



Dia de los Muertos at Tacoma Art Museum



Pride Crosswalk



Chinese Reconciliation Project Foundation event. Photo by Lisa Monet Photography

Arts & Cultural Vitality Strategic Plan Refresh

Economic Development Committee
May 12, 2026

1

ArtFull Tacoma: 2016 Arts Strategic Plan

- 1**


Grow and sustain the creative economy.
- 2**

Promote equity, diversity, and inclusiveness through the arts.
- 3**

Use public art to create active, accessible, and welcoming public places
- 4**

Strengthen Tacoma's creative ecosystem.
- 5**

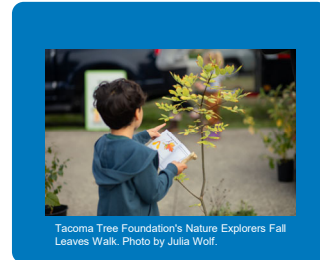
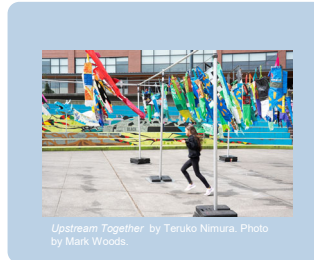
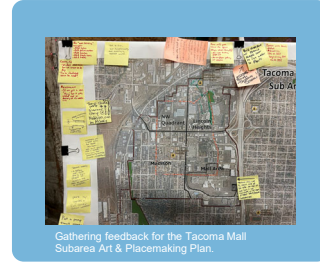
Optimize performance and capacity of arts programming, services, and operations.



2

A Few Major Accomplishments

- Tacoma Creates
- Parks Tacoma 1% for Art
- Public Art Training Programs
- Artists in Residence
- Tacoma Mall Subarea Art & Placemaking Plan



3



Visitors creating junk journals with Remakery at the Tacoma Public Library's Main Branch grand opening.

Why do a refresh?

- ArtFull was adopted in 2016
 - *Things have changed!*
- Originally meant as 5 year plan
 - *We're 10 years in!*
- Tacoma Creates has since been (re)authorized
 - *That's a big deal!*
- Better support the City's work
 - *Stronger connection to Tacoma 2035 and CED Plans*
- Better support staff's work
 - *Stronger connection to workplans and priorities*



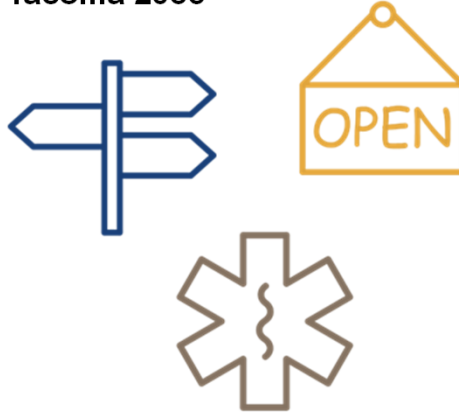
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Center for Strategic Priorities Consulting

The Center Consulting

- Working with ACV for duration of plan development
- Equity, Sustainability, Strategy
- So far ACV and PW projects
- Guidance, reporting, coordination, consulting

Tacoma 2035



5

Plan Overview

Three Levels:

1. **Priorities** are the focus areas of our work, and they align with our program areas and budget sources:
 - Priority 1 aligns with Funding & Community Programming
 - Priority 2 aligns with Public Art
 - Priority 3 aligns with Tacoma Creates
2. **Strategies** are how we meet our priorities. They outline the approaches/pathways/methods we use to reach larger goals
3. **Actions** (A, B, C items) are what we do to implement our strategies. These are concrete activities that show what we will actually do. Actions include the work we currently do, work we can grow, and work we don't do yet but could in the future.



Community members watch as artist Rich Royal shapes hot glass during Hilltop Artists' Hot Shop Hot Nights demo.



6

Priority 1: CULTIVATE an Environment Where Artists and Creative Communities Thrive

Aligns with Funding & Community Programming

Strategy 1.1: Center Equity and Access in Arts Funding and Programming - Center access, opportunity, and belonging for artists, creative entrepreneurs, and community participants who engage in the arts.

Strategy 1.2: Opportunities to Create and Experience Art - Cultivate opportunities to support the creative work of artists & community groups

Strategy 1.3: Creative Economy - Cultivate an environment where creative entrepreneurs can support themselves

Strategy 1.4: Community Connection - Cultivate a networked, supportive, and resilient arts community, for both artists and community participants



7

Priority 2: NURTURE Creative Placemaking and Public Art

Aligns with Public Art

Strategy 2.1: Center Equity and Access in Public Art

Center access, opportunity, and belonging for public artists and the general public

Strategy 2.2: Municipal Public Art

Nurture the City's investment in placemaking, public art, and artist-led municipal problem-solving

Strategy 2.3: Public Art Partnerships

Nurture partners' investment in public art, in alignment with City goals

Strategy 2.4: Public Art Maintenance

Nurture high quality stewardship of Public Art



8

Priority 3: INVEST in Cultural Organizations

Aligns with Tacoma Creates

Strategy 3.1: Center Equity and Access in Tacoma Creates

Increase access to arts, culture, heritage, and science programs, and reduce barriers to participation, especially for historically underserved populations, and within neighborhoods across Tacoma. Support programming by and for culturally or ethnically specific communities, and/or other underrepresented groups.

Strategy 3.2: Cultural Organization Funding

Support public programs in arts, culture, heritage, and/or science that engage community members in Tacoma

Strategy 3.3: Cultural Education for Youth

Expand access to youth education programs in arts, culture, heritage, and science

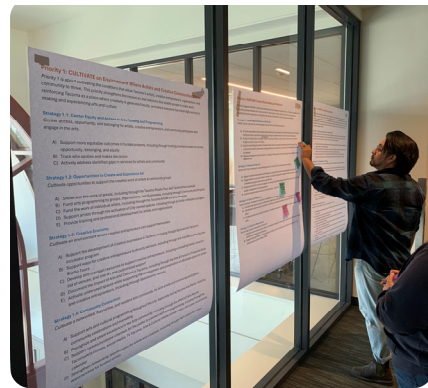
Strategy 3.4: Sustainable Futures

Support the sustainability of cultural sector organizations in Tacoma



Retreat Input

- Lots of good input!
- New plan name – broader than just Arts
- Clearer definitions needed around "cultural organizations"
- Overarching themes/connections needed to avoid silos



Gathering feedback during a joint TCAB-TAC session at the April 18 retreat.



Next Steps

- Survey (open through May 15)
- TAC and TCAB Joint subcommittee
- Additional staff feedback needed
- Cross-reference Tacoma 2035 & CED Plan
- Metrics needed
- Overarching elements needed:
 - mission, vision statements
 - thematic elements to tie priorities together
- Targeting adoption in October



11



12