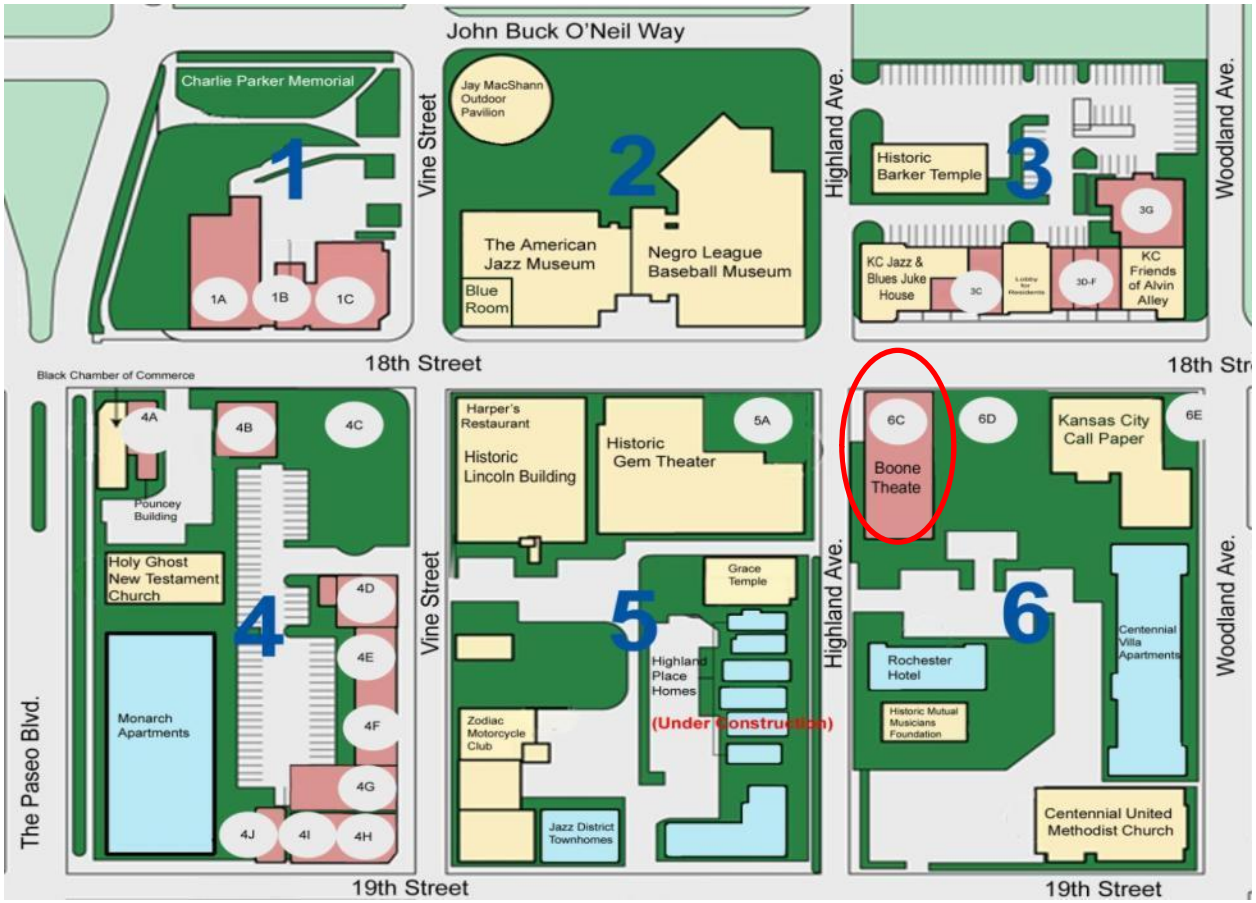
Metropolitan Arts Council of Greater Kansas City

$200,000

Historic 18th and Vine Jazz District

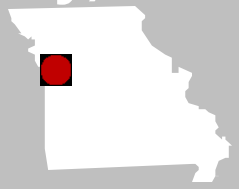
Primary Partners:

- Municipal Art Commission of Kansas City
- Downtown Council of Kansas City
- Jazz District Redevelopment Corporation
- American Jazz Museum



18th & Jazz Map, Downtown Council of Kansas City

Kansas City, Missouri



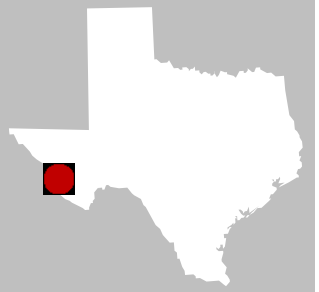
Predevelopment, design, & community planning for restoration of Boone Theater:

- Strengthen the existing arts & cultural district
- Provide coordinated programming with local live music presenters

Boone Theater, Downtown Council of Kansas City

Vizcaino County Park & Drive-in

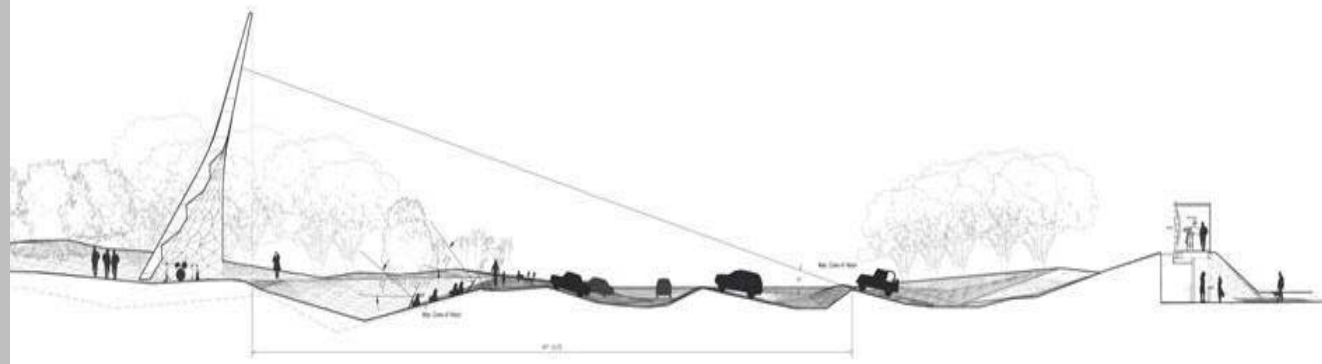
Marfa, Texas
Pop: 2,121



Ballroom Cultural Arts Foundation

$250,000

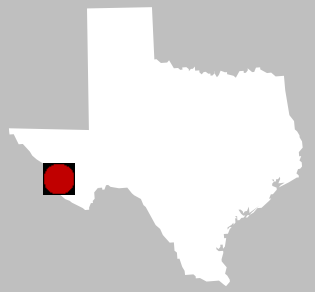
Primary Partners:
- Presidio County
- 24+ local, regional, & national cultural organizations



Site Plan, MOS Architects

Vizcaino County Park & Drive-in

Marfa, Texas

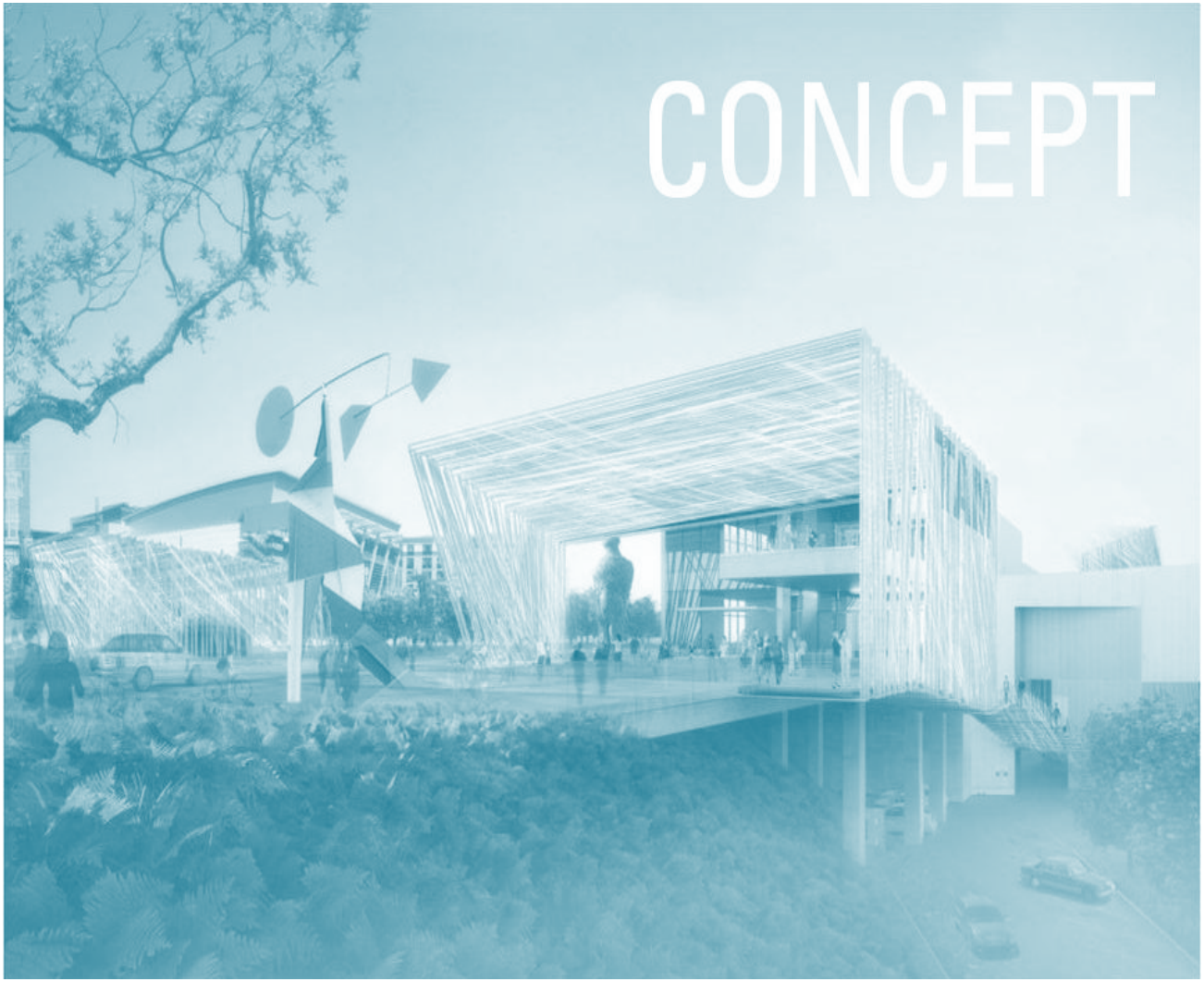


Multi-stage park improvement plan for Vizcaino County Park:

- Drive-In venue for music, film, and performing arts
- Park improvement projects
- Strengthen public access to the arts

Rendering, MOS Architects

Public Space Design



Fargo, North Dakota

Pop: 106,000

City of Fargo

$100,000

Fargo Pilot Project

Primary Partner:

- River Keepers

Existing Conditions, City of Fargo

Fargo, North Dakota

Public art process to:

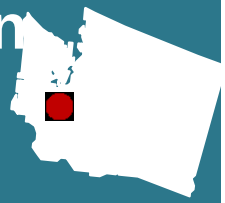
- Transform stormwater detention basins
- Install art
- Provide landscape and ecological design

©Jackie Brookner

©Jackie Brookner

©Jackie Brookner

Tacoma, Washington
Pop: 202,000



City of Tacoma

$200,000

Redesign of Tacoma Art Museum Plaza & Pacific Avenue Streetscape

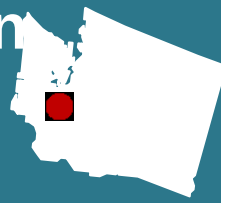
Primary Partner:

- Tacoma Art Museum

Awaiting Credit Confirmation
Tacoma Art Museum & plaza

Ortho Image above Tacoma Art Museum, Pacific Avenue and Tollefson Plaza, Downtown Tacoma, Sanborn 2009

Tacoma, Washington

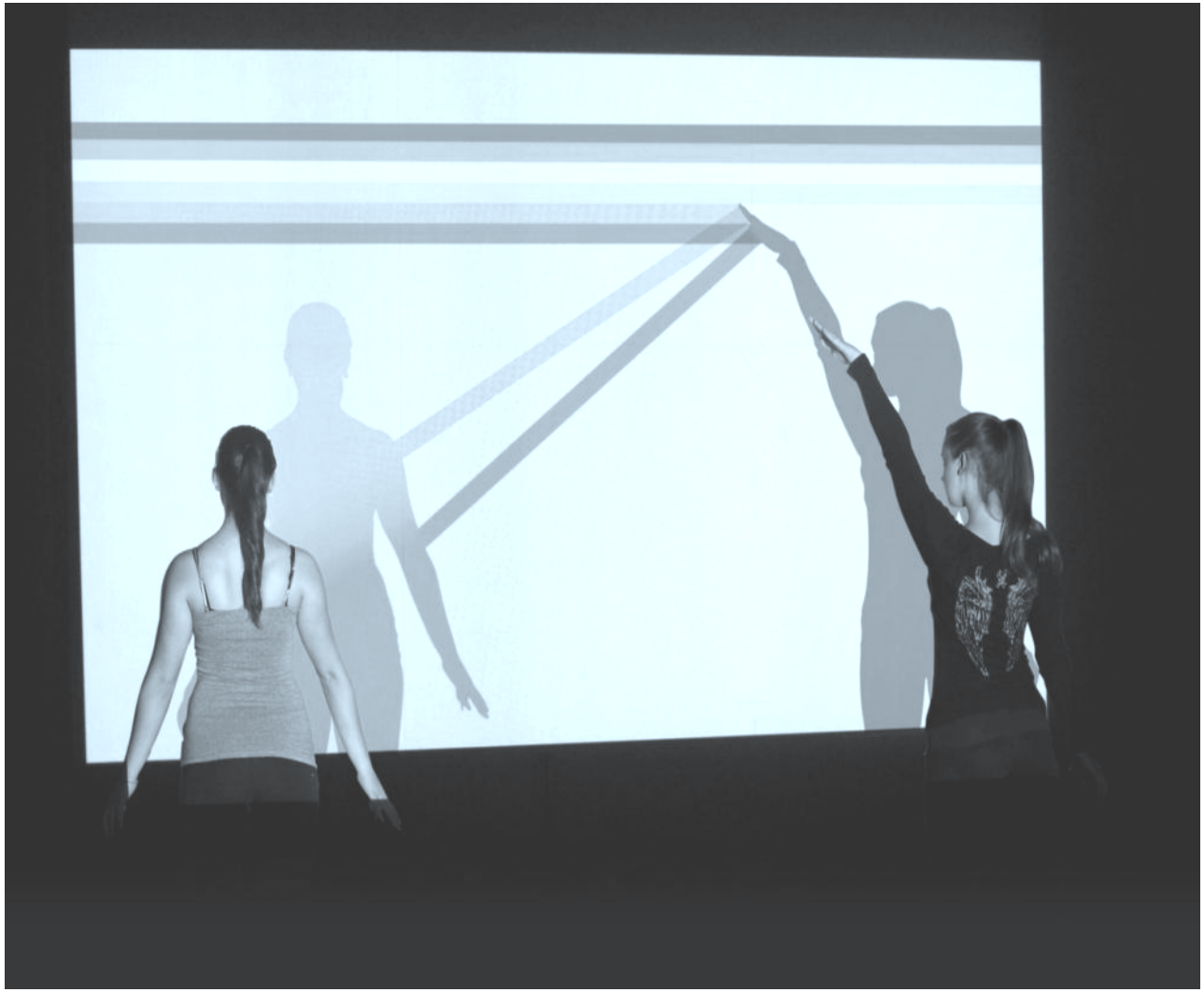


Collaborative design process for:

- Storm water infrastructure
- Public art
- Outdoor event space
- Signage

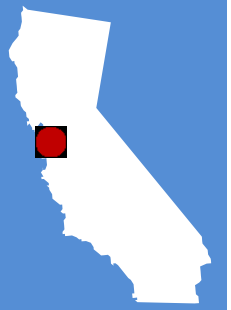
Conceptual Design proposal image, Olson Kundig Architects

Public Art



Richmond, California

Pop: 105,000



East Bay Center for Performing Arts

$150,000

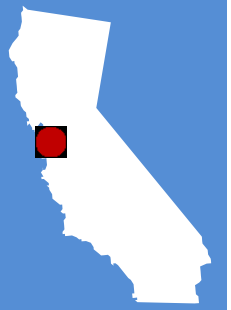
Interactive Art Installation

Primary Partners:

- City of Richmond
- Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
- Richmond Main Street Initiative
- Several faith-based & residential community groups

Young Artist Diploma Student, Serena Witherspoon, performing with the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts Youth West African Music & Dance Ensemble, under direction of CK Ladzepko, photograph by Michelle Flynn

Richmond, California



Interactive art installation:

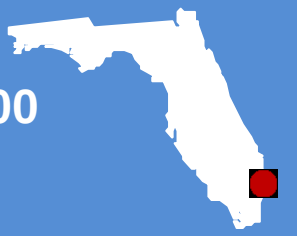
- Professionally choreographed and video-recorded motions
- Activate adjacent public plaza
- Attract new pedestrian activity to Iron Triangle neighborhood

"Social Light," Scott Snibbe, 2007

TC: Temporary Contemporary

Miami Beach, Florida

Pop: 86,000



Friends of the Bass Museum, Inc.

$100,000

Primary Partner:

- City of Miami Beach's Art in Public Places

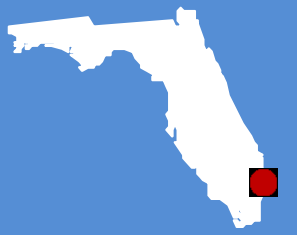
bassmuseumofart

Project Location

South Beach

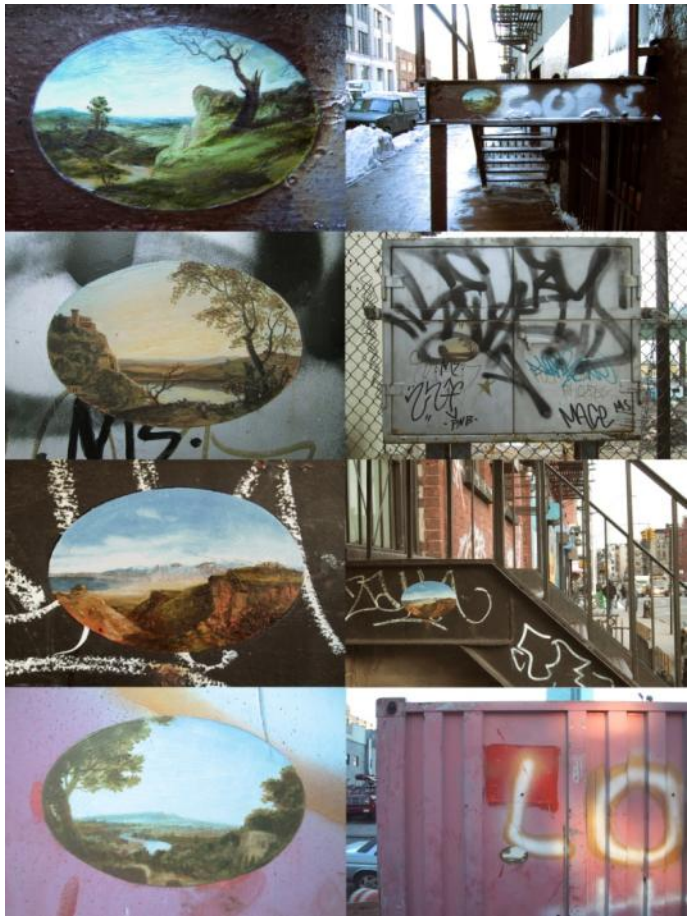
Government Cut to Dade Boulevard

Miami Beach, Florida



Curated art installation:

- Temporary, outdoor projects
- Local residencies for international artists
- Activate the 40-block City Center/Arts District



New York Beautification Project, Details of forty 5 x 7 inch oval landscapes painted in oils without permission on graffiti sites throughout New York City from 1999 –2001. Ellen Harvey, 2001

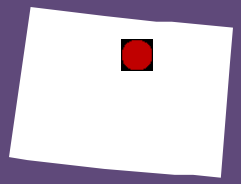
Green Naftali Gallery exhibition installation view, artist Jim Drain

Fabric Workshop exhibition installation view, artist Jim Drain

Creative Entrepreneurship

Fort Collins, Colorado

Pop: 59,229



City of Fort Collins

$100,000

Rocky Mountain Regional Arts Incubator

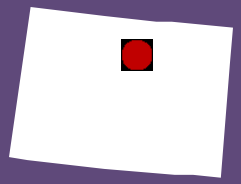
Primary Partners:

- Beet Street
- Colorado State University School of Arts
- Colorado Creative Industries
- Colorado & Nevada State Arts Councils
- Bohemian Foundation

Carnegie Building, 1904

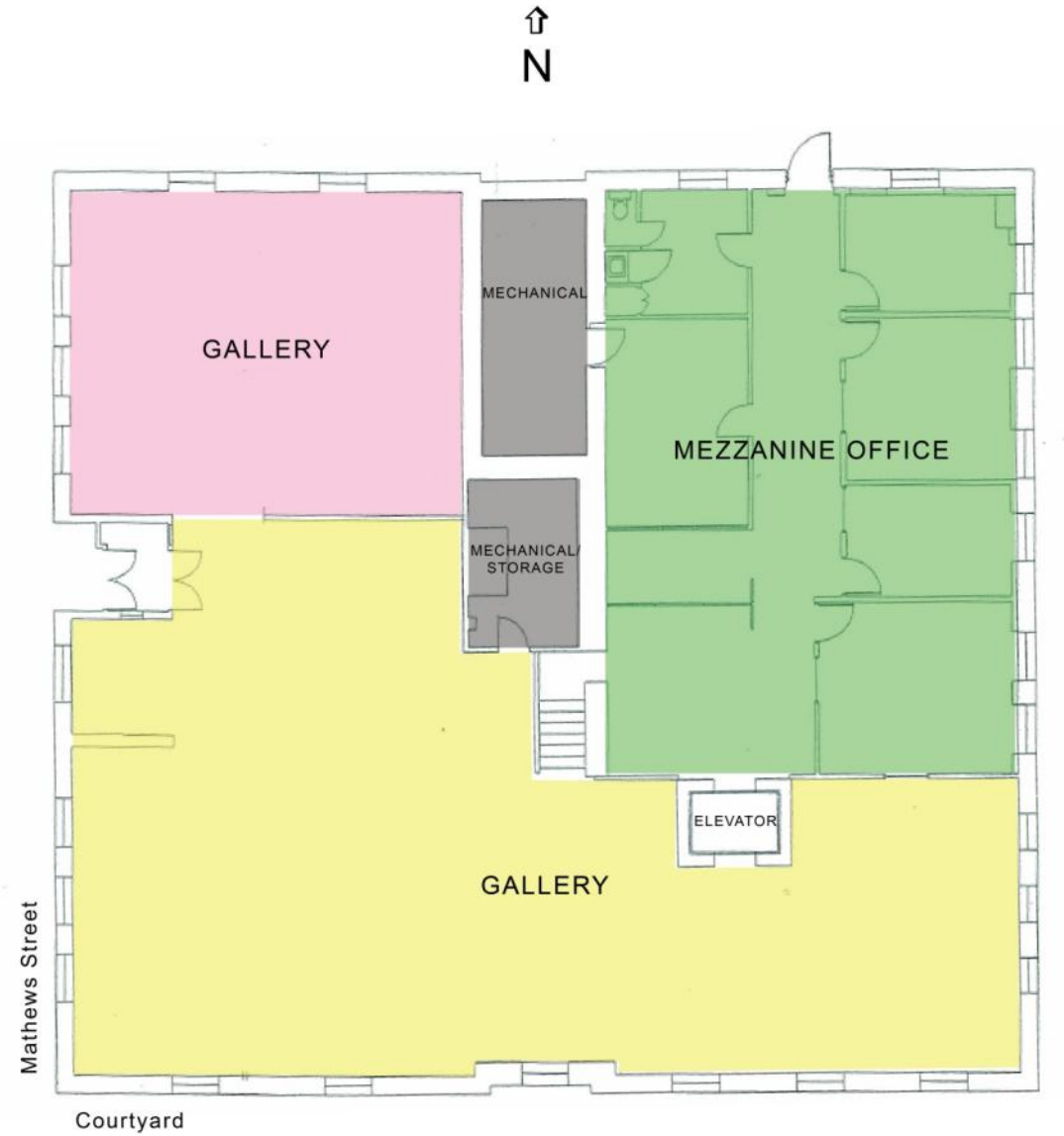
Carnegie Building Facade

Fort Collins, Colorado



Creation of arts incubator, including:

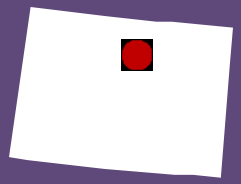
- Educational courses
- Internships in the arts
- Continuing education
- Gallery/performance space
- Studio/office space



CARNEGIE BUILDING
FIRST AND MEZZANINE LEVEL

Currently Serving as Fort Collins Museum/Discovery Science Center

Fort Collins, Colorado



Wilson, North Carolina

Pop: 78,000

City of Wilson

$250,000

Vollis Simpson Whirligig Park Project

Primary Partners:

- Wilson Downtown Properties
- North Carolina Arts Council
- U.S. National Parks Service
- North Carolina State Department of Commerce
- Wilson Chamber of Commerce
- Wilson Arts Council
- Barton College

Courtesy of Burk Uzzle

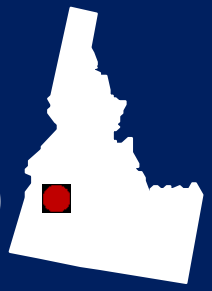
Wilson, North Carolina

- Repair and conserve original “Whirligig”
- Prepare for installation in planned park
- Establish conservation protocols for vernacular art
- New employment and training opportunities

Images courtesy of Burk Uzzle

Arts Engagement

Boise, Idaho
Pop: 205,600



Trey McIntyre Project

$100,000

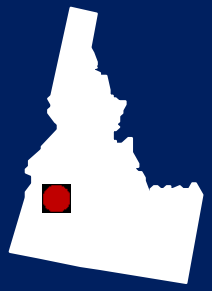
Boise Bright Spot Project

Primary Partner:

- City of Boise

"Brett Air," Dancer: Brett Perry, Photographer: David Harry Stewart, Company: Trey McIntyre Project

Boise, Idaho



Community engagement activities & outreach dance performances:

- Cross-cultural involvement with the arts
- Planning with city art festival
- Engage underserved populations

"Boise Involvement," Dancer: Company, Photographer: Robert Allen, Company: Trey McIntyre Project
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Reedsburg, Wisconsin

Pop: 7,827

Wormfarm Institute

$50,000

Farm/Art D-Tour

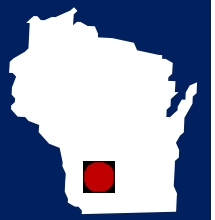
Primary Partners:

- Sauk County Land Conservation Department
- Sustain Sauk County
- Wisconsin Arts Board
- University of Wisconsin-Extension
- Local farmers and artists

Wormfarm, Donna Neuwirth

Roadside culture stand and photo by Peter Flanary

Reedsburg, Wisconsin



- Tours along rural roads
- Farm-based art installations
- Performances
- Artist-designed mobile farm stands
- Interpretative signage

Roadside culture stand : Artist Homer Daehn, photo Donna Neuwirth

Roadside culture stand: drawing by Nicholas Allen, Chad Hilke, Ethan Skeels

Artwork and photo by Katie Schofield

our town awardees

Ajo, AZ
Baltimore, MD
Boise, ID
Boston, MA
Burlington, VT
Casper, WY
Charleston, SC
Charleston, WV
Chattanooga, TN
Columbus, OH
Detroit, MI
Dubuque, IA
El Paso, TX
Evanston, IL
Fargo, ND
Fort Collins, CO
Grand Rapids, MI
Hamilton, OH
Hartford, CT
Honolulu, HI
Houston, TX
Jackson, MS
Kansas City, MO
Little Rock, AR
Los Angeles, CA
Marfa, TX
Memphis, TN
Miami Beach, FL
Minneapolis, MN
Montgomery, NY
New Haven, CT
New Orleans, LA
New York, NY
North Adams, MA
Opa-Locka, FL
Philadelphia, PA
Portland, ME
Providence, RI
Richmond, CA
San Angelo, TX
San Diego, CA
San Jose, CA
Sarpy County, NE
Sauk County, WI
Shelton, WA
Shreveport, LA
Sitka, AK
Tacoma, WA
Tucson, AZ
Willowbrook, CA
Wilson, NC

our town awardees