



Roanoke Arts Commission

William Penn, *Chair*

Donna Davis, *Vice-Chair*

John Hitchins, Jr., *Treasurer*

Ben Bazak, *Placemaking Chair*

Melissa Murray, *Recording Secretary*

John Black

Aila Boyd

Becky Carr

John Cornthwait, *Planning Chair*

Jim Davis

Charlene Graves

Demetrius Johnson

Amya Matthews

Catherine Koebel Stromberg, *Funding Chair*

MaryJean Levin

Meighan Sharp



2025 -2026 WORK PLAN

COMMITTEES

Collections

Funding

Placemaking

Planning

Executive

FY 25

COLLECTIONS

FY26

Larger than Life Sculpture Call
(6 new works on the Elmwood Art Walk)

Cover Story Municipal Building
Exhibition
(closing Sept 5)

Domestic Violence Embroidery
Exhibition

Pilgrim at Tinker Creek Community
Book Discussion

Courthouse Youth Art Exhibition

Pilgrims at the Creek Exhibition
(opens Oct. 20)

Youth Courthouse Exhibition

Quilt Exhibits

Purchases of New Work
by Regional Artists

Collection Maintenance and
Online Access



FY 25

FY26

FUNDING

Application and Grant Management

Piloted a new application system for Arts and Culture and Human Services Grantees

Managed *\$336,500 in grants supporting* arts and cultural programs offered by community nonprofits

Application and Grant Management (opens Dec. 5)

Beginning oversight of \$300,000 in arts and cultural grants

\$15,000 budgeted in 2025 Arts and Cultural Plan inspired public art projects



FY 25
PLACEMAKING
FY26

Daisy Art Parade and neighborhood coaching

Arts Connect Neighbors Catalog
(100 activities to date)

Seven murals completed

22 artists in residence

Busk Roanoke
(Workshop & Network Support)

Daisy Art Parade & Activations
in 5 emerging neighborhoods

NEW Catalog!

Five murals

10 artists in residence

6-10 signal box murals
(with Transportation)

Projects at Main Street Bridge,
Eurkea Park Center, Washington Pool
Building, Mill Mountain



ARTS CONNECT NEIGHBORS

Volume 2



Connect your neighbors by hosting a **FREE** art workshop or performance in your City of Roanoke neighborhood.

ARTS
CONNECT
ROANOKE

FY 25

FY26

PLANNING

Formally began Arts and Cultural Plan Development

Trained more than 50 artists and neighborhood leaders in Story Circles

Convened a guiding steering committee

Identified core values

(Last Arts and Cultural Plan - 2011)

Story Circles through early fall

Convening of stakeholders and attendance at partner events

Values based development of action items

Synthesis of information / plan writing

Plan brought to Council in early 2026



MISSION

Our mission is to create a plan that reflects our community's commitment to arts and culture — and charts a path to broader access, stronger infrastructure, and meaningful local impact.

VISION STATEMENT

The Roanoke Arts & Cultural Plan envisions a vibrant and connected future for Roanoke — where creativity thrives, participation runs deep, and the arts strengthen our sense of community while supporting personal and economic growth.

We're committed to creating a plan that reflects the *spirit, stories, and aspirations* of the people who call this city home, and to ensuring that arts and culture remain central to shaping our region's next decade.

AND THE TLDR

We envision a Roanoke where
creativity builds bridges,
culture lives in every neighborhood,
and the arts help shape a
future we design — *together*.

VALUES

Bring people together.

Make space for everyone.

Imagine what's possible.

Celebrate along the way.

Nurture what's next.

FY 25

FY26

EXECUTIVE

Youth Poet Laureate Planning
with Roanoke Public Libraries

Art by Bus Project
with ValleyMetro and Ride Solutions

Executive Directors Roundtable

It's Here Strategy

Weekly Newsletter

Two NEA Applications

Youth Poet Laureate Process
with Roanoke Public Libraries

Art by Bus Project
with ValleyMetro and Ride Solutions

Executive Directors Roundtable

It's Here Strategy

Weekly Newsletter





2025 -2026 WORK PLAN

BUDGET SOURCES

City of Roanoke Percent for Art Fund

National Endowment for the Arts

Daisy Art Activations
(\$40K remaining)

Arts Connect Neighbors
(\$29K canceled by the NEA)



2025 -2026
WORK
PLAN

BUDGET

Collections	\$100,000
Funding	\$15,000
Placemaking	\$215,000
Planning	\$4,000
Executive	<u>\$10,000</u>

TOTAL	\$400,000
REMAINING BALANCE	\$200,000
2024-5 COMPARISON	\$375,000



2025 -2026 WORK PLAN

Creating
EVERY DAY
THE
PLACE
WE
WANT
TO BE.

THANK YOU

Questions, comments, or guidance?