

Pittsburgh Is Art is a collaboration of local arts organizations who have gathered to develop a collective voice to share the arts story with Pittsburgh and its visitors.

History of the Arts in Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh was the home of 19th century steel barons, entrepreneurs, bankers and industrialists such as Andrew Carnegie, Henry Clay Frick, and Andrew Mellon. Between them they also helped form modern philanthropy. Their largess created museums, parks, libraries, and universities in Pittsburgh and elsewhere, and their legacy is seen in the present day institutions of this city. The arts and culture infrastructure they established is a major reason why Pittsburgh is repeatedly hailed as a top city in which to live and work.

Art transforms Pittsburgh

When the steel mills shuttered in the 1970s and 80s, many were ready to disregard Pittsburgh as another city laid to rest with its dependence on one industry. Today, Pittsburgh has emerged revitalized and a shining example of how post-industrial cities can reinvent their economies. The arts are a key strategy in transforming the region, with shining examples in communities like the Northside, Lawrenceville, Penn Avenue, the Cultural District, Braddock and Southside. The communities are home to cultural nonprofits, artists' lofts, art galleries, and small businesses that have helped to reshape Pittsburgh's image and economy.

Art employs Pittsburgh

Arts-centric businesses play an important role in building and sustaining economic vibrancy. They employ people, spend money locally, generate government revenue, and are a cornerstone of tourism and economic development.

Nationally, nonprofit arts organizations are a \$166 billion industry that supports 5.7 million jobs and generates \$29 billion in annual revenue for local, state, and federal governments.

Locally, the non-profits arts have a big impact:*

- \$341.56 million in local economic activity is generated — \$230.7 million by the organizations and an additional \$110.87 million in event-related spending.
- 10,192 full-equivalent jobs are supported and \$204.29 million in household income is generated to local residents
- \$33.8 million in local and state government revenue is generated

Furthermore, the arts are one of the key components in attracting the 10 million people who visit the Pittsburgh region annually. Travel is a \$3 billion industry that provides more than 50,000 full-time equivalent jobs in Allegheny County, according to VisitPittsburgh Visitors and Convention Bureau.

**PITTSBURGH
IS ART**

Pittsburgh Is Art
707 Penn Ave, 2nd Floor
Pittsburgh PA 15222-340
www.pittsburghisart.org

For more information,
contact:
Maggie Johnson
mjohnson@pittsburghartsCouncil.org
412.391.2060 x229

*All figures from 2005 Americans for the Arts Economic Impact report

Art greens Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh's environmental artists and architects are at the forefront of "greening" cities and communities.

Pittsburgh is a leader of the green architecture movement with close to 40 LEED certified buildings, a total of 3,302,449 square feet of space.

These buildings include:

- The Children's Museum of Pittsburgh
- WYEP Radio Station at Bedford Square
- PNC Firstside Center
- Pittsburgh Glass Center
- Heinz History Center
- David L. Lawrence Convention Center
- Felician Sisters Convent and High School
- Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Brookline branch
- Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
- Phipps Conservatory and Botanicals which is the world's greenest public garden featuring a host of eco-smart technologies like fuel cells, green roofs, and wind power.

Pittsburgh is also home to America's top-ranked sustainable architecture program at Carnegie Mellon University. This undergraduate program is part of Carnegie Mellon's commitment to environmental sustainability and produces tomorrow's leaders in green design.

Art inspires Pittsburgh

The city cannot be described without noting the significance of the art and culture scene. Carnegie Museum of Art's Carnegie International is North America's longest-running contemporary art survey (founded in 1896) featuring a world-wide roster of international artists. Many of the artworks displayed at the International become part of the museum's permanent collection.

Furthermore, the annual Silk Screen Film Festival imports the latest Asian and Asian American films to the region, while the region's colleges and universities attract an international roster of hundreds of researchers, instructors, and scholars.

The Andy Warhol Museum exports art work for exhibitions world-wide and the Pittsburgh Symphony regularly entertains audiences around the globe. The Westmoreland Museum of American Art tours exhibitions throughout Europe.

Artists and Performers from Pittsburgh

Countless artists and performers were born in Pittsburgh or were educated here, and their works can be seen, heard, and experienced around the globe.

Those artists include Andy Warhol and Fred Rogers; singer and songwriter Christina Aguilera; actor and vocalist Lena Horne; jazz musicians Stanley Turrentine and Art Blakey; hip-hop artist Wiz Khalifa; actors Michael Keaton, Tamara Tunie, Jeff Goldblum, Ted Danson, Melina Eleni Kanakaredes, and Zachary Quinto; authors Annie Dillard, Stewart O'Nan, and John Edgar Wideman; mashup artist Gregg Michael Gillis a.k.a. Girl Talk; dancers Martha Graham and Gene Kelly; playwright August Wilson; composer Henry Mancini; painters Philip Pearlstein and John Currin; conceptual artist Mel Bochner and visual artist Raymond Saunders; jazz musicians Billy Strayhorn, Erroll Garner, and Ahmad Jamal; photographers Duane Michals and Charles "Teenie" Harris; authors Rachel Carson, Gertrude Stein, Michael Chabon, and David McCullough; sculptors Thaddeus Mosley and Jonathan Borofsky; painter Mary Cassatt; drummer and band leader Roger Humphries; directors George Romero, Rob Marshall, John Wells, and Steven Bochco; and classical pianist Earl Wild, comic illustrator Paul Gulacy, Reebok designer Doug Steinmiller, and iPhone designer Freddy Anzures.