

Quality of Life Result: All Connecticut citizens and visitors have access to and engage in and with arts, historic preservation and tourism assets, contributing to livable, vibrant and productive communities.

Contribution to Result: The Artist Fellowship Program provides recognition of achievement and funding support for Connecticut artists to encourage artistic development and the creation of new works of art.

Program Expenditures	State Funding	Federal Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding
Actual SFY12	\$137,500	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$137,500
Estimated SFY13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Partners: cultural service agencies (local arts agencies), cultural institutions, higher education institutions

**How Much Did We Do?
 Artistic Disciplines Offered**

The Artist Fellowship program over the years has engaged artists in the disciplines of:

Offered in Even # fiscal years	Offered in Odd # fiscal years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crafts • New media • Painting • Photography • Sculpture/Installation • Works on Paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choreography • Fiction • Film • Music Composition • Playwriting • Poetry

Story behind the baseline:

The program engages artists from every corner of the State and it reaches a wide spectrum of participants; emerging artists, mid-career artists and master artists.

Trend Going in Right Direction:

There has been consistency over the years with fluctuation between the various disciplines. Each year COA evaluates the disciplines offered (and not offered) and strives to align them with the needs of the field.

**How Well Did We Do It?
 Percentage of Awarded Artists**

Fiscal Year	# of recipients / to the # of applicants	% of recipients
2009	36 / 175	21%
2010	37 / 401	9%
2011	27 / 182	15%
2012	46 / 331	14%

Story behind the baseline:

The program is highly competitive due to the large number of applicants, the available funds, along with the rigorous panel review process.

Funding is limited only to the top scoring applicants. All applicants are reviewed by peer professional panelists who are experts in the designated disciplines.

Trend Going in the Right Direction:

The award remains prestigious, yet the number of awards makes it possible for fairly widespread support of the field.

**How Well Did We Do It?
 Two (2) Award Levels**

Fiscal Year	# of \$2,500 awards	# of 5,000 awards	\$ of grants awarded
2009	23	13	\$122,500
2010	24	13	\$125,000
2011	14	13	\$100,000
2012	37	9	\$137,500

Story behind the baseline:

Fellowship funding is awarded, not requested by applicants. The program offers two (2) awards, one at \$2,500 and the other at \$5,000.

Panelists review the applications which include work samples and make recommendations based on the quality of the work. In addition, artists must demonstrate their ability to continue to make new work if awarded.

Trend Going in the Right Direction:

Panelists make award level recommendations as part of their review. COA is currently revising size of the awards to better align with national trends along with required support of the field.

**Is Anyone Better Off?
Arts Economy / Job Creation**

Statistics captured in Testimonials.

Award = Funding & Recognition for CT Artists
Funding = Ability for Artists to produce new work, employ others and support the arts industry.

The funds impact the careers of the artists and in many cases the funding allows the artists to employ others. For example; Choreographers hire dancers, Playwrights hire actors, Music Composers hire musicians, Visual artists hire studio assistants and Filmmakers hire actors.

Story behind the baseline

Testimonials are a significant part of the final report process for the Artist Fellowship program. These testimonials capture and convey the use of the funds along with the impact but unfortunately they cannot provide this information in statistical charts.

COA is looking at ways to redesign the Final Reports to include a greater focus on capturing raw data from artists which will highlight the significance the grant plays on their ability to advance their careers, employ others and therefore, impacting job creation and the arts economy.

This small award is often the starter fuel to the fire and from there the recipient is able to sustain the energy to complete the work and engage others in the process.

Trend Going in the Right Direction:

There is more work to do to track the impact of Fellowship dollars. There is evidence in the testimonials collected but raw data is necessary to better illustrate the success.

**Is Anyone Better Off?
Support of Connecticut Artists**

Number of Artists awarded grants per discipline over the past 4 fiscal years.		
Discipline	FY12	FY10
Crafts	7	4
New Media	5	4
Painting	11	9
Photography	9	7
Sculpture / Installation	9	8
Works on Paper	5	5
Discipline	FY11	FY09
Choreography	3	5
Fiction	3	6
Film	6	5
Music Composition	3	7
Playwriting	5	6
Poetry	7	7

Story behind the baseline:

The strength of the program is with its competitive nature. Applicants must present a strong portfolio of work and demonstrate the ability to continue to create great works of art.

Trend Going in the Right Direction:

To be meaningful and worthwhile to the applicants, it is important to continue with the rigorous panel process with limited awardees.

Proposed actions to turn the curve:

The Artist Fellowship program strives to consistently reevaluate the categories offered, the submission requirements, the number of grants awarded and the dollar value per grant. As the arts change around us, we must also adjust the program to better serve the artists here in Connecticut.

Increasing the Significance of the Award

- COA will be shifting to even fewer but larger Fellowship Awards thus elevating the stature of the award and providing greater impact on the career of the artists.
- The award will carry more prestige for those who are awarded a **Connecticut Artist Fellowship**.
- Awards will be distributed at the Governor's Arts Awards bringing greater attention to the significant role these artists play in CT. Therefore, the program will not administer funds in FY13 and will resume in FY14.

Continuing and Enhancing our Partnerships

- Partners help to reach new artists who may not be familiar with the program.
- The program engages recent graduates and several emerging artists have received recognition through the program. The program, in part, provides these young talented artists with an incentive to remain in Connecticut and to become part of the arts economy of the State.

Stronger Reporting

- COA is aware of the need to better capture usable data at the final reporting stage and will be working to develop appropriate measures that are in line with the program.

Data Development Agenda:

Identify Measure you need to develop or improve data for and plans for obtaining the data.

Impact of the Award is a measure that needs to be developed further with the development of questions and instructions which specifically target how the funds support the arts industry in Connecticut and the career of the awarded artist.