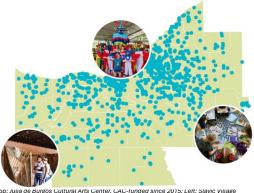# At a Glance

Overview

Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC)'s mission is to **inspire and strengthen the community by investing in arts and culture.** CAC is funded by a ten-year tax levy first approved by voters in 2006. The levy was reapproved in 2015 and replaced and expanded in 2024. Cuyahoga Arts & Culture is the largest funder of arts and cultural experiences in Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

Since 2006, CAC has made over **4,000 grants** totaling **$257 million** to **500 nonprofits.** Every year CAC-funded nonprofits offer **millions of cultural experiences**. About **50% are free of charge**.

2025 Grants	Total Grants (#)	Total Investment ($)
General Operating Support unrestricted grants from $11k to $872k	70	$8,983,725
Project Support grants from $1k to $18k	217	$1,546,680
Cultural Heritage flexible grants up to $30k	13	$220,442
Assembly for the Arts grant to nonprofit to serve artists	1	$500,000
Resident-Led grants to nonprofits for resident-led projects	1	$60,500

Facts

- **Structure:** CAC is an independent political subdivision of the State of Ohio; not a part of County or City government. By law, CAC can only make grants to nonprofits.

- **Tax Revenue:** Funded solely by a 3 ½ cent per cigarette tax which expires January 31, 2035.

- **Staff:** CAC employs a staff of seven, led by Executive Director Jill Paulsen.

- **Board:** CAC is governed by a Board of five volunteers who are appointed by Cuyahoga County; they serve three-year terms without compensation. Karolyn Isenhart is CAC's Board President.

Top: Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center, CAC-funded since 2015; Left: Slavic Village Development, CAC-funded since 2014; Right: Shaker Historical Society, CAC-funded since 2008.

- **Service Area:** CAC funds programming in every ZIP code in the County. Each of the dots on the map (above) represents a unique location where a CAC-funded program has taken place.

- **Values:** Equity informs all our policies and practices, including funding criteria, program development, and more.