

#### Healing, Bridging, Thriving:

#### A Summit on Arts and Culture in our Communities



"The arts are medicine, and the arts are a source of healing. And that's why they deserve prioritization and investment, and they deserve our attention as we think about how to address this loneliness epidemic."

U.S. Surgeon General Vivek H. Murthy

Healing, Bridging, Thriving: A Summit on Arts and Culture in our Communities January 30, 2024



#### **NEA Pilot Initiative:**

#### **Advancing Social Connection and Belonging**



## Nationwide Demonstration **Projects**

Nine Awards

Supplemental Funding for State and Jurisdictional Arts Agencies

Two Funding Tiers: \$25K or \$75K

Photo by Cfreedom Photography, courtesy of Ashé Cultural Arts Center in Louisiana.



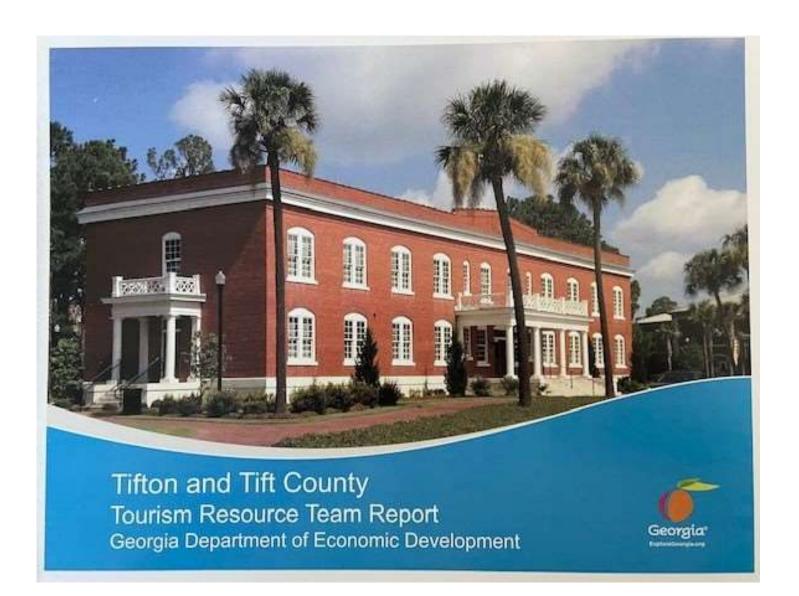
# State Arts Agency Cross-Sector Strategies More Than Murals











## Georgia Municipal Association (GMA)



Cindy Eidson
Director of Community and Economic
Development
Georgia Municipal Association

## How do we get them to work together?





### Thomasville



## Who should attend?







## Day 1



## Tour of Thomasville







## Day 2



PLAN YOUR PROJECT	
COMMUNITY CHALLENGE	
COMMUNITY ASSETS	
CONCEPTUAL IDEAS (S.W.O.T)	
STRENGTHS   WEAKNESSES   OPPORTUNIT	TIES   THREATS

## Doraville



## Cairo



## More Than Murals





Sugar Hill





Monroe

Valdosta





#### **Creative Business Loan Fund**

- Rolled out in November 2020.
- Partnership with two PA Community Development Finance Institutions (CDFIs)
   Bridgeway Capital
   Community First Fund
- PCA provided each with a \$250,000 grant to use for administration, loan loss reserves, and business loans.
- Required match of \$1M
- Prioritizes lending to businesses in low-income or rural communities and BIPOC owned businesses.
- Added Rising Tide Community Loan Fund (Nov. 2023).
- Further expansion planned to better serve PA's rural creative small businesses.





- How does the PCA define a creative small business?
  - A company having 25 or fewer full-time employees with annual revenue under \$250,000.
  - Business activities include but are not limited to:

Marketing – Advertising and marketing agencies & professionals

**Architecture – Architecture firms & architects** 

Visual Arts & Crafts - Galleries, artists, artisans & makers

Design – Product, interior, graphic, and fashion design firms and designers

Film & Media – Film, video, animation, TV & Radio businesses

Digital Games – Companies, programmers & individuals producing games.

Music & Entertainment -Producers, venues, musicians & performers

Publishing – Print or electronic businesses & content creators, editors & writers



- Creative Business Loan Fund \$5,000 to \$250,000
- Prioritizes lending to businesses in low-income or rural communities and BIPOC owned businesses.
- Loans can be used for:
  - working capital
  - property refit/renovation
  - real estate acquisition
  - purchase of equipment and supplies
  - marketing
  - access to markets
  - business & professional development
  - trade shows

32%
of loans
used
for
real
estate
purchase



37 loans closed

Avg. loan amount \$131k





#### **BRIDGEWAY CAPITAL**

- CDFI = Nonprofit Social Impact Investor
- Serves Western PA, Eastern OH, and Northern WV
- Deploys approx. \$25MM per year in grants and loans
- Loans range from \$5,000 to \$5,000,000
- Offers wide range of business assistance programs
- Focuses on comm. real estate and small businesses
- Owns and operates 7800 Susquehanna Street
- Based in 4 office across region





**Empower Underserved Entrepreneurs** 

## EQUITABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Support Disinvested Areas** 





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Building stronger communities takes creativity.

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