



Almost a century ago, American writer Henry James said, "It is art that makes life." And those words still ring true today. From time to time, each of us has been moved by a painting, a poem, or a piece of music. Art heals, enlivens, builds, and inspires.

The profound powers of art are recognized in the mission statement of the Louisiana Division of the Arts, "The arts are an essential and unique part of life in Louisiana to which each citizen has a right..."

Since its creation in 1978, the LDOA has worked as a catalyst, supporting the classical, contemporary, and traditional arts. It encourages artists and arts organizations to inspire a community's social, economic, and physical futures by understanding the importance of each place, their heritage, and culturally significant traditions.

© Detail of *Louisiana Wetlands*, by Francis Pavy, 2011, PFA



Shreveport Regional Arts Council, UNSCENE!

On the Cover: © Detail of restored *Health and Happiness* mural by Conrad Albrizio, 1963/2015, PFA

The LDOA carries out its mission in a variety of ways: supporting arts organizations that are well established and those just getting started, providing assistance to individual artists, increasing attendance at artistic events and involvement in the arts. The LDOA's efforts are supported by the Louisiana State Arts Council. Composed of two dozen citizens from across the state, the Council furnishes a valuable public perspective.

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 **LOUISIANA
OFFICE of CULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT**
ARTS • ARCHAEOLOGY • HISTORIC PRESERVATION • CODOFIL

LOUISIANA DIVISION OF THE

ARTS

OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION		THEATER	LITERATURE	
CRAFT	DANCE		VISUAL ARTS	
			MEDIA	MUSIC
FOLKLIFE				





Gospel Tent performance at New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival

ARTS ACCESSIBILITY

Art programs provide great value for people with disabilities, older adults, veterans, and for every Louisiana resident. The Louisiana Division of the Arts (LDOA) supports universal access to the arts, and encourages arts organizations to foster integration for individuals of all ages and abilities. LDOA works with arts organizations to ensure their programs, services, and facilities are accessible and meet American Disabilities Act compliance.

FOLKLIFE

The Louisiana Folklife Program is designed to identify, document, conserve, and present Louisiana's folk cultural resources. Folklife includes living traditions, practiced and passed on within groups, including family, ethnic, occupational, and regional groups. LouisianaFolklife.org features numerous articles and photographs, along with maps, audio and video. The Creole State Collection online exhibition features over 200 artifacts from Louisiana's traditional cultures. Some from the virtual exhibition are on display at the Louisiana State Capitol. Others can be seen in the Capitol Park Museum. The Louisiana Voices Educator's Guide, LouisianaVoices.org, contains 43 lessons that provide rich teaching resources on Louisiana folk cultures as well as tools for researching any cultural group.



Natchitoches
Caddo Pow Wow

CULTURAL DISTRICTS

The Louisiana Cultural Districts program is helping to grow local economies, create an enhanced sense of place, and deepen our cultural capacity. The program seeks to enliven places by encouraging creative activities, artisan production, preservation, and educational aspects of arts and culture. Within the locally designated districts, original, one-of-a-kind works of art are exempt from state and local sales tax and properties may be eligible for state tax credits for rehabilitation of historic buildings. Cultural Districts succeed best when local governments work across sectors with neighborhoods, artists, businesses, and citizens to make places better.



© Work by
Linda Dautreuil;
Breakaway,
2011, PFA

ARTS EDUCATION

A well-rounded education includes the arts and encourages creativity, innovation, and essential skills for students to reach their full potential. When the arts are integrated into the daily school curriculum, learning becomes engaging and active, requiring critical thinking skills and innovative problem solving. Increased school attendance, civic engagement, and decreased anti-social behaviors have been linked to arts education. The LDOA supports arts integration and arts education residencies, having trained many arts educators through the Kennedy Center.



Music students at Forest
Heights Academy of
Excellence, Baton Rouge

PERCENT FOR ART

The Louisiana Percent for Art Program (PFA) was established by law in the 1999 legislative session. The law specifies that on projects using more than \$2,000,000 in state funds, one percent (1%) of the expenditure for construction or renovation of a state building shall be for works of art by artists and craftsmen for the building or its grounds. This program provides the citizens of Louisiana with an improved public environment, adds visibility to the cultural heritage of the state and its people, attracts visitors to the state, and creates economic opportunities and training for public art artists and related industries. Over 211 works of art have been placed in 27 facilities across the state.

GRANT PROGRAMS

Decentralized Arts Funding (DAF) provides a system for funding arts and cultural projects in every region through organizational support and project assistance. The LDOA disburses funds to nine regional arts councils called Regional Development Agencies (RDAs), which in turn re-grant those dollars within their region. Funding recommendations are made by representatives from each region, ensuring that decisions about cultural priorities are made locally. <http://www.crt.la.gov/cultural-development/arts/grants/decentralized-funding/index>

General Operating Support is provided to established nonprofit 501(c)3 arts organizations that help to create, present and preserve the various unique arts resources of Louisiana. Eligible organizations must have been incorporated for at least two years and have received at least two years of municipal and/or governmental funding, and have a mission statement which states that arts programming is a primary goal of the organization.