

**State of Illinois**  
Bruce Rauner, Governor



**Illinois Arts Council Agency**  
Shirley R. Madigan, Chairman  
Tatiana Gant, Executive Director

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## **ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL AGENCY BIENNIAL REPORT FISCAL YEARS 2013 AND 2014**

The Illinois Arts Council Agency's Biennial Report is presented to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the people of Illinois in accordance with the Agency's authorizing legislation and is based on information current as of the most recently completed Fiscal Year 2014 and includes programming from Fiscal Year 2013. The complete FY2013 Annual Report is available for review at the [IACA website](#).

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## Background

The Illinois Arts Council Agency (IACA) was created with the Arts Council Act in 1965. The IACA advances its mission *to build a strong, creative, and connected Illinois through the arts* with resources and opportunities designed to nurture emerging ideas and to sustain artistic excellence.

IACA grant programs focus on making gains in three key areas:

- **Creative Sector** funding invests in Illinois' individual artists, not-for-profit organizations, educational institutions, and municipalities for the production and presentation of high-quality public arts programming, thereby providing stability, ensuring cultural vitality, and spurring economic growth.
- **Arts Education** investments ensure that individuals of all ages and experience levels have the opportunity to develop artistic skills to reach their full potential and are able to develop career proficiency to meet the demands of an evolving economy.
- Support to the **Underserved Sector** equalizes opportunities for communities in which individuals lack access to arts programs due to geography, economic conditions, ethnic background, age, or disability.

The IACA collaborates with other state agencies and works cross sector to connect the Illinois cultural community to public and private resources. The IACA interacts with Federal, State, and local governments and entities and is a leader in national conversations on arts, culture, and education.

## Results

IACA grant programs are designed to meet the artistic needs of its citizens. Guided by public input, the IACA examined its programs and resources and implemented revisions, including:

- Broadening the existing Quick Start Program to support arts learning beyond schools into community settings for learners of all ages. With clear and direct guidelines, the program makes arts learning opportunities readily available. 50% of StART's applicants are making their first request to the IACA.
- Reinstating Summer Youth Employment in the Arts (SYEA) to provide paid internships for high school students to build artistic and administrative skills, making evident the variety of possible careers in the arts. In FY14 SYEA provided employment opportunities to youth through 44 organizations in 20 communities.
- Increasing support to the Arts Tour & Live Music (ATLM) program, making performances by Illinois professional artists accessible with up to 75% of the contracted performance fee covered by the award. The IACA provided 99 awards to organizations across Illinois.

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A 2012 study by Americans for the Arts calculated that the arts are a \$2.75 billion dollar industry in Illinois, generating more than \$157 million dollars in revenue for State government annually. The same study found that the arts industry supported more than 78,000 jobs in Illinois. Revenue reported by the 950+ individuals and organizations supported with FY13 funding totaled more than \$1.3 billion. The IACA is the most efficient means of growing the arts sector with its investments in small businesses, from community-based organizations to individual artists.

IACA investments grow vibrant institutions that nurture Illinois' creative future. Tony Award winning Steppenwolf Theatre, an IACA grantee, has been instrumental in establishing a cultural district. Steppenwolf can claim among its ensemble many nationally known members including playwright Terrell McCraney, a recent recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship and a Doris Duke Artist Award.

In 2013 the IACA, in cooperation with Arts Alliance Illinois, hosted the biennial One State Together in the Arts conference in the Quad Cities. This event addresses the need for the arts community to gather, gain knowledge, and share ideas. The 2013 theme explored the role the arts play in building communities. Presentations ranged from the intersection of art and agriculture to acclaimed artist and urban planner Theaster Gates. Attendees came from across the state.

In partnership with the Illinois State Board of Education, IACA ensures that the arts are a part of the education of every child in this state. In FY13 and FY14, 14 districts received funding to support the development of an instructional strategy, and 12 received multi-year support to implement that plan. With good statewide distribution, this investment is equalizing access to quality education and will have long-term impact on students' learning.

The IACA is leveraging relationships with Public Radio & Television (PRTV) stations with increased opportunities to develop magazine shows that spotlight regional cultural treasures, raising the profile of both the artist and the community. These programs are shared among PRTV stations to gain broad state-wide exposure. Programs have captured treasures such as WQPT's *Letters Home to Hero Street* which tells the story of eight Mexican American veterans through the letters they sent home to Silvis, IL. WTTW is completing a program on the FY14 Fellowship awardees, raising the profile of the exceptional artists benefiting from Illinois' investment.

IACA staff members are recognized as leaders in their field and are recruited to participate in a number of national projects. They recently collaborated with the Kennedy Center on the 2014 Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability (LEAD) in Chicago, setting an attendance record for the conference. The IACA made scholarships available for 16 Illinois residents to attend LEAD and gain insight in ways to reach and engage all ages and abilities in the arts.

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## ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Illinois Arts Council Agency is governed by a Council comprised of up to 21 private citizens from throughout Illinois who are appointed by the Governor. These members serve in a voluntary, non-paid, capacity for four-year terms. The list below represents Illinois Arts Council members who served full or partial terms during Fiscal Year 2013 and 2014.

Shirley R. Madigan, Chair, Chicago  
Andy Van Meter, Secretary, Springfield  
Rhoda A. Pierce, Vice-Chair, Highland Park  
Jill Arena, Chicago  
Lisa Dent Bielefeldt, St. Charles  
Virginia G. Bobins, Chicago  
William E. Brattain, Colchester  
Patrice Bugelas-Brandt, Winnetka  
Rich Daniels, Evergreen Park  
Beth Boosalis Davis, Evanston  
Christina Kemper Gidwitz, Chicago  
Henry Godinez, Chicago

Desiree Grode, Chicago  
Jodie Shagrin Kavensky, Rock Island  
Valerie King, Chicago  
Jennifer Levine, Chicago  
Carmen Lonstein, Chicago (FY13)  
Gary Matts, Darien  
Peggy A. Montes, Chicago  
Barry E. Moore, Normal (FY13)  
Sheila M. O'Brien, Glenview  
Howard A. Tullman, Chicago  
Donald T. Wiener, Chicago

For the most up-to-date list, please visit <http://appointments.illinois.gov/>

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For general Illinois Arts Council Agency (IACA) information, please visit our website at [www.arts.illinois.gov](http://www.arts.illinois.gov), email [IAC.info@illinois.gov](mailto:IAC.info@illinois.gov), or call us at 312.814.6750, toll-free in Illinois at 800.237.6994, or TTY 888.261.7957 (for individuals who are deaf or have hearing or voice impairments). Requests may also be mailed to the Illinois Arts Council Agency, 100 West Randolph Street, Suite 10-500, Chicago, IL 60601, or faxed to 312.814.1471.

Individuals who are blind, or have low vision or learning impairments may obtain assistance regarding IACA written materials by contacting the agency's ADA/504 Access Coordinator:

Encarnación M. Teruel  
Phone: 312/814-6753  
Email: [Encarnacion.Teruel@illinois.gov](mailto:Encarnacion.Teruel@illinois.gov)

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Any individual who has been subjected to such discrimination may file a complaint. Call:  
Illinois Arts Council Agency: 312.814.6750 or TTY 888.261.7957;  
Illinois Department of Human Rights: 312.814.6200 or TTY 312.263.1579;  
Office of the Attorney General, Civil Rights Bureau: 312.814.3400;  
Disability Rights Bureau: 312.814.5684 or TTY 312.814.3374; or  
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: 312.353.2713 or TTY 312.353.2421.



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