



# King County

1200 King County  
Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Meeting Agenda Committee of the Whole

*Jorge Barón, Chair*  
*Claudia Balducci, Vice Chair;*  
*Rod Dembowski, Reagan Dunn, Steffanie Fain, Rhonda Lewis, Teresa Mosqueda, Sarah Perry, Pete von Reichbauer*

*Lead Staff: Andy Micklow (206-263-3226)*  
*Committee Clerk: Blake Wells (206-263-1617)*

**9:30 AM**

**Tuesday, June 23, 2026**

**Hybrid Meeting**

**Hybrid Meetings:** Attend the King County Council committee meetings in person in Council Chambers (Room 1001), 516 3rd Avenue in Seattle, or through remote access. Details on how to attend and/or to provide comment remotely are listed below.

Pursuant to K.C.C. 1.24.035 A. and F., this meeting is also noticed as a meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council, whose agenda is limited to the committee business. In this meeting only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply and not those applicable to full council meetings.

**HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:** The Committee of the Whole values community input and looks forward to hearing from you on agenda items.

There are three ways to provide public comment:

1. **In person:** You may attend the meeting and provide comment in the Council Chambers.
2. **By email:** You may comment in writing on current agenda items by submitting your email comments to [committees@kingcounty.gov](mailto:committees@kingcounty.gov). If your email is received before 8:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting, your email comments will be distributed to the committee members and appropriate staff prior to the meeting.
3. **Remote attendance at the meeting by phone or computer:** You may provide oral comment on current agenda items during the meeting's public comment period by connecting to the meeting via phone or computer using the ZOOM application at <https://zoom.us/join>, and entering the webinar ID number below.

	<p>Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355). TTY Number - TTY 711.</p> <p>Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing loop, which provides a wireless signal that is picked up by a hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil) setting.</p>	
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You are not required to sign up in advance. Comments are limited to current agenda items.

You have the right to language access services at no cost to you. To request these services, please contact Language Access Coordinator, Tera Chea, at 206 477 9259 or email Tera.chea2@kingcounty.gov by 8:00 a.m. three business days prior to the meeting.

**CONNECTING TO THE WEBINAR:**

Webinar Meeting ID: 872 3341 5187

If you do not have access to the ZOOM application, you can connect to the meeting by calling 1 253 215 8782 and using the Webinar ID. Connecting in this manner, however, may impact your ability to be unmuted to speak.

**HOW TO WATCH/LISTEN TO THE MEETING REMOTELY:** There are several ways to watch or listen in to the meeting:

- 1) Stream online via this link: [www.kingcounty.gov/kctv](http://www.kingcounty.gov/kctv), or input the link web address into your web browser.
- 2) Watch King County TV Comcast Channel 22 and 322(HD), Astound Broadband Channels 22 and 711(HD).
- 3) Listen to the meeting by telephone – See “Connecting to the Webinar” above.

To help us manage the meeting, if you do not wish to be called upon for public comment please use the Livestream or King County TV options listed above, if possible, to watch or listen to the meeting.

1. **Call to Order**

To show a PDF of the written materials for an agenda item, click on the agenda item below.

2. **Roll Call**

3. **Approval of Minutes p. 5**

*June 8, 2026 Meeting minutes*

4. **Public Comment**



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### Briefing

- 5. [Briefing No. 2026-B0081](#) p. 7

King County District Court: State of the Court - 2026

*The Honorable Rebecca C. Robertson, Chief Presiding Judge, King County District Court*

### Discussion and Possible Action

- 6. [Proposed Motion No. 2026-0106](#) p. 39

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Ellen Walker, who resides in council district one, to the King County cultural development authority (4Culture), as an executive at-large representative for position 15.

**Sponsors:** Dembowski

*Gene Paul, Council staff*

- 7. [Proposed Motion No. 2026-0123](#) p. 39

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Nancy Salguero McKay, who resides in council district seven, to the King County cultural development authority (4Culture), as an executive at-large representative.

**Sponsors:** von Reichbauer



*Gene Paul, Council staff*

- 8. [Proposed Motion No. 2026-0127](#) p. 39

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Teofila Cruz-Urbe, who resides in council district eight, to the King County cultural development authority (4Culture) board, as an executive at-large representative for position 12.

**Sponsors:** Mosqueda

*Gene Paul, Council staff*

	<p>Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355).          TTY Number - TTY 711.          Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing loop, which provides a wireless signal that is picked up by a hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil) setting.</p>	
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## Briefing

9. [Briefing No. 2026-B0082](#) p. 57

4Culture Annual Report

*Brian Carter, Executive Director, 4Culture*

*Claire Miccio, Senior Government Relations Manager, 4Culture*

*Calandra Childers, Director of Program Strategy and Impact, 4Culture*

## Other Business

## Adjournment



Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355).  
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## Meeting Minutes Committee of the Whole

*Jorge Barón, Chair*  
*Claudia Balducci, Vice Chair;*  
*Rod Dembowski, Reagan Dunn, Steffanie Fain, Rhonda Lewis,*  
*Teresa Mosqueda, Sarah Perry, Pete von Reichbauer*

*Lead Staff: Andy Micklow (206-263-3226)*  
*Committee Clerk: Blake Wells (206-263-1617)*

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3:00 PM

Monday, June 8, 2026

Hybrid Meeting

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### SPECIAL MEETING - DRAFT MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**

*Chair Barón called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.*

2. **Roll Call**

**Present:** 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Fain, Lewis, Mosqueda, Perry and von Reichbauer

3. **Approval of Minutes**

*Councilmember Perry moved approval of the May 26, 2026 meeting minutes. There being no objections, the minutes were approved.*

4. **Public Comment**

*The following people provided public comment:*

*Alex Tsimerman*  
*Nela Cumming*

## Discussion and Possible Action

5. [Proposed Motion No. 2026-0081](#)

A MOTION confirming the appointment of Susan McLaughlin as director of the King County department of community and human services.

*Sam Porter, Council staff, and Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, King County Executive’s Office, briefed the committee. Dr. Susan McLaughlin, appointee, also briefed the committee and answered questions from the members.*

*This item was expedited to the June 16, 2026 meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council.*

*Councilmember Dembowski requested to be added as a sponsor for this item.*

**A motion was made by Councilmember Mosqueda that this motion be recommended do pass consent. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Fain, Lewis, Mosqueda, Perry and von Reichbauer

## Briefing

6. [Briefing No. 2026-B0077](#)

Response to Motion 16970 relating to King County Regional Homelessness Authority

*William Towey, Associate Deputy, Strategy, King County Regional Homelessness Authority, briefed the committee via PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members. Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, King County Executive’s Office, Aaron Rubardt, Chief Budget Officer, King County Executive’s Office, and Amber Green, Deputy Director, Department of Community and Human Services, also briefed the committee via PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members.*

**This matter was presented.**

## Adjournment

*The meeting was adjourned at 5:14 PM.*

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk's Signature

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# KING COUNTY DISTRICT COURT STATE OF THE COURT - 2026

Chief Presiding Judge Rebecca C. Robertson

King County Council - Committee of the Whole

June 23, 2026



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# KING COUNTY DISTRICT COURT MISSION STATEMENT

To serve the public by:

Providing an accessible forum for the fair,  
efficient and understandable resolution of  
civil and criminal cases; and

Maintaining an atmosphere of respect for the  
dignity of all individuals.



# 25 ELECTED JUDGES



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# JUDICIAL LEADERSHIP

## *EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE*

Chief Presiding Judge

Judge Rebecca C. Robertson



Asst. Chief Presiding Judge

Judge Corinna Harn

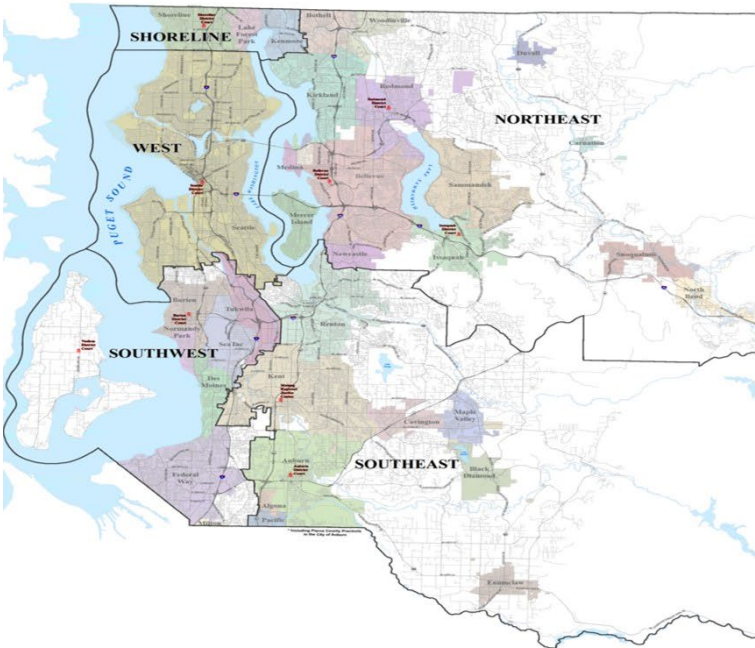


## Division Presiding Judges

- East – Judge Lisa O’Toole
- South – Judge Brian Todd
- West – Judge Karama H. Hawkins

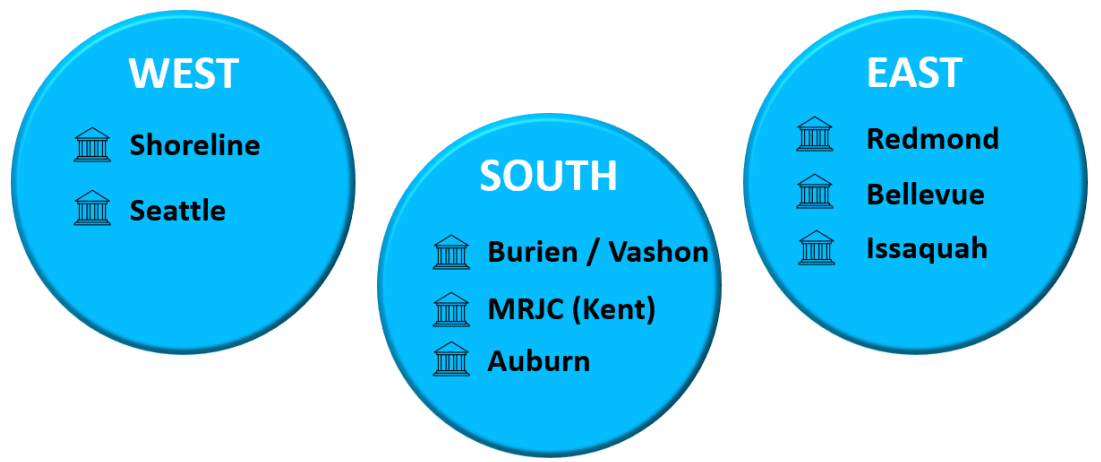
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# KING COUNTY DISTRICT COURT ELECTORAL DISTRICTS & ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS



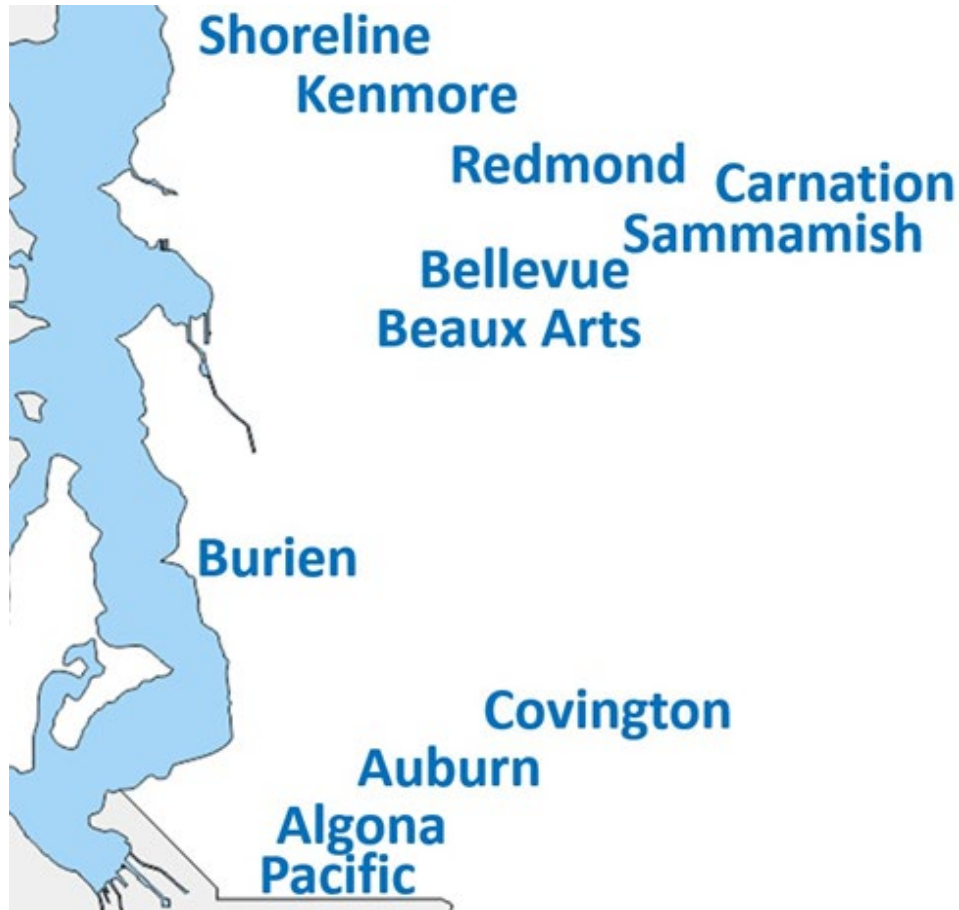
25 Judges  
*Elected by Electoral District*

## Administrative Divisions



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# CONTRACT CITIES



Skykomish

13 cities contract with KCDC for their municipal court services



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# STRATEGIC COURTHOUSE LOCATIONS AND REGIONAL ACCESS

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# CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTIONS



Criminal matters are more serious by definition

Criminal matters affect liberty interests

We must respect and enforce constitutional rights

- Right against Unlawful Search/Seizure (4<sup>th</sup> Amendment)
- Right against Self-Incrimination (5<sup>th</sup> Amendment)
- Right to Counsel (6<sup>th</sup> Amendment)
- Right to Jury Trial (6<sup>th</sup> Amendment)
- Right to Hear and Question Witnesses and Challenge Evidence (6<sup>th</sup> Amendment)

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# DISTRICT / SUPERIOR COURT COMPARISON



## **Superior Courts**

*Felonies, real property rights, divorce, estate probate, involuntary commitment, civil cases over \$100,000, juvenile crime, protection orders, appeals from district and municipal courts*

## **District Courts**

*Gross and simple misdemeanors, civil cases under \$100,000, small claims, protection orders, name changes, other civil cases, infractions*

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# GROSS AND SIMPLE MISDEMEANORS

*(2025 CASELOAD = 11,086)*



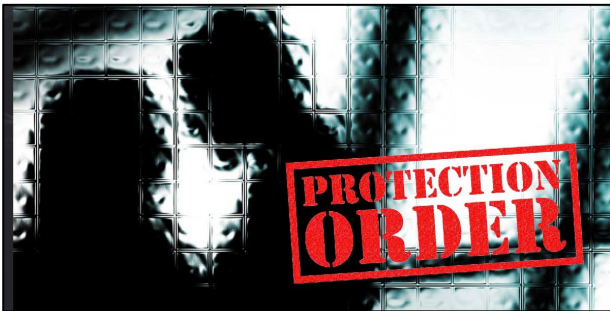
- Domestic Violence (Assault, Strangulation, Violation of Protection Orders) **(1,734)**
- Driving Under Influence of Alcohol/Drugs **(2,168)**
- Driving Crimes (Reckless Driving, Suspended License) **(1,483)**
- Criminal Non-Traffic (Theft, Malicious Mischief, etc.) **(5,701)**

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# FELONY FIRST APPEARANCE & PROTECTION ORDERS 2025



Felony first appearance hearings (9,928)



Protection orders (1,323)

*(anti-harassment, stalking, domestic violence, sexual assault, extreme risk temporary)*

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# CIVIL LITIGATION (UP TO \$100,000)

\* Does NOT include small claims, protection orders, name changes, and impound hearings



Civil Judges Elizabeth Stephenson, Kristin Shotwell, Raul Martinez and Michael Finkle

- Potential 20-year lifespan of case
- Typical Cases: Personal injury, breach of contract, medical and consumer debt
- Proceedings: Motions for Default Judgment, Summary Judgment, Extend Judgment, Post-Judgment Execution, Jury Trials, Bench Trials

- 2025 – 24,579 cases
  - 88% increase in mainstream civil filings since 2023
  - 2 dedicated civil judges
  - 2 judges have a 4/1 Criminal/Civil split
- 2027 – 5 full time civil judges

# OTHER CIVIL MATTERS



- **Small Claims** (Suit for the recovery of money under \$10,000)
  - 3,592 cases in 2025 (58% increase since 2022)
  - Dispute Resolution Center of King County assists with every case free of charge to litigants
  - Tenant claims for return of deposit
- **Name Changes**
- **Infractions** (2025 = 224,970)  
(traffic, non-traffic & parking)
- **Other civil matters**  
(vehicle impound hearings, post judgment execution and post judgment enforcement proceedings, petitions for the return of seized animals)

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# Therapeutic Courts



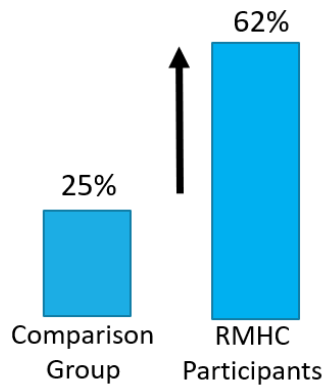
## Regional Mental Health Court & Regional Veterans Court

- 38 participants graduated from the programs in 2025
- 167 active participants continuing as of 12/31/25

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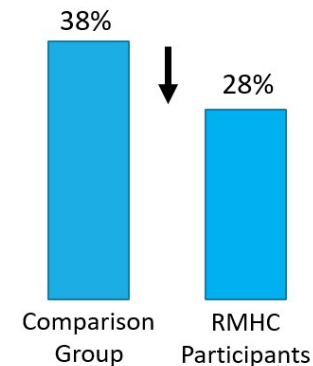
# WASHINGTON DSHS EVALUATION OF REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH COURT (RMHC)

## Increased substance use disorder treatment



RMHC increased participation in substance use treatment by 37 percentage points

## Reduced recidivism



RMHC participants had a 26% lower rate of new criminal charges (felony & misdemeanor)

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# Community Courts



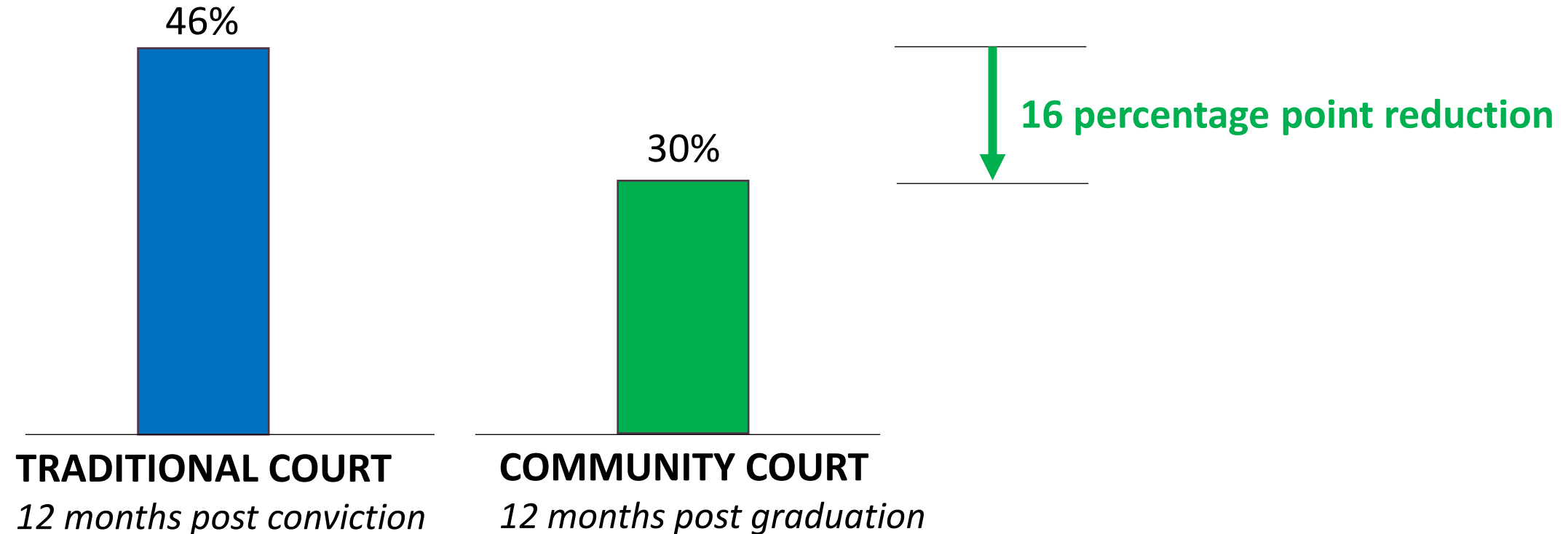
- 57 participants graduated from the programs in 2025
- 75 active participants continuing as of 12/31/25
- Community Resource Centers serve several thousand people each year

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# COMMUNITY COURTS REDUCE CRIME

*Results from Spokane Community Court*

**Percent of people with new criminal charges after their time in court**



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# TOOLS AND RESOURCES

- **Rehabilitation**: Treatment (Alcohol/Drug, Domestic Violence, Mental Health, Anger Management, Sexual Deviancy), Educational Classes, Alcohol Drug Information School, Consumer Awareness, Aggressive Driving School, Victim Impact Panels, Probation
- **Punishment**: Jail, Electronic Home Monitoring, Community Service, Restitution



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# JUDGE SUPERVISED PROBATION

Probation works with people on their problems that led to their interaction with the criminal justice system:

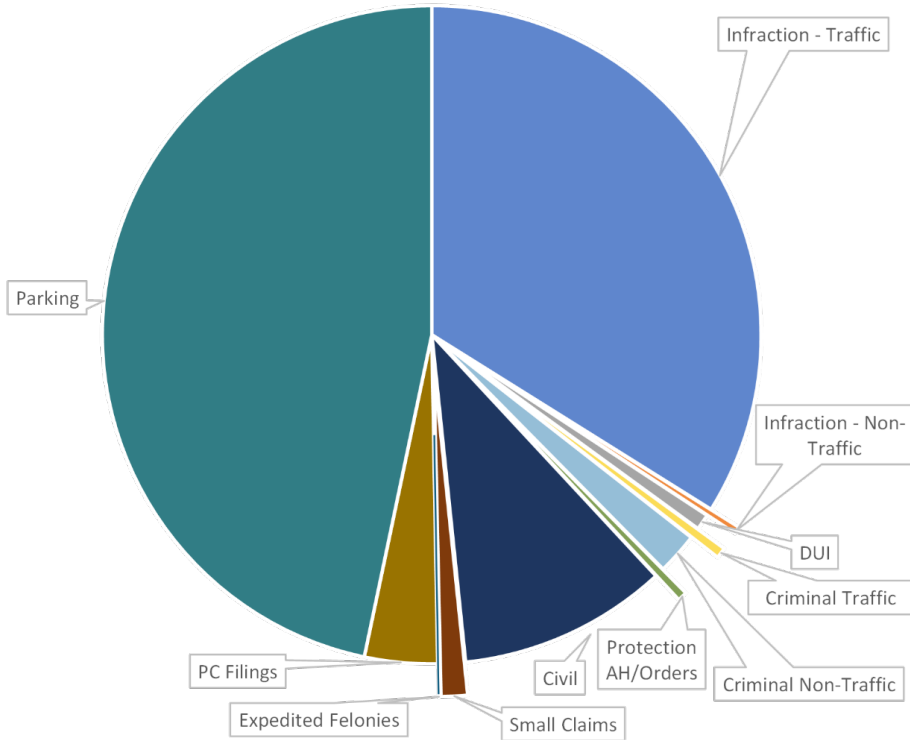
- ✓ mental health issues
- ✓ alcohol and substance abuse
- ✓ domestic violence treatment
- ✓ Sexual deviancy treatment
- ✓ Anger management
- ✓ Life skills



- 10 Probation Officers and 4 Mental Health Specialists
- *Separate assignment* to Domestic Violence Court
- 5 locations (Bellevue Probation is separate)
- DVMRT Classes beginning August 13

# CASELOAD (2025)

277,884 Cases Filed



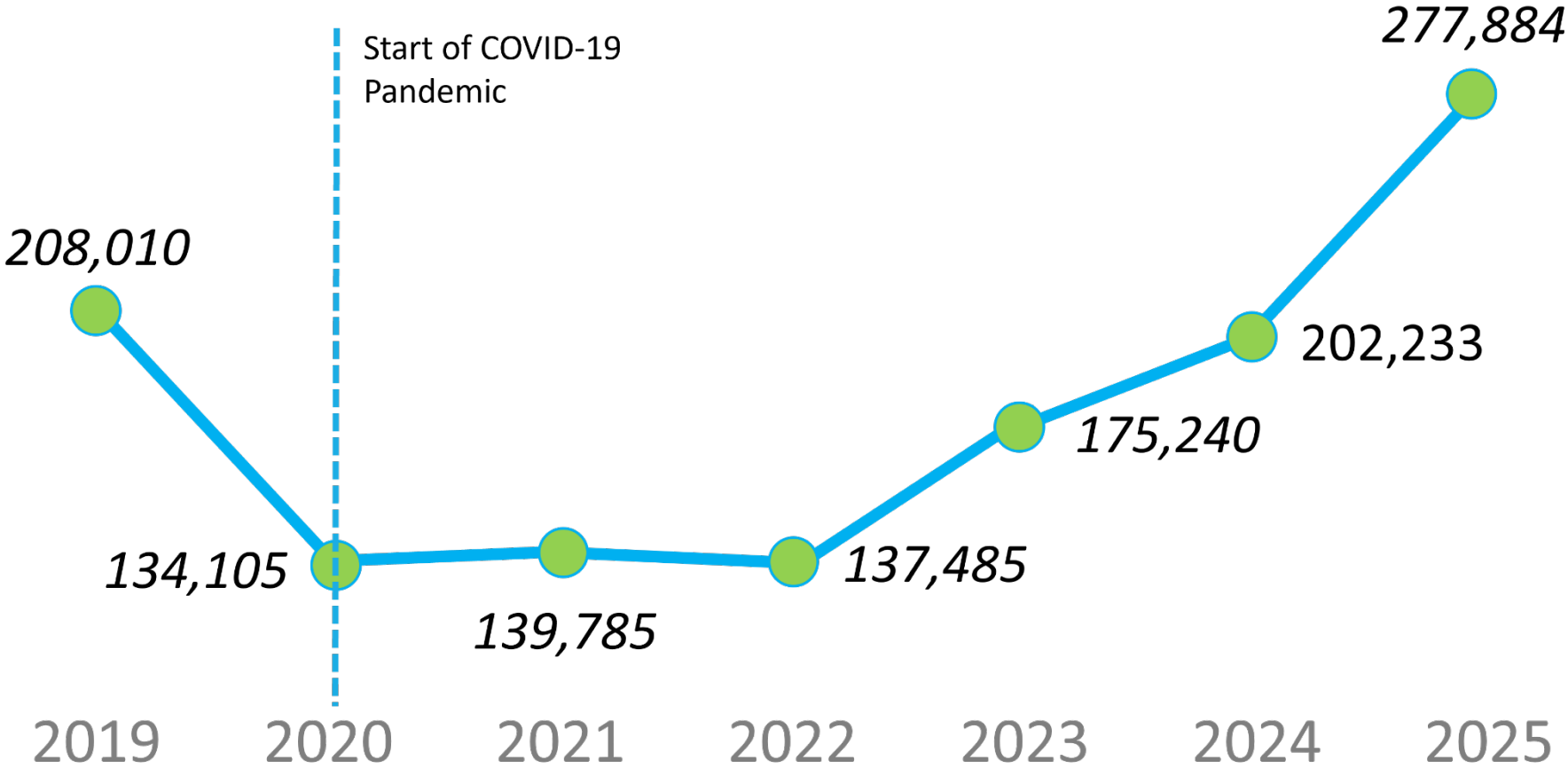
## 2025 Court Filings by Case Type

Case type	# of cases	Percent of total
Infraction - Traffic	94,194	33.9%
Infraction - Non-Traffic	970	0.3%
DUI	2,168	0.8%
Criminal Traffic	1,483	0.5%
Criminal Non-Traffic	5,701	2.1%
Protection AH/Orders	1,323	0.5%
Civil	28,548	10.3%
Small Claims	3,592	1.3%
Expedited Felonies	171	0.1%
PC Filings	9,928	3.6%
Parking	129,806	46.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>277,884</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

# FILINGS BY JURISDICTION BY CASE TYPE (2025)

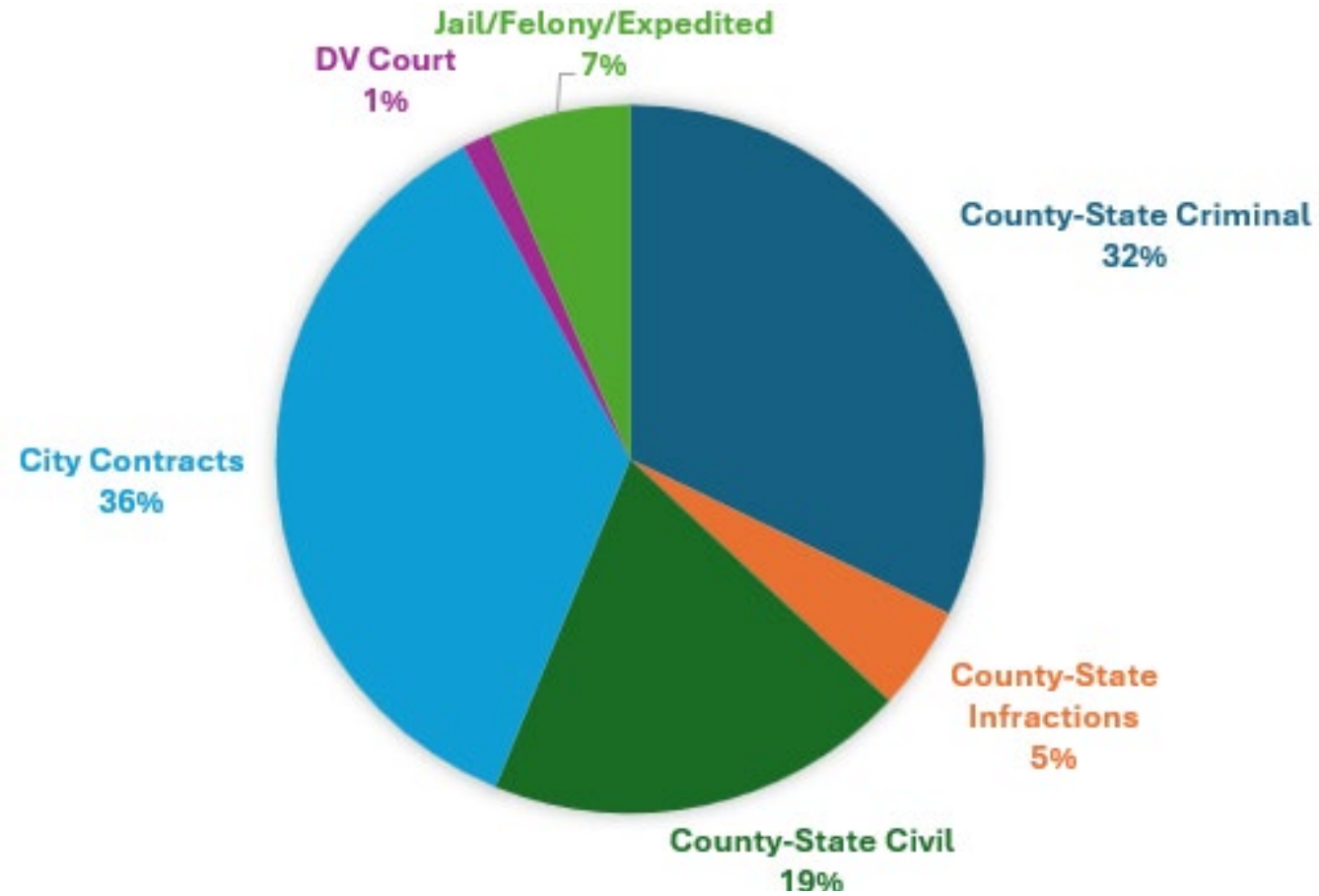
JURISDICTION	Infraction Traffic	Infraction Non-Traffic	DUI	Criminal Traffic	Criminal Non-Traffic	Protection AH/Orders	Civil	Small Claims	Expedited Filings	PC Filings	Parking	TOTALS
State/County	75,962	815	1,259	230	705	1,323	28,548	3,592	171	9,928	4,596	127,129
<b>Total State/County</b>	<b>75,962</b>	<b>815</b>	<b>1,259</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>1,323</b>	<b>28,548</b>	<b>3,592</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>9,928</b>	<b>4,596</b>	<b>127,129</b>
Algona	925	18	10	86	23							1,062
Auburn	2,867	33	195	254	1,564						20,061	24,974
Beaux Arts												0
Bellevue	5,670	30	298	284	1,474						33,782	41,538
Burien	1,040	15	203	63	533						140	1,994
Carnation	10		1		1							12
Covington	582	1	18	45	169						110	925
Kenmore	161	1	12	19	48						61,384	61,625
Pacific	726	2	16	147	69						12	972
Redmond	2,825	8	76	131	604						6,634	10,278
Sammamish	2,170	2	10	39	60						144	2,425
Shoreline	1,256	45	70	185	451						2,943	4,950
Skykomish												0
<b>Total Contract Cities</b>	<b>18,232</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>1,253</b>	<b>4,996</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>125,210</b>	<b>150,755</b>
<b>Total KCDC</b>	<b>94,194</b>	<b>970</b>	<b>2,168</b>	<b>1,483</b>	<b>5,701</b>	<b>1,323</b>	<b>28,548</b>	<b>3,592</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>9,928</b>	<b>129,806</b>	<b>277,884</b>

# CASELOAD INCREASE 2019 - 2025



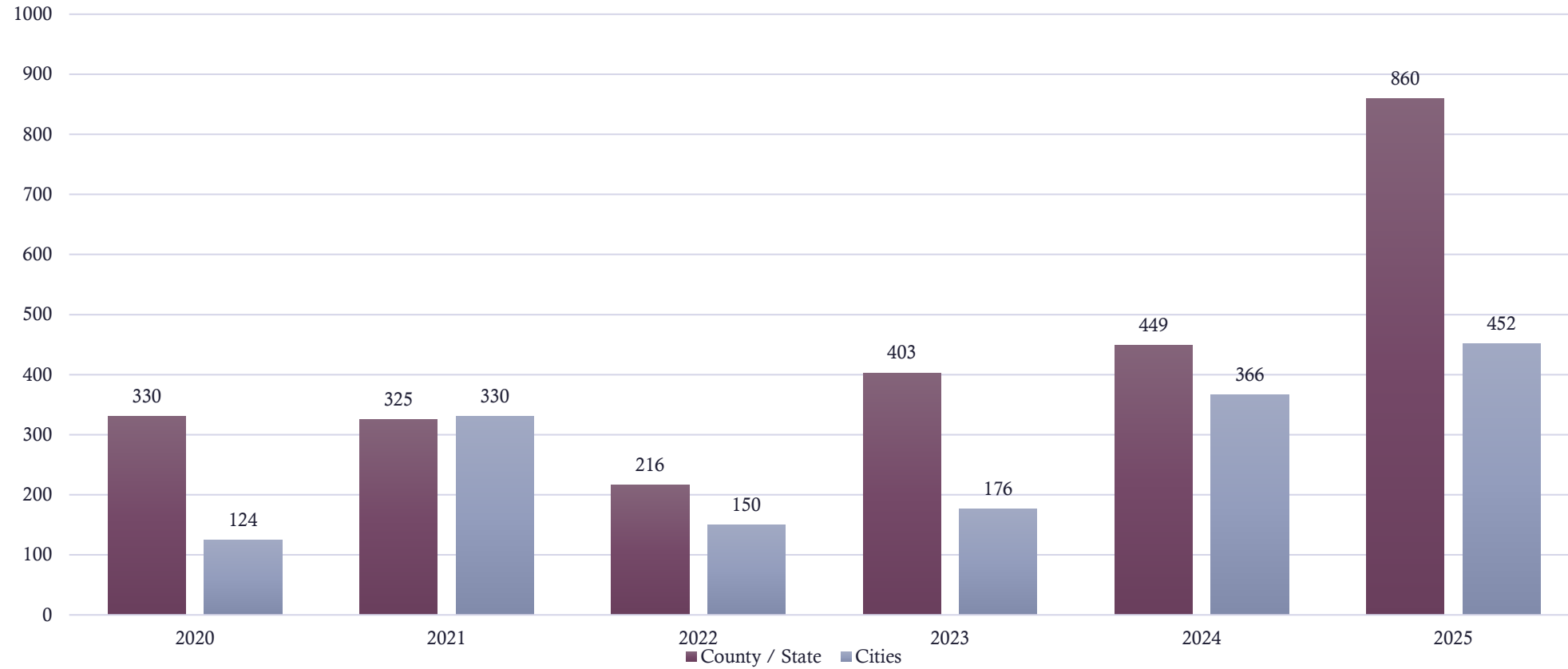
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# JUDICIAL WORKLOAD



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# ALL TRIALS (2020 – 2025)



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# 2025 Service data

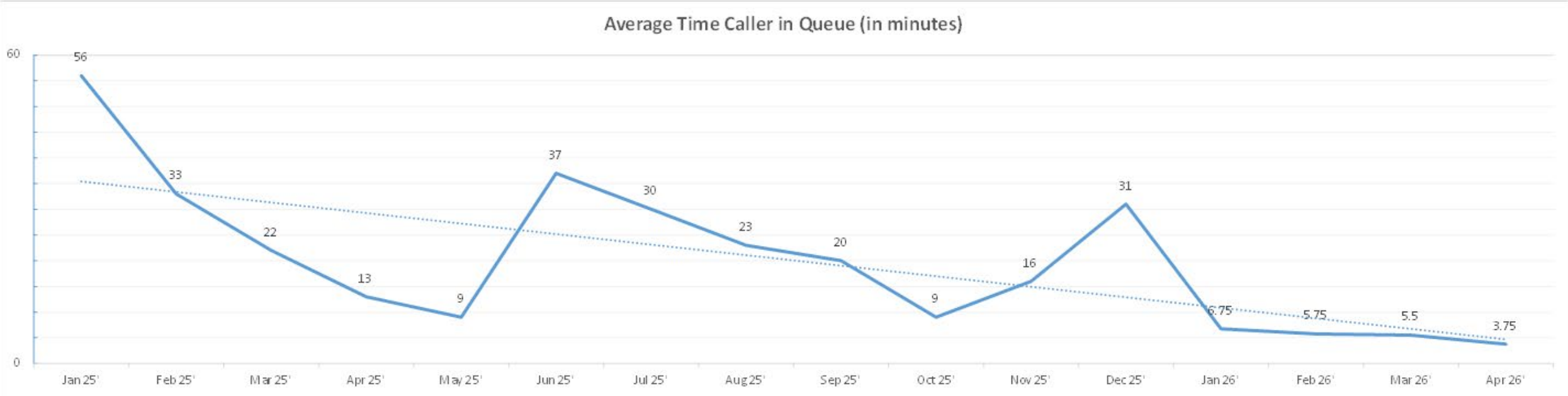
- KCDC Call Center handled **207,821** calls
- Jury services summoned **72,975** jurors
- Interpreter services scheduled **12,786** interpreter jobs  
(in 95 languages/dialects)



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# District Court Call Center service improvements

*Average call wait time reduced to less than 4 minutes as of April 2026*



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# 2025 Initiatives

- **Security enhancement projects** - Capital improvements via a special one-year \$500,000 security funding allocation from King County
- **Lean process for operational improvements** – Identify ways we can serve the public more efficiently by streamlining our processes
- **Online evidence management system pilot project** – New web-based tool to make it easier for court users to submit digital evidence
- **Language translation service improvements**
  - Simultaneous interpretation capability on the Zoom videoconference platform in all courtrooms
  - Pocketalk handheld language translation devices at all District Court courthouse front counters

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# DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION (DEI)

- **Community outreach**
  - Information table with judges and staff at 8 community events throughout King County
- **Unsecured bond procedures**
  - To enhance access to justice for defendants from marginalized communities, who may lack financial resources
- **Education and awareness series**
  - To educate judges and staff on a range of DEI-related topics
- **Accessible written communications**
  - Ensure written materials meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards regarding font and size, etc.
- **DEI Webpage**
  - A central source of court-related DEI information and resources for the public

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



COW Meeting Materials



Redmond Derby Days



36 of 140 NATIONAL LAW DAY



June 23, 2026

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# RETIRED/RETIRING JUDGES



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# CHALLENGES

## 1. Increased Civil Case Load

## 2. More complicated civil cases due to debt buyer requirements effective in 2020

**3. Video court (via Zoom)** (significant extra work / time for in-court clerks to respond to attorney requests for assistance; access to justice issue impacts of clients having less face-to-face contact with their attorneys)

**4. Interpreters** (3x number of continuances, no in-person interpreters, independent contractors)

**5. Attorney staffing challenges** (fewer attorneys, longer delays)

**6. Public Defender Staffing** (increase in public defenders means more litigation)

**7. Budget**

**8. Judicial Turnover** (losing institutional knowledge and experience)

**9. AOC Case Counting** (New study pending results)



# Thank you!



# King County



**King County**

**Metropolitan King County Council  
Committee of the Whole**

**STAFF REPORT**

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	6, 7, & 8	<b>Name:</b>	Gene Paul
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2026-0106 2026-0123 2026-0127	<b>Date:</b>	June 23, 2026

**SUBJECT**

Three motions confirming Ellen Walker, Nancy Salguero McKay, and Teofila Cruz-Urbe to the 4Culture Board of Directors.

**SUMMARY**

Proposed Motion 2026-0106 would confirm the appointment of Ellen Walker as an Executive at-large appointment to Position 15 of the 4Culture Board for the remainder of the three-year term expiring on December 31, 2028. Ms. Walker has served as the Executive Director of the Pacific Northwest Ballet since 2014.

Proposed Motion 2026-0123 would confirm the appointment of Nancy Salguero McKay as an Executive at-large appointment to Position 13 of the 4Culture Board for the remainder of the three-year term expiring on December 31, 2028. Ms. Salguero McKay has served as the Executive Director of the Highline Heritage Museum since 2019.

Proposed Motion 2026-0127 would confirm the appointment of Teofila Cruz-Urbe as an Executive at-large appointment to Position 12 of the 4Culture Board for the remainder of the three-year term expiring on December 31, 2028. Ms. Cruz-Urbe has served as both the Clinic Manager for Sea Mar Adolescent Medical Clinic and the Director of the Sea Mar Museum of Chicano/a Latino/a Culture since July 2018.

Council staff analysis has determined that the appointments meet the board member criteria established in the 4Culture Charter. In addition, the appointments were nominated and appointed consistent with the process established in the 4Culture Charter and Bylaws.

## **BACKGROUND**

**4Culture.** 4Culture, King County's Cultural Public Development Authority (PDA), was established in 2002 to administer King County's arts and heritage programs. 4Culture replaced the functions of the County's former Office of Cultural Resources in order to exercise the powers vested in PDAs under state law and realize operating efficiencies through operating independently of county government.<sup>1</sup> 4Culture is currently supported by 37.5 percent of the proceeds from the King County lodging (hotel/motel) tax and the cultural access sales tax, which supports the Doors Open Program.

4Culture's name was derived from its four original cultural programs. A fifth cultural program was added through the Doors Open Program in 2024, but 4Culture retained its name. The cultural programs include:

- **Arts.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for individual artists, groups, and community organizations.
- **Heritage.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for organizations focused on building the historical record, preserving and enhancing the character of the region, and sharing local heritage resources.
- **Preservation.** 4Culture provides project, capital, and operating support to aid in the historic preservation of buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes. The organization also provides support for heritage tourism for King County communities.
- **Public Art.** 4Culture manages the County's 1% for Art program and manages arts installations throughout the county for new capital construction projects.
- **Science and Technology.** This fifth cultural area was added through the Doors Open Program. 4Culture provides capital and operating support to eligible organizations that have an explicit focus on science or technology.

**4Culture Board.** Per 4Culture Charter<sup>2</sup> and Bylaws<sup>3</sup>, 4Culture is governed by a fifteen-member Board of Directors. Directors are to have a demonstrated commitment to and knowledge of cultural resources, be active and experienced in community and civic issues and concerns and have the ability to evaluate the needs of cultural constituencies in the region as a whole.

Directors are to represent a range of talents, experience, backgrounds, and viewpoints and to be sought from a range of: professional artists; arts administrators; architects; landscape architects; administrators, professionals and specialists in heritage and historic preservation; administrators, professionals and specialists in cultural education; urban planners and designers; attorneys; community arts and heritage activists;

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<sup>1</sup> Ordinance 14482, enacted October 1, 2002. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>2</sup> Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>3</sup> Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment B. [\[LINK\]](#)

business professionals; and the community at large. Directors must be residents of King County and are to be chosen to reflect the geographic and cultural diversity of the County.<sup>4</sup>

In March 2018<sup>5</sup> and again in December 2019<sup>6</sup>, the appointment process for the 4Culture Board changed to the following:

- Position 1 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 1;
- Position 2 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 2;
- Position 3 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 3;
- Position 4 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 4;
- Position 5 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 5;
- Position 6 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 6;
- Position 7 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 7;
- Position 8 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 8;
- Position 9 is to be appointed by the County Councilmember of Council District 9; and
- Positions 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 are to be appointed by the County Executive.<sup>7</sup>

Appointments are subject to confirmation by the Council by motion.<sup>8</sup> Board members may begin serving as voting members upon confirmation by the Council.<sup>9</sup> Board members serve for terms of three years and may serve up to two consecutive full terms, where a partial term of two years or more shall be deemed one full term.<sup>10</sup> Board members are allowed to continue to serve in the position for which the term has expired and a successor has not been duly appointed and confirmed by the Council.<sup>11</sup>

In addition to the fifteen board members, 4Culture has five ex-officio board members which include one member of the Executive staff, three County Councilmembers, and the 4Culture Executive Director.<sup>12</sup>

**Doors Open Program.** In December 2023, the Council established the King County Doors Open Program to support cultural organizations. Doors Open is funded through a one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) sales and use tax imposed by the County for seven

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<sup>4</sup> Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.2.B. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>5</sup> Ordinance 18684, enacted March 21, 2018. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>6</sup> Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>7</sup> Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.2.D. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>8</sup> Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.2.E. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>9</sup> Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment B, Section 1.4. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>10</sup> Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.3. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>11</sup> Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment B, Section 1.5. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>12</sup> Ordinance 19036, enacted December 19, 2019, Attachment A, Section 5.8. [\[LINK\]](#)

years beginning in April 2024 and ending in March 2031.<sup>13</sup> The total revenues collected for the program are forecasted to be approximately \$716 million for all seven years (approximately \$100 million per year on average).<sup>14</sup>

Under the Doors Open Program, the 4Culture Board is responsible for advising, monitoring, and providing oversight of the program for achieving the general public, equity inclusion, and geographic inclusion public benefits associated with the program. Under the implementation plan, the 4Culture Board is responsible for the final review and approval of all grant awards.<sup>15</sup> The ordinance does not establish any additional advisory body for the Doors Open Program, however, the 4Culture Board may create one or more committees to advise on issues relevant to the program.<sup>16</sup>

## **APPOINTEE INFORMATION**

**Ellen Walker.** Ellen Walker is an arts administrator who has worked for the Pacific Northwest Ballet (PNB) since 2003 and has served as their Executive Director since 2014. According to her staff profile on the PNB website, she oversees an operating budget of over \$30 million and a staff of more than 600 full and part-time employees. That profile also indicates that "under her leadership, PNB has become known as an industry leader in making ballet a more inclusive, diverse, and welcoming art form."<sup>17</sup> In her role as Executive Director, Ms. Walker was also responsible for managing the relocation and funding of PNB School's Eastside location, The Francia Russell Center, which opened in 2017.

According to her application materials, before becoming Executive Director, Ms. Walker was the Director of Marketing & Communications at PNB from 2003-2014. She has also served as an adjunct faculty member in Seattle University's MFA Arts Leadership Program. She recently completed service as Vice President of the Inspire Washington Board and as Board Secretary and Council Chair for Dance/USA. She also currently serves on the Seattle Center Foundation Board.

**Nancy Salguero McKay.** Ms. Salguero McKay has served as the Executive Director of the Highline Heritage Museum since 2019. In that role, she helped design, open, and sustain the new museum, which focuses on preserving and telling the stories of the people in the Highline area through heritage, arts, and culture.<sup>18</sup> According to her application materials, she is the first Mexican-born and raised Museum Executive Director in Washington State.

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<sup>13</sup> Ordinance 19710, enacted December 18, 2023. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>14</sup> King County Office of Economic and Financial Analysis's August 2024 forecast [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>15</sup> File No. 2024-0236 [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>16</sup> Ordinance 19710, enacted December 18, 2023, Section 4.B.5. [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>17</sup> "Staff: Ellen Walker" Pacific Northwest Ballet, <https://www.pnb.org/about/staff/>

<sup>18</sup> Highline Heritage Museum home page, <https://highlinemuseum.org/>

Ms. Salguero McKay previously served as an Exhibit Design instructor for the University of Washington's Museum Studies Certificate Program. She also worked as the Curator of Collections & Exhibits for the Highline Historical Society / Highline Heritage Museum from 2004 to 2018. She has served on several 4Culture advisory boards, including the Doors Open Education Task Force, the Heritage Advisory Committee, and the Recovery Task Force. She has also served as a board member on the Washington Museum Association Board and is a past Board Chair of the Seattle Southside Chamber of Commerce.

**Teofila Cruz-Uribe.** According to her application materials, Teofila "Teya" Cruz-Uribe is both a clinic manager for Sea Mar Community Health Centers' first adolescent specialty clinic and the director of the Pacific Northwest's first Chicano/a Latino/a focused history museum. Prior to her current roles, Ms. Cruz-Uribe served as a consulting grant writer whose duties included collecting and reporting on grant program data. She also served as a certified English language teacher in Moscow, Russia, from 2011 to 2015. She participated as a 4Culture grant review panelist in 2019 and 2021 and has been a member of 4Culture's Heritage Advisory Committee since 2021.

## **ANALYSIS**

Proposed Motion 2026-0106 would confirm the appointment of Ellen Walker as an Executive at-large appointment to Position 15 of the 4Culture Board for the remainder of the three-year term expiring on December 31, 2028. Ms. Walker has served as the Executive Director of the Pacific Northwest Ballet since 2014.

Proposed Motion 2026-0123 would confirm the appointment of Nancy Salguero McKay as an Executive at-large appointment to Position 13 of the 4Culture Board for the remainder of the three-year term expiring on December 31, 2028. Ms. Salguero McKay has served as the Executive Director of the Highline Heritage Museum since 2019.

Proposed Motion 2026-0127 would confirm the appointment of Teofila Cruz-Uribe as an Executive at-large appointment to Position 12 of the 4Culture Board for the remainder of the three-year term expiring on December 31, 2028. Ms. Cruz-Uribe has served as both the Clinic Manager for Sea Mar Adolescent Medical Clinic and the Director of the Sea Mar Museum of Chicano/a Latino/a Culture since July 2018.

Council staff analysis has determined that the appointment meets the board member criteria established in the 4Culture Charter. In addition, the appointment was nominated and appointed consistent with the process established in the 4Culture Charter and Bylaws.

## **INVITED**

- Ellen Walker, Appointee to the 4Culture Board
- Nancy Salguero McKay, Appointee to the 4Culture Board
- Teofila Cruz-Uribe, Appointee to the 4Culture Board
- Brian Carter, Executive Director, 4Culture
- Claire Miccio, Senior Government Relations Manager, 4Culture

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed Motion 2026-0106
2. Proposed Motion 2026-0106 Transmittal Letter
3. Proposed Motion 2026-0123
4. Proposed Motion 2026-0123 Transmittal Letter
5. Proposed Motion 2026-0127
6. Proposed Motion 2026-0127 Transmittal Letter



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**Motion**

**Proposed No.** 2026-0106.1

**Sponsors** Dembowski

1           A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of  
2           Ellen Walker, who resides in council district one, to the  
3           King County cultural development authority (4Culture), as  
4           an executive at-large representative for position 15.

5           BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

6           The county executive's appointment of Ellen Walker, who resides in council  
7           district one, to the King County cultural development authority (4Culture), as an

Motion

---

8 executive at-large representative for position 15, for a partial three-year term to expire on  
9 December 31, 2028, is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

---

Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

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Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.

---

Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

**Attachments:** None

**King County | Office of the Executive****Executive Girmay Zahilay**

Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800  
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800  
Seattle, WA 98104-2391

April 27, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
COURTHOUSE

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits a proposed Motion that would, if approved, confirm the appointment of Ellen Walker, who resides in Council District one, to the King County Cultural Development Authority (4Culture), as the at-large representative for position 15, for a partial three-year term expiring December 31, 2028.

Ms. Walker's resume, board profile, and appointment letter are enclosed to serve as supporting and background information to assist the Council in considering confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed legislation. If your staff have any questions about this appointment, please contact Rosa Mai, Community Service, Boards & Commissions Specialist, at (206) 369-9279.

Sincerely,

Girmay Zahilay  
King County Executive

The Honorable Sarah Perry

March 16, 2026

Page 2

Enclosures:

cc: King County Councilmembers  
ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council  
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council  
Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive  
Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive  
Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive  
Sierra Howlett-Brown, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive  
Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive  
Rosa Mai, Community Service, Boards & Commissions Specialist, Office of the Executive  
Erica Maniez, Staff Liaison to the King County Cultural Development Authority  
Ellen Walker



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**Motion**

**Proposed No. 2026-0123.1**

**Sponsors von Reichbauer**

1           A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of  
2           Nancy Salguero McKay, who resides in council district  
3           seven, to the King County cultural development authority  
4           (4Culture), as an executive at-large representative.

5           BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

6           The county executive's appointment of Nancy Salguero McKay, who resides in  
7           council district seven, to the King County cultural development authority (4Culture), as

Motion

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8 an executive at-large representative for position 13, for a partial three-year term to expire  
9 on December 31, 2028, is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

---

Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

---

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.

---

Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

**Attachments:** None



**King County | Office of the Executive**

**Executive Girmay Zahilay**

Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800  
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800  
Seattle, WA 98104-2391

May 6, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
COURTHOUSE

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits a proposed Motion that would, if approved, confirm the appointment of Nancy Salguero McKay, who resides in Council District seven, to the King County Cultural Development Authority (4Culture), as the at-large representative for position 13, for a partial three-year term expiring December 31, 2028.

Ms. Salguero McKay's application, financial disclosure, board profile, and appointment letter are enclosed to serve as supporting and background information to assist the Council in considering confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed legislation. If your staff have any questions about this appointment, please contact Rosa Mai, Community Service, Boards & Commissions Specialist, at (206) 369-9279.

Sincerely,

Girmay Zahilay  
King County Executive

The Honorable Sarah Perry

May 6, 2026

Page 2

Enclosures:

cc: King County Councilmembers  
ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council  
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council  
Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive  
Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive  
Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive  
Sierra Howlett Browne, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive  
Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive  
Rosa Mai, Community Service, Boards & Commissions Specialist, Office of the Executive  
Erica Maniez, Staff Liaison to the King County Cultural Development Authority  
Nancy Salguero McKay



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**Motion**

**Proposed No.** 2026-0127.1

**Sponsors** Mosqueda

1                   A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of  
2                   Teofila Cruz-Uribe, who resides in council district eight, to  
3                   the King County cultural development authority (4Culture)  
4                   board, as an executive at-large representative for position  
5                   12.

6                   BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

7                   The county executive's appointment of Teofila Cruz-Uribe, who resides in council  
8                   district eight, to the King County cultural development authority (4Culture) board, as an

Motion

---

9 executive at-large representative for position 12, for a partial three-year term to expire on  
10 December 31, 2028, is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

---

Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

---

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.

---

Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

**Attachments:** None

**Executive Girmay Zahilay**

Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800  
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800  
Seattle, WA 98104-2391

May 11, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
COURTHOUSE

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits a proposed Motion that would, if approved, confirm the appointment of Teofila Cruz-Uribe, who resides in Council District eight, to the King County Cultural Development Authority (4Culture) board, as the Executive at-large representative for position 12, for a partial three-year term expiring December 31, 2028.

Ms. Cruz-Uribe's application, financial disclosure, board profile, and appointment letter are enclosed to serve as supporting and background information to assist the Council in considering confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed legislation. If your staff have any questions about this appointment, please contact Rosa Mai, Community Service, Boards & Commissions Specialist, at (206) 369-9279.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Zahilay", written in a cursive style.

Girmay Zahilay  
King County Executive

The Honorable Sarah Perry

May 11, 2026

Page 2

Enclosures:

cc: King County Councilmembers  
ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council  
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council  
Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive  
Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive  
Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive  
Sierra Howlett Browne, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive  
Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive  
Rosa Mai, Community Service, Boards & Commissions Specialist, Office of the Executive  
Erica Maniez, Staff Liaison to the King County Cultural Development Authority  
Teofila Cruz-Uribe



King County

**Metropolitan King County Council  
Committee of the Whole**

**STAFF REPORT**

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	9	<b>Name:</b>	Gene Paul
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2026-B0082	<b>Date:</b>	June 23, 2026

**SUBJECT**

A briefing from 4Culture staff to present 4Culture's 2025 Annual Report.

**SUMMARY**

King County's arts and heritage programs are administered by 4Culture, which was established by the Council in 2002 as King County's cultural public development authority.<sup>1</sup> Dedicated lodging tax revenues are allocated to 4Culture to administer and distribute to local cultural programs. 4Culture also administers the Doors Open cultural access program that is funded by the cultural access sales tax which began in 2024. Finally, 4Culture oversees King County's 1% for Art program which is funded by County capital projects.

The King County Code requires 4Culture to submit an annual report that summarizes the organization's significant accomplishments and financial information to the Executive and the County Council. The Code also requires 4Culture to meet with the Committee of the Whole to brief the annual report.<sup>2</sup>

The Doors Open Implementation Plan, first adopted by the Council in November 2024, required that 4Culture incorporate updates on Doors Open into the annual report. The annual report should show the breakdown of Doors Open funding allocations according to the requirements, including geographic breakdowns by Zip Code and Council district, and also include progress reports measuring the Doors Open Program impact.

**BACKGROUND**

**4Culture's History, Funding and Programs.** The King County Council created 4Culture, King County's cultural public development authority, in 2002 through Ordinance 14482 in order "to support, advocate for and preserve the cultural resources of the region in a manner that fosters excellence, vitality and diversity." 4Culture is

<sup>1</sup> Ordinance 14482, K.C.C. 2.49 [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>2</sup> K.C.C. 2.49.160 [\[LINK\]](#)

governed by a fifteen-member Board of Directors, who are nominated by either the Executive or the Council and then confirmed by the Council.

4Culture's name was derived from its four original cultural programs. A fifth cultural program was added through the Doors Open Program in 2024, but 4Culture retained its name. The cultural programs include:

- **Arts.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for individual artists, groups, and community organizations.
- **Heritage.** 4Culture provides capital and operating grant funding for organizations focused on building the historical record, preserving and enhancing the character of the region, and sharing local heritage resources.
- **Preservation.** 4Culture provides project, capital, and operating support to aid in the historic preservation of buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes. The organization also provides support for heritage tourism for King County communities.
- **Public Art.** 4Culture manages the County's 1% for Art program and manages arts installations throughout the county for new capital construction projects.
- **Science and Technology.** This fifth cultural area was added through the Doors Open Program. 4Culture provides capital and operating support to eligible organizations that have an explicit focus on science or technology.

**4Culture Reporting Requirements.** Under King County Code (K.C.C.) 2.49.160, 4Culture must submit an annual report to the Executive and the Council by April 15th of each year that contains the following information:

- A summary of significant accomplishments;
- An updated estimate of expenditures for the current fiscal year;
- A summary of cultural programs, public art projects, and all other projects and activities to be undertaken during the current year; and
- Other information as may be required in the charter of the authority.

Additionally, the County Code also requires 4Culture to meet with the Council's Committee of the Whole two times per year, once to discuss the annual report and once to discuss the plans and proposed expenditures for the following year.

**Doors Open Program.** In December 2023, the Council established the King County Doors Open Program to support cultural organizations. Doors Open is funded through a one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) sales and use tax imposed by the County for seven years beginning in April 2024 and ending in March 2031.<sup>3</sup> The total revenues collected

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<sup>3</sup> Ordinance 19710, enacted December 18, 2023. [[LINK](#)]

for the program are forecasted to be approximately \$723.9 million for all seven years (approximately \$103 million per year on average).<sup>4</sup>

**Doors Open Implementation Plan.** Ordinance 19710, which established the Doors Open Program, also required the development of the Doors Open Implementation Plan. The Doors Open Implementation Plan was required to include program descriptions, guidelines for eligible expenditures, criteria for awarding proceeds, a public benefit reporting framework, a description of the grant award process, a description of the contract and payment process, an outreach and technical assistance plan, and details about a required Doors Open program assessment report.

The Doors Open Implementation Plan specified that 4Culture will incorporate updates on Doors Open in the annual report and budget report submitted to the Executive and the Council. It further stated that annual reports should:

- Show the breakdown of funding allocations according to the requirements in Ordinance 19710;
- Provide a geographic breakdown of total number of grant applicants and recipients and total funding awarded by Zip Code and Council district;
- Include any areas of underspending due to unclaimed awards or lack of eligible programs and projects; and
- Include progress reports measuring the Doors Open Program impact.

## **ANALYSIS**

**2025 Annual Report.** 4Culture's 2025 Annual Report, transmitted to the Council in April 2026, highlights the significant accomplishments from 2025 and provides an estimate of expenditures from that year as required by the County Code. The highlights include the full rollout of all Doors Open programs, with four major new grant programs launched in 2025 and the expansion of others. While the full accounting of Doors Open programs is provided in a separate "Summary Data Report,"<sup>5</sup> the annual report indicates that in 2025, across all 4Culture programs, \$94.7 million in total funding awarded to 1,086 organizations and 345 individuals.<sup>6</sup>

**Doors Open Summary Data Report.** As required by Ordinance 19710 and the Doors Open Implementation Plan, the standalone summary data report provides data on application and funding outcomes for all the Doors Open programs according to geography, discipline, and Communities of Opportunity (underserved communities) status. It also provides a breakdown of the public benefits that cultural organizations reported that they provided to the public as a way to provide a progress report on Doors Open impact.

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<sup>4</sup> King County Office of Economic and Financial Analysis's March 2026 forecast [\[LINK\]](#)

<sup>5</sup> The Doors Open Summary Data Report was provided as a link in the Annual Report [\[LINK\]](#) and also attached to this staff report.

<sup>6</sup> \$94.7 million was the total amount awarded in 2025. The payment or real distribution of the awards is dependent on invoicing with the required reporting and documentation. The financials in the Annual Report show that \$81.5 million was actually expended.

Overall, the summary data report covers roughly \$38 million of Doors Open funding that was awarded in 2025. Because a three-year allocation of Sustained Support operating grants were awarded in 2024 and reported on in the 2024 Annual Report, the data for the \$42.2 million connected to those grants is not included in the 2025 data report. For the \$38 million that was described in the data report, 4Culture exceeded the 25% minimum funding for organizations outside of Seattle and the 10% minimum for Communities of Opportunity or organizations serving vulnerable populations.<sup>7</sup> The report also indicates that 100% of organizations met the minimum public benefit requirements while 87% exceeded the baseline requirement by providing more benefits. A breakdown of the \$38 million described in the report by Council District is provided in Table 1 below.

**Table 1.  
2025 Doors Open Overall Applications and Awards by Council District**

<b>Council District</b>	<b>Total Applicants</b>	<b>Total Grant Awards</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>
1	59	44	\$1.5M
2	239	159	\$8.7M
3	68	39	\$1.8M
4	213	118	\$7.1M
5	73	45	\$1.8M
6	82	50	\$3.0M
7	39	24	\$1.2M
8	338	213	\$12.2M
9	45	26	\$1.1M
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1156</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>\$38.4M</b>

Besides the Doors Open data presented through the Summary Report, the total awards and allocations of lodging tax through the 4Culture programs supported by that revenue source is provided by Council District in the table below.

**Table 2.  
2025 Lodging Tax Supported Awards by Council District**

<b>Council District</b>	<b>Total Grant Awards</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>
1	36	\$525,000
2	136	\$4,100,000
3	32	\$498,000
4	66	\$1,700,000
5	32	\$795,000
6	31	\$633,000
7	25	\$1,100,000
8	139	\$4,200,000
9	19	\$243,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>\$13,700,000</b>

<sup>7</sup> According to the report, 30% of funding and 33% of total awards were awarded to organizations outside of Seattle. 33% of funding and 31% of awards were awarded to Communities of Opportunity.

Overall, the annual report shows that 4Culture expended approximately \$81.5 million for all programs and services and collected \$124.8 million in revenues in 2025. The timing of Doors Open funds being collected in 2025 but awarded in 2026 is largely responsible for this difference between higher revenues and lower expenditures. 4Culture's total estimated ending Fund Balances were \$156.1 million in 2025.

The annual report also provides a summary of projects and activities planned for 2026. These include:

- Examining lessons learned from the first year of the full rollout of Doors Open;
- Expanding the Doors Open program evaluation to better understand the impact of investments and more clearly assess the sector's needs and opportunities;
- Increasing site visits to funding recipients to build relationships;
- Supporting Curiosity Pass culture education recipients to launch programs in and out of schools; and
- Installing and unveiling several new public art projects.

Brian Carter, 4Culture's Executive Director, and 4Culture staff will provide a more detailed presentation on the 2025 Annual Report at the June 23<sup>rd</sup> Committee of the Whole meeting.

### **INVITED**

- Brian Carter, Executive Director, 4Culture
- Calandra Childers, Director of Program Strategy and Impact, 4Culture
- Claire Miccio, Senior Government Relations Manager, 4Culture

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. 4Culture PowerPoint Presentation
2. 4Culture 2025 Annual Report
3. 2025 Doors Open Summary Data Report



# 2025 Annual Report Briefing Topics

1. The Core of 4Culture
2. 2025 Highlights and Key Issues
3. What We've Learned and What's Ahead





*I trust*

**DOORS OPEN**

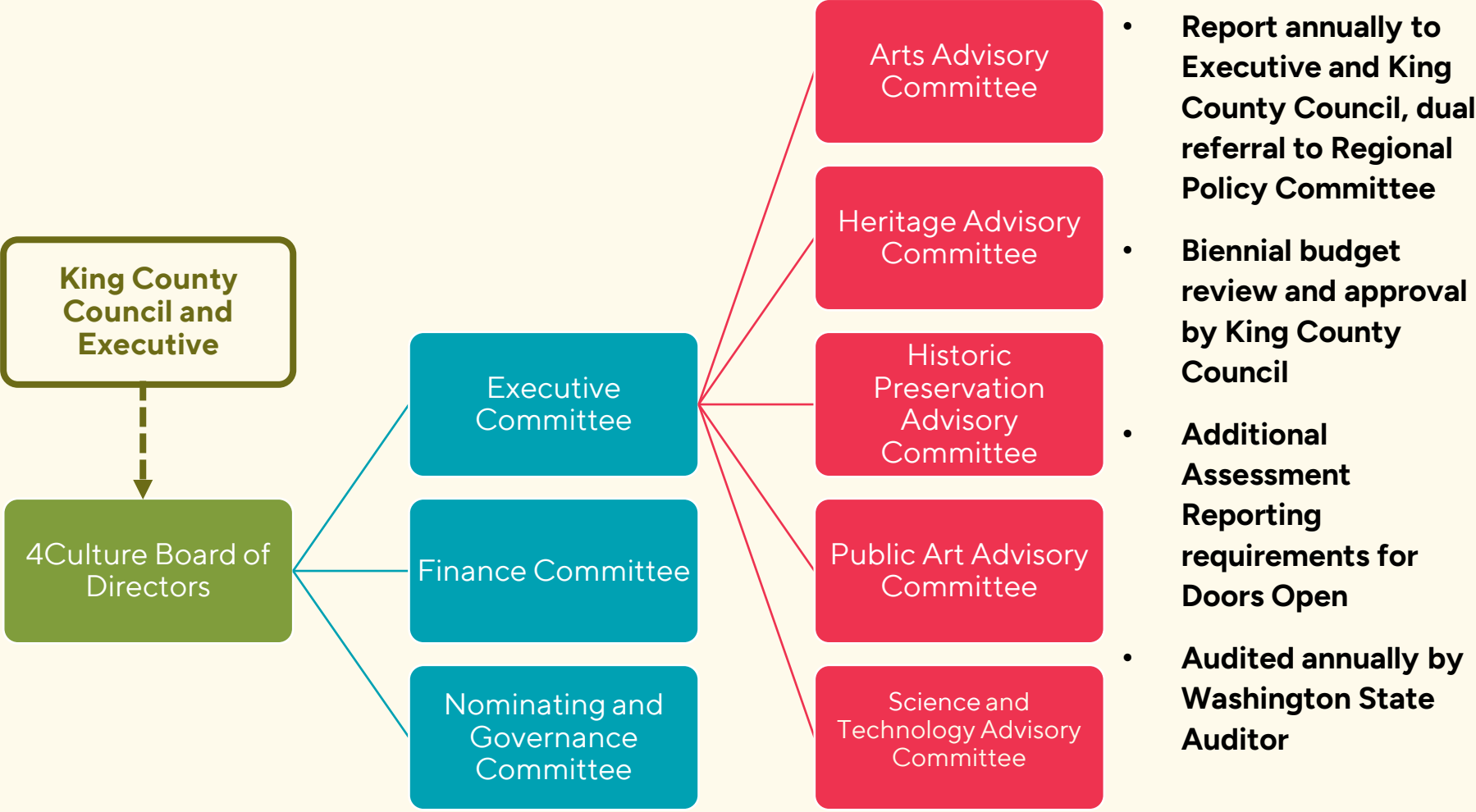
COW Meeting Materials



**CULTURE**

**enters here.**

# Accountability and Good Governance



# 2025 At-A-Glance

- \$94.7M in awarded funding
- 1,086 cultural organizations awarded; 345 individual artists awarded
- Doors Open – first year of full implementation
- 10 new grant programs
- ~12k jobs supported through 4Culture funding



Savoring Nepal, Culture Generation – Kent, 2025. Photo courtesy of Culture Generation.

# Financial Snapshot

Financial Totals	2023	2024	2025
Total Revenues	\$21,180,481	\$92,603,440	\$124,841,718
Total Expenditures	\$16,124,769	\$21,628,970	\$81,510,687
Total Fund Balances	\$41,776,970	\$112,751,440	\$156,082,471

Total revenues and expenditures differ on an annual basis due to timing factors in the inflows and outflows of various programs' financial resources. More detailed financials are provided in the Annual Report itself.



*Excitement*

DOORS OPEN

COW Meeting Materials



CULTURE

68 of 140

enters here.

June 23, 2026

# Arts: Auburn Theater

- Building for Equity Awardee
- New 300-seat theater in downtown Auburn
- Revitalization plan, activating vacant site
- Positive impacts to business and community



Rendering of Auburn Ave from SW Entrance, Opsis Architecture 2026.

# Heritage: Fairs and Festivals

- Día de los Muertos Celebration – City of Shoreline
- Snoqualmie Valley International Block Party – SnoValley Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Honoring Juneteenth – Eastside for All
- Irish Week – Irish Heritage Club



Block Party Dancers. Photo by Lucid Layout Photography, 2025.

# Preservation: EPHS Museum

- Enumclaw Plateau Historical Society, Landmarks Capital Award
- Museum Renovation
- 116-year-old Masonic Lodge
- Changes to have programming space



Photo of Historic Masonic Lodge, 1909 and the building in 2025 with the deck being replaced. Photo courtesy of Enumclaw Plateau Historical Society, 2025.



# Science and Technology: SUMM

- New to 4Culture; multiple awards in 2025
- SUMM @ Kent Station offers free admission to museum
- Programming focused in South King County schools and libraries



Seattle Universal Math Museum demonstration. Photo courtesy of SUMM.

# Public Art: Portable Works Collection

- 2,000+ works in King County Collection
- Public Art staff work to store, install, and repair collection
- 170 installations in King County's public spaces in 2025
- Impacting the public's experience with institutional space



4Culture staff install Margaret Tomkins' Source in the Chinook Building, 2025.

# Public Art: Portable Works Collection

- Catalog of portable, temporary, and permanent artwork is online
- Public can learn about artist, artwork, and space

**4 CULTURE**

Funding + Artist Calls Resources **Public Art** Community Impact About 4Culture Your Account

**BROWSE PUBLIC ART**

4Culture produces a wide range of art to **connect, inspire, challenge, and enthrall**. Find your new favorite work below.

Search: title, artist, location or keyword

**Camber**  
W. Scott Trimble  
King County Regional Trails System

**Topografía**  
Iván Carmona  
Judge Patricia H. Clark Children and Family Justice Center

**Birds of Paradise**  
Alfredo Arreguín  
Judge Patricia H. Clark Children and Family Justice Center

Filter By:  
King County Public Art Collection  
Consulting Projects  
Permanent Artwork  
Temporary Artwork  
Portable Artwork  
Art Plans

**Open Path**  
and Paul Sorey  
Social Justice Center

**Divided Sky, The Four Seasons, Wintry Sky**  
Maria Frank Abrams  
Mercer Island Library

**Focus on Time**  
Paul Horiuchi  
King County Courthouse

**Children's Touchstone with Eagles**  
James Washington  
Bailey Gatzert Elementary School

**Angles Out, Tangents, and Source**  
Margaret Tomkins  
King County Courthouse



*Resilience*

DOORS OPEN

COW Meeting Materials



CULTURE

75 of 140

enters here.

June 23, 2026

# Responsiveness

- Rolling grant program for emergency capital repairs and expenses
- Catastrophic flooding devastated residents and cultural organizations
- Climate change preparedness for the sector is an emerging issue



Flooded Native Plant Nursery at Oxbow Farm and Conservation Center, 2005.



Strength

DOORS OPEN

COW Meeting Materials



CULTURE

enters here.

# Building Organizational Strength

- Doors Open funding connects organizations with consulting support
- Top services provided: financial and strategic planning, grant writing, fundraising development



Priority organization and consultant roster mixer, 2025.

# Growing a Vibrant Cultural Sector

- 23% of Doors Open awardees were first time applicants to 4Culture
- \$3.3M to Science and Technology cultural education organizations
- \$2.46M invested in new and emerging organizations
- Supports for sustainable and accountable growth



Hobart-based group, Culture Tug. Photo courtesy of Culture Tug, 2025.



*Community*

**enters here.**

DOORS OPEN

COW Meeting Materials



CULTURE

# Accessible Cultural Experiences

- 1.76M people accessed free or reduced cost cultural programming
- Organizations using 'pay what you can' & sliding scale models
- Free admission to: Seattle Universal Math Museum @ Kent Station, Henry Art Gallery, Summer Asian ArtsFest



Youth in Focus Beginners Dark Room Summer Camp, 2025.

# Serving Public School Students

- \$8.6M awarded; 173 awards
- 83% of programs are free or subsidized for schools and students
- Organizations are offering free summer break programming, field trips, and increasing teaching artists



School Field trip to KidsQuest Museum, 2025.

# Learning and Looking Ahead

- Number and strength of cultural organizations is increasing
- Partnerships and mergers are valuable
- Preparing for climate change and extreme weather is critical
- We are learning from our evaluation and putting the data and feedback into action



AREA C Projects. *Water Log* (detail), 2025. Aluminum. King County Public Art Collection, Rainer Valley Wet Weather Storage, Seattle WA. Photo: [joefreemanjunior.com](http://joefreemanjunior.com)

# Thank you from 4Culture Board of Directors and Staff!

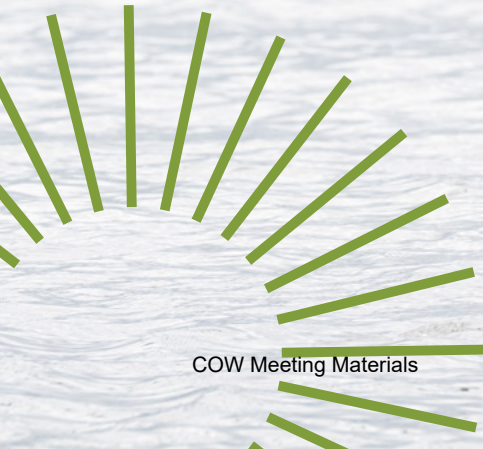




CULTURE

# A BRIGHT SPOT IN CHALLENGING TIMES

2025  
ANNUAL  
REPORT





# INTRODUCTION



Visitors and Burke staff participate in a craft activity during Free First Thursday, 2025. Photo: Chris Snyder/Burke Museum

As we reflect on this moment, we're thrilled to share the story about the exciting work 4Culture has been doing and supporting over the past year, despite very real challenges throughout our sector. Midway through the decade, we've endured a global pandemic and its aftermath. In this period, audience levels declined and costs increased, leading cultural institutions to

make tough decisions. We've also witnessed the current administration in DC slash support and funding for many individuals and organizations in the cultural sector and wage an all-out war on diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. Each of these truths has further limited access to arts and culture and stunted opportunities in the sector.

"We are so very grateful to 4Culture! With the opening of our new space, we have doubled our offerings because our community is VERY hungry for chances to gather and create. These funds will allow us to offer teen after school activities and kids events too. Thank you!"

**NORTH BEND ART & INDUSTRY**

Throughout it all, 4Culture provides support to fill gaps and strengthen growth and vitality across the sector. The reason is clear: culture is essential to thriving communities. It invites dialogue, broadens understanding, inspires imagination and curiosity, and strengthens our social bonds. In the pages ahead, you'll see that despite the challenges, there is a bright spot and reason for optimism.

For decades, 4Culture has been the funding agency in King County working to buoy the economic impact

of art and culture, and sustain a vibrant community where access to culture is open to all who live and work here. Especially in moments of uncertainty and challenge, we're here to ensure the stewardship of public art, science and technology, preservation, heritage, and arts through funding, support, and advocacy.

In the past year alone, we completed the full rollout of all Doors Open programs, King County's equitable cultural access program, which provides additional funding for cultural organizations through a 0.1 percent sales tax.

This was a big year for Doors Open. It spurred new grant programs—including Cultural Support Services Projects, Curiosity Pass: A Cultural Education Program, Launch, Network of Support—and greatly expanded Building for Equity, Public Free Access, and Sustained Support, among others. We now also have over a year's experience offering grants to Science and Technology organizations, broadening our definition of culture and providing our support to even more organizations throughout the County.



Claudine Mboligikpelani Nako and Be Russell sing "Dark Times" from the musical *Photosynthesis* during the showcase event "Photosynthesis: Seed to Stage," Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, 2025. Photo: David Craig

"We are all so appreciative of this funding and really looking forward to putting it to good use for enriching and connecting our community around nature. Thanks for all your work you are doing!"

VASHON NATURE CENTER

As the designated agency to distribute the Doors Open funds, 4Culture supports and advocates for culture as a means of enhancing quality of life for millions of King County residents. Doors Open created immediate relief for those affected by the challenges we face. We've published a [Summary Data Report](#) that details the funding outcomes of Doors Open by discipline, geography, and traditionally underserved communities.

Importantly, our mission will continue, as always, to focus on racial equity, and we will continue to be by your side as you navigate the current landscape. Our investments and support across the cultural landscape mean culture—in its broadest sense—remains an essential part of life in King County and accessible to all who live here.

That, right there, is reason for hope.

**On the cover:** Vashon Nature Center Research Assistant, Taylor Umetsu, at the annual Low Tide Celebration, Point Robinson, Vashon, 2025. Photo: Timothy Aguero Photography



# GAME CHANGING MILESTONES

**\$94.7**  
**MILLION**

total funding

**1,086** Organizations funded

**345** Individuals funded

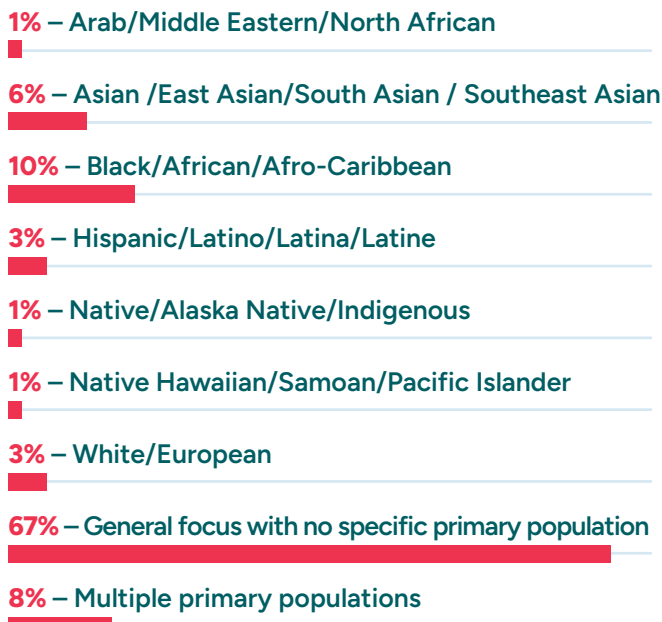
**10** New Grant Programs

**11,537** Jobs supported by 4Culture funding

## CULTURAL SECTOR LANDSCAPE SCAN

### POPULATIONS SERVED

#### PRIMARY COMMUNITY SERVED



### ORGANIZATIONS FUNDED

BUDGET GROUP	COUNT OF AWARDS	AVG AWARD SIZE
29% – Less than \$50,000	447	\$26,282
28% – \$50,000 – \$249,999	438	\$36,393
21% – \$250,000 – \$999,999	331	\$65,116
15% – \$1,000,000 – \$4,999,999	231	\$129,299
6% – \$5,000,000 or more	94	\$202,151
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1541</b>	<b>\$60,977</b>

# CURIOSITY PASS

Launched in 2025, Curiosity Pass is 4Culture's cultural education program that ensures King County public school students get the chance to learn from and be inspired by our region's spectacular cultural organizations and educators.

**\$8.6M** distributed across **173** awards

**72** cultural organizations are included on the Curiosity Pass roster, representing every King County Council District.

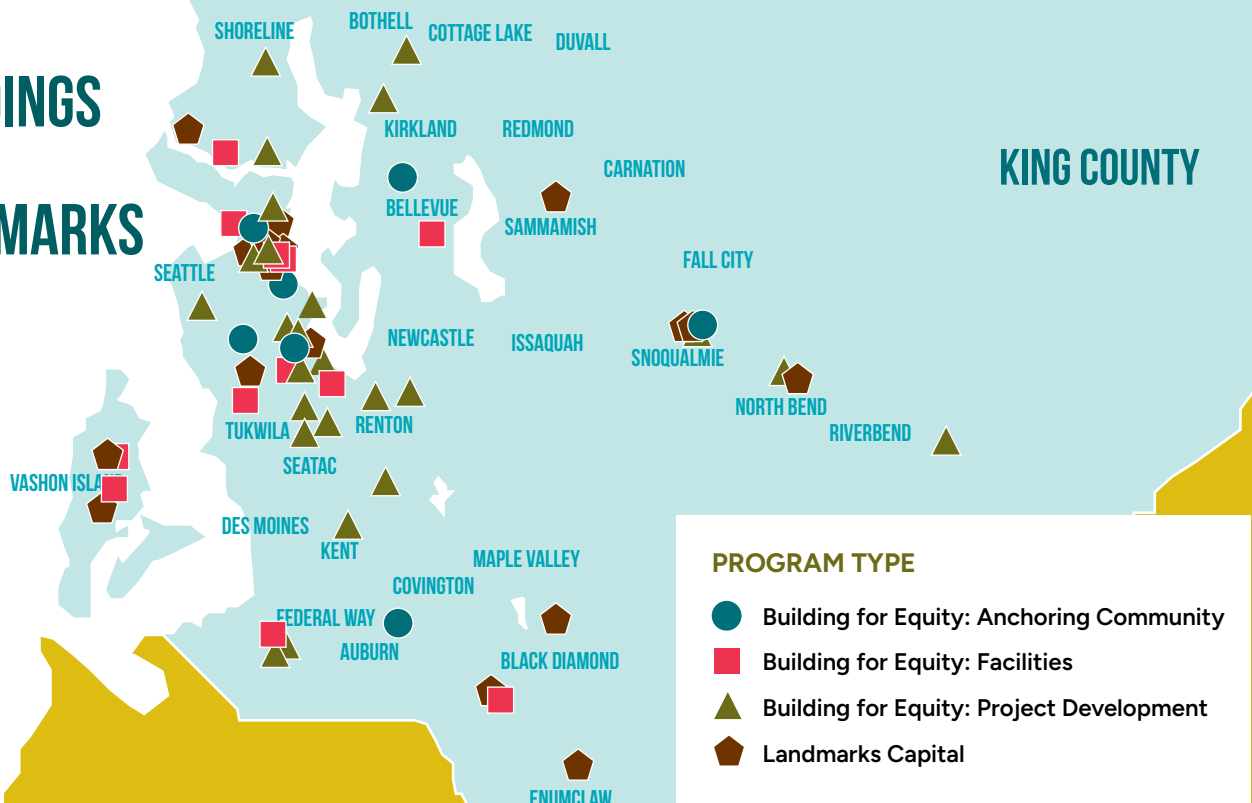
**83%** of programs are free or subsidized for schools and students.

# PUBLIC FREE ACCESS

In 2025, 4Culture underwrote free or reduced cost participation for

**1.76 MILLION** people in arts, heritage, historic preservation, or science and technology experiences. Free and reduced cost access represents nearly **40%** of all attendance across Public Free Access organizations.

## BUILDINGS AND LANDMARKS





# DOORS OPEN

# INVESTMENT RETURNS

In 2025, Doors Open was in full-swing. Doors Open not only helps these organizations stabilize—preserving jobs, maintaining public access to culture, and shoring up the creative sector—it also enables

them to expand their reach.

More than 700 cultural organizations throughout King County experienced meaningful growth and deepened their mission thanks to grants available through Doors

Open tax revenue. 4Culture is proud to play a pivotal role in administering Doors Open funds.

Here are a handful of the cultural organizations throughout the county that benefitted from Doors Open in 2025.

## OXBOW FARM AND CONSERVATION CENTER

### Science + Technology Sustained Support



Fall Farm Adventure Programming, 2025, provided by Oxbow Farm and Conservation Center

COW Meeting Materials

Founded with the spirit of preserving 240 acres of local land and providing public access to that land, Oxbow Farm and Conservation Center provides programs in four core areas: education, agriculture, conservation, and native plants. Recipient of a Science and Technology Sustained Support grant, Oxbow had over 9,000 attendees in 2025, many of

90 of 140

whom participated in education initiatives designed to provide accessible, inquiry-based learning opportunities and its agriculture programs, which explore sustainable farming practices that directly benefit the agricultural community and the broader communities who benefit from a more resilient approach to agriculture.

June 23, 2026

# SEATTLE GRIOT PROJECT

## Launch



Seattle Griot Project Museum Exhibit Opening Day, picturing local historians Ryan Donaldson, Stephanie Johnson-Toliver, Ray Donaldson, and family. 2025, provided by Seattle Griot Project

Seattle Griot Project (SGP) formed in 2020 to present and preserve the overlooked histories of Black communities in Washington State, and the organization became co-owners of the Washington State Black Legacy Institute (WSBLI), a cultural facility that anchors the organization’s work, in

2024. Funding from the Doors Open Launch grant allows SGP to hire their first staff person and build the internal infrastructure needed for long-term sustainability. Looking ahead, SGP aims to become a statewide leader in heritage preservation, education, and community engagement.

# WHITE CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

## Building for Equity: Facilities



WCHUB Community Building, rendering by Side X Side Architects, provided by White Center Community Development Association

White Center Community Development Association (WCCDA) opened a new 25,000 square foot community-owned HUB in White Center focusing on hope, unity, and belonging. Supported by Building for Equity: Project Development and Building for Equity: Facilities grants, the HUB will feature cultural spaces, youth programs, and gathering areas, and will celebrate art, equity, and community. This project is a community-led priority shaped by years of engagement with residents, grassroots surveys, and youth feedback. Every detail of the HUB affirms the cultural pride and creativity of White Center’s immigrant, refugee, and BIPOC communities.

“It is beautiful that in these uncertain times, 4Culture supports and promotes arts that are the source of the rich cultural life of the city and beyond.”

IBRAHIM ARSALAN,  
ART PROJECTS



## WIDE WORLD FOR REFUGEE

### Cultural Support Services



Refugees and Immigrants Festival, 2024, provided by Wide World for Refugee

Wide World for Refugee (WWR) was founded and is led by refugees and immigrants who have experienced displacement, cultural marginalization, and systemic inequities. Roots & Rise is a culturally responsive program designed by WWR to empower refugee and immigrant artists in King County through professional development, mentorship, and paid opportunities with access to fair compensation and heightened visibility—all so artists can sustain meaningful careers while preserving and celebrating their cultural heritage.

The aim of Roots & Rise is to create lasting public benefit, strengthen cultural equity, and amplify the voices of communities historically excluded from mainstream arts funding and infrastructure.

“All of us at the Henry Art Gallery are very grateful to 4Culture and Doors Open/Public Free Access for this very generous grant in operating support. This grant makes a huge impact in our ability to sustain free admissions to exhibitions and programs for our community. We really appreciate all the support and hard work 4Culture provides to keep arts and culture thriving in King County.”

HENRY ART GALLERY

## HENRY ART GALLERY

### Public Free Access



Akoiya Harris. Meet Me at The Henry Fall 2025. Photo: Jueqian Fang

Located on the University of Washington campus, the Henry Art Gallery now offers free admission to all visitors thanks to support from 4Culture and a Doors Open Public Free Access grant. This allows the Henry, a home for contemporary art and ideas, to fulfill its mission as a place to challenge norms, inspire change, and help create a more equitable world, all while amplifying a diverse array of stories and range of artistic voices.

# RAINIER VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S COLUMBIA MOTORS BUILDING

## Landmarks Capital



Provided by Rainier Valley Historical Society (RVHS Accession 2005.011.0002)

Additional funding from Doors Open, including a Landmarks Capital grant, allowed Rainier Valley Historical Society (RVHS) to acquire the Columbia Motors Building in Columbia City, which will become a place for learning, community gatherings, and connection around the

rich stories and history it preserves. The acquisition will allow RVHS to create even more opportunities for access by supporting research, programming, and community engagement that help people understand their place in Rainier Valley's history.

# ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CENTER

## Curiosity Pass: Public School Access



Salmon Heroes Field Study Program, 2023, provided by Environmental Science Center

Environmental Science Center's (ESC) three Environmental Heroes programs pair in-school lessons with outdoor field study, connecting students with their local environment to study scientific issues. Students engage with salmon streams and nearshore habitats, developing a sense of place and promoting stewardship. Together, these three programs will reach over 5,500 Highline, Renton, Auburn, Tukwila, and Kent students every year. ESC intentionally works with schools that have the highest free and reduced lunch rate in order to prioritize access for under-resourced school communities.

“Field trips are wonderful opportunities for students, but the transportation costs alone can be a huge barrier. This is why Curiosity Pass funding is so important. It significantly reduces these financial barriers and thereby literally opens doors to new and culturally rich experiences for students.”

JOHN SCHMITZ, CHIEF OF SCHOOLS, RENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

# ANNUAL FUNDING BY PROGRAM



## PROJECT SUPPORT

### Art Projects – Groups

**Applicants:** 157

**Grants:** 104

**Total funding:** \$1,134,400

### Art Projects – individuals

**Applicants:** 309

**Grants:** 145

**Total funding:** \$1,694,989

### Heritage Projects

**Applicants:** 110

**Grants:** 74

**Total funding:** \$964,981

### Preservation Special Projects

**Applicants:** 16

**Grants:** 16

**Total funding:** \$212,535

### Cultural Support Services Projects

**Applicants:** 201

**Grants:** 41

**Total funding:** \$6,055,820

### Heritage Professional Development Stipend

**Applicants:** 33

**Grants:** 30

**Total funding:** \$50,000

### Open 4Culture

**Applicants:** 61

**Grants:** 49

**Total funding:** \$122,500

### Touring Arts Roster Presenter Incentive Program

**Applicants:** 18

**Grants:** 18

**Total funding:** \$30,998

## OPERATING SUPPORT

### Arts Sustained Support Midstream Cycle

**Applicants:** 70

**Grants:** 69

**Total funding:** \$1,653,626

### Preservation Sustained Support Midstream Cycle

**Applicants:** 4

**Grants:** 4

**Total funding:** \$121,800

### Arts Sustained Support 2025-2027

**Applicants:** 589

**Grants:** 571

**Total  
funding:** \$26,164,890

### Preservation Sustained Support 2025-2027

**Applicants:** 28

**Grants:** 28

**Total funding:** \$1,629,200

### Heritage Sustained Support Midstream Cycle

**Applicants:** 38

**Grants:** 38

**Total funding:** \$1,053,828

### Science + Technology Sustained Support Midstream Cycle

**Applicants:** 5

**Grants:** 5

**Total funding:** \$348,600

### Heritage Sustained Support 2025-2027

**Applicants:** 87

**Grants:** 87

**Total funding:** \$6,763,7377

### Science + Technology Sustained Support 2025-2027

**Applicants:** 23

**Grants:** 22

**Total funding:** \$2,650,500

## OPERATING SUPPORT CONT'D

### Arts: Public Free Access

Applicants: 231

Grants: 231

Total funding: \$9,211,158

### Preservation: Public Free Access

Applicants: 11

Grants: 11

Total funding: \$375,676

### Arts: Launch

Applicants: 81

Grants awarded: 20

Total Funding: \$1,640,000

### Heritage: Public Free Access

Applicants: 29

Grants: 29

Total funding: \$1,678,988

### Science + Technology: Public Free Access

Applicants: 15

Grants: 15

Total funding: \$1,231,268

### Heritage: Launch

Applicants: 21

Grants awarded: 6

Total Funding: \$825,000

Note:

*Preservation and Science and Technology had four Launch applicants each with no awards.*

## BUILDING + EQUIPMENT

### Building for Equity: Facilities

Applicants: 105

Grants: 21

Total funding: \$4,700,000

### Arts: Emergency and Unforeseen

Applicants: 5

Grants: 4

Total funding: \$156,538

### Arts: Equipment for Organizations

Applicants: 209

Grants: 101

Total funding: \$1,075,261

### Science & Technology: Equipment for Organizations

Applicants: 17

Grants: 7

Total funding: \$62,635

### Building for Equity: Project Development

Applicants: 62

Grants: 37

Total funding: \$1,700,000

### Heritage: Emergency and Unforeseen

Applicants: 3

Grants: 3

Total funding: \$40,377

### Heritage: Equipment for Organizations

Applicants: 50

Grants: 31

Total funding: \$350,151

### Landmarks Capital

Applicants: 58

Grants: 26

Total funding: \$1,499,998

### Building for Equity: Anchoring Community

Applicants: 10

Grants: 7

Total funding: \$3,000,000

### Preservation: Emergency and Unforeseen

Applicants: 8

Grants: 8

Total funding: \$98,019

### Preservation: Equipment for Organizations

Applicants: 10

Grants awarded: 4

Total funding: \$29,459

### Landmark Nomination Support

Applicants: 2

Grants: 2

Total funding: \$13,160

## CULTURAL EDUCATION

### Curiosity Pass – Cultural Education Projects

Applicants: 184

Grants: 173

Total funding: \$8,577,140

### Public Art Programs and Projects with Artists Selected in 2025

Gallery 4Culture

Storefront Media Gallery: Artist Carousel

Alki Wet Weather Treatment Station: Standby Generator Project, King County Wastewater Treatment Division

## PUBLIC ART

# KING COUNTY PORTABLE WORKS COLLECTION

Photographs, paintings, small sculptures—these are some examples of the 2,000-plus pieces in King County’s Portable Works Collection, which is administered by 4Culture. Each of the artworks in this vast collection enrich publicly accessible county spaces—some move from one location to another over time, while others belong to site-specific collections and move exclusively within those facilities. The collection features works by emerging and established artists working in a broad range of media.

The Portable Works Collection celebrates the diverse communities and perspectives within King County. Acquisitions are made via open calls and invitations when needs arise and funds are available. In 2025, the 4Culture Public Art team installed over 170 artworks in locations as varied as offices, Harborview hospital, County courthouses, health centers, Metro transit facilities, and other public gathering spaces.



Sara Mast. *Scorpion's Heart*, 2008. Encaustic and natural pigment on paper. Harborview Medical Center, Seattle, WA. King County Public Art Collection. Photo: [joefreemanjunior.com](http://joefreemanjunior.com)



Installation view of various works by Stefanie Ashby-DiRicco, David Winston, Thomas Stream (Aleut/ Sun'ag), Kevin Goodrich, and Cecilia Bomberg. Harborview Medical Center, Seattle, WA. King County Public Art Collection.

Photo: [joefreemanjunior.com](http://joefreemanjunior.com)

## PUBLIC ART

***WATER LOG* | AREA C PROJECTS**

The fence of King County Wastewater's Rainer Valley Wet Weather Storage Facility in Columbia City is encircled with cut-aluminum phrases that, together, tell a story about our relationship with and to water. Conceived and built by AREA C Projects, *Water Log* exhibits phrases in multiple languages—English, Spanish, Somali, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Amharic, Lushootseed, Russian, and Chinese—to weave a narrative about how water moves through the collective life of a city.

The artwork's title—*Water Log*—works in two ways. In the maritime trade, a log is a book in which important data is recorded, and this piece is itself about the vital role water plays in our community. The other idea conveyed in the work is the experience of saturation—that is, what it means to be full of water, or thoroughly soaked or submerged in it—with the goal of reminding people that water is all around us and is essential to who we are.



AREA C Projects. *Water Log* (detail), 2025. Aluminum. King County Public Art Collection. Rainer Valley Wet Weather Storage, Seattle, WA. Photo: [joefreemanjunior.com](http://joefreemanjunior.com)

# A CONVERSATION WITH KING COUNTY EXECUTIVE ZAHILAY



King County Executive Girmay Zahilay



4Culture Executive Director Brian J. Carter

King County is a leader in providing public funding to ensure the cultural sector is a vibrant part of the community. Recently, **4Culture Executive Director Brian J. Carter** and the new **King County Executive Girmay Zahilay** had a chance to talk about how arts and culture contribute to strong and thriving communities—how they bring people together, activate our

COW Meeting Materials

public spaces, and preserve history and identities. They also discussed how cultural activities are a powerful means to amplify the voices of historically marginalized communities and give them agency to tell their own stories. In short, the cultural sector is a core part of any effort to build a more inclusive, thriving King County.

Here are highlights from that conversation:

**Brian J. Carter (BJC):**  
**Let's talk about the collaborative relationship between King County and 4Culture: what has that collaboration been like for you, and why is it so important?**

**Girmay Zahilay (GZ):**  
Institutions like 4Culture play a vital role in ensuring that arts and culture are integrated across policy, planning, and community development. King County's relationship with 4Culture has been extremely

collaborative, especially with the transformative Doors Open legislation. I look forward to continuing to grow that relationship and elevate the role of our arts and culture agencies in decision-making processes.

**BJC: You were a co-sponsor of the Doors Open legislation which passed unanimously.**

**Can you talk about what led you to sponsor the legislation and what you're most excited about?**

**GZ:** Doors Open is historic legislation that stabilizes and grows the county's cultural sector after the COVID-19 pandemic. With feedback from 4Culture, I was proud to champion amendments that advance economic revitalization strategies in our commercial centers and that direct a minimum of 10% of funds to Communities of Opportunity in King County.

I am really excited to see how those communities, especially those in unincorporated areas and South King County, tell their stories through their cultural activities.

**BJC: Is there anything you would like to say to readers of our annual report specifically about arts and culture?**

**“From the need for more affordable housing to reducing gun violence, the arts are deeply intertwined with our region’s most pressing issues. Our region’s cultural activities strengthen social bonds and help communities solve problems.”**

**KING COUNTY EXECUTIVE GIRMAY ZAHILAY**

**GZ:** My office is committed to uplifting our region's cultural organizations, recognizing that many are still recovering from the economic impacts of the pandemic. We are supporting arts, culture, heritage, and science and technology initiatives countywide, and helping grow our local creative economy that includes our evolving film and music industry. We are also taking inventory of all county-owned land and properties to maximize opportunities for space activation in partnership with our creative community.

**BJC: Is there anything you'd like them to know about what you're working on for King County?**

**GZ:** As Executive, I'm dedicated to building a region that allows everyone to thrive, and I see the arts as a critical component to my priorities. One of the main challenges our region faces is

affordability. Rising costs are pushing too many neighbors and small businesses out, and this is especially critical for our creative workforce and arts and cultural organizations.

A core policy priority for me is to build for affordability – building more workforce housing, childcare, and infrastructure to support our growing region and lower costs. I am also interested in updating zoning to prioritize cultural spaces in high-displacement areas. These organizations are cultural anchors in our communities, and we need to be doing more to keep them rooted in place.

**BJC: What King County cultural organization is near and dear to your heart and why?**

**GZ:** There are too many to count! I will emphasize that pound for pound we live in the greatest region in the world in terms of amazing arts and culture assets.

# BOARD & STAFF



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 Natasha Varner, Ph.D.  
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 Lauren Superville

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 Robyn Mah  
 Dawn Moser  
 Moira Nadal  
 Huy Pham  
 Asia Tail (Board Representative)

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Rachael Kitagawa  
 Katie Oman  
 Taelore Rhoden  
 Sarah Steen  
 Stephen Yamada-Heidner

## ADVISORY COMMITTEES, CONT'D

### NATIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS IN 2025

Francesca Murnan  
(Shawnee/Cherokee)

Dakota Murray (Bad River  
Ojibwe/Rosebud Sioux)

Temryss Lane (Lummi)

Tim Lehman (Northern  
Arapaho)

James Lovell (Turtle  
Mountain Ojibwe)

Polly Olsen (Yakama)

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Kate Fernandez

Tommy Gregory

Matt Gurrad

Philippe Hyojung Kim

Keith McPeters

Catherine Nueva España  
(Board Representative)

Elisheba Wokoma

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Kent Chapple

Kyle Johnson

Zeta Strickland

Felipe Vera

Rosie Wilson-Briggs

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Gabriel de los Angeles

Judy Avitia-Gonzalez

Michelle Bacca

Austin Bell

Melany Bell

Eleanor Boba

Jessica Boruski

Erin Elyse Burns

Megan Castillo

Em Chan

Julie Chang Schulman

Gina Coffman

Amy Dukes

Taha Ebrahimi

Malcolm Fox

Jaebadiah Gardner

Shruti Ghatak

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Courtney Good

Suzanne Greathouse

Monette Hearn

Angie Hinojos

Amy Hirotaka

Donna Hogerhuis

Darelle Holden

Michael Hong

Lydia Huang

Aiyana Jakowski

Saya Jenks

Emily Jerger

Khazm Kogita

Rachael Kitagawa

Kim Kotovic

Eileen Yamada Lamphere

Debra Landers

Lizzy Lane

Leilani Lewis

Ell Lin

Timothy Lowry

Jasmine Mahmoud

Beatris A. Mendez  
Gandica

Micah Merryman

Yegizaw Michael

Noelani Montas

Dakota Murray

Erin O'Brien

Katie Oman

Patrick Oyie

Malia Peoples

Yvette Perrantes

Rachel Perry

Warren Pope

Mx. Pucks A'Plenty

Jessica Ramirez

Shenise Ramirez

Taelore Rhoden

Natasha Rivers

Misha Rodarte

John Rodezno

Lidia Sanchez

Sili Savusa

Meena Selvakumar

Krystal Smith

JessXSnow

Liisa Spink

Tyler Sprague

Jennifer Strongin

Asia Tail

Vivian Tam

Roger Tang

Toyia Taylor

Yordanos Teferi

Patrice Thomas

Karen Toering

Debra Twersky

Dan Ullam

Lex Vaughn

Gerie Ventura

Isadore White

Cameron Wong

Kathleen Wong

Simona Zappa

“We’re so deeply grateful, as is the community of artists who benefit from their time spent at our events. Your support helps those events stay free, compensates the artists we work with, and gives us hope for a long future of making Seattle glow a little brighter.”

SEATTLE FLOW ARTS  
COLLECTIVE

# 4CULTURE 2025 FINANCIALS

Revenues and Other Sources	2025	2024	2023
Doors Open Sales Tax Revenue	\$95,792,690	\$70,830,401	\$ -
Lodging Tax Revenue	14,471,367	14,787,239	14,361,606
King County Public Art Revenue	6,203,405	1,681,105	4,874,364
King County Appropriations	-	2,869,317	-
Investment Earnings	4,614,166	2,403,252	1,917,741
Advances from King County	3,615,310	-	-
Miscellaneous Other	144,780	32,126	26,770
<b>Total Revenues*</b>	<b>\$124,841,718</b>	<b>\$92,603,440</b>	<b>\$21,180,481</b>

Expenditures and Other Uses	2025	2024	2023
Doors Open Programs	\$63,664,204	\$1,543,699	\$-
Other Arts, Heritage, and Preservation Grant Programs	11,840,936	11,198,047	10,535,796
Public Art Projects	2,376,448	2,536,439	2,367,177
COVID Relief Pass-Through	-	2,726,290	-
Repayment of Advances from King County	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Management and General Supporting Activities	1,264,357	1,056,906	921,796
Debt Service	300,000	300,000	300,000
Leasehold Improvements	64,742	267,589	-
<b>Total Expenditures and Other Uses*</b>	<b>\$81,510,687</b>	<b>\$21,628,970</b>	<b>\$16,124,769</b>

Fund Balances	Dec. 31, 2025	Dec. 31, 2024	Dec. 31, 2023
General Fund	\$8,587,263	\$6,517,232	\$4,269,792
Lodging Tax Special Revenue Fund	8,227,637	3,428,880	4,922,679
1% for Art Special Revenue Fund	25,310,866	20,656,446	20,431,487
Cultural Special Account Fund	11,551,649	13,555,141	12,153,012
Doors Open Special Revenue Fund	102,405,056	68,593,741	-
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$156,082,471</b>	<b>\$112,751,440</b>	<b>\$41,776,970</b>

\*Total revenues and expenditures differ on an annual basis due to timing factors in the inflows and outflows of the various programs' financial resources.

**NOTE:** 2025 financial information is based on unaudited fund financial statements. Requests for the most recent complete audited financial report should be addressed to 4Culture's finance department at 4Culture, 101 Prefontaine Place S, Seattle, WA 98104.

# A LOOK AHEAD



Japan Fair,  
Meydenbauer  
Center,  
Bellevue,  
2025. Photo:  
Timothy Aguero  
Photography

As we look towards the year ahead, there's so much to be excited about. With the full rollout of **Doors Open** under our belt, we'll take a close look at what we've learned in this inaugural year and consider all we've heard from the community. Going forward, we'll continue to refine 4Culture to make it even stronger and more successful in the years to come.

We've also begun an expanded **practice of evaluation** to better understand the impact of public funds invested in cultural programs and more clearly assess the sector's needs and opportunities. These new methodologies will position 4Culture for an even greater and far-reaching impact, as we remain laser-focused on making culture accessible to all who live and work here.

Our team enjoys visiting with organizations and individual artists and practitioners – meeting you where you are. As 4Culture has grown, we've increased our site visits to recipients, a practice that's very important to help our new **Science and Technology team** build relationships and continue developing this new program area.

In 2025, we opened the Native Cultural Facilities grant and look forward to reporting more about it next year. The year ahead is also the year **Curiosity Pass** recipients will launch their programs in and out of schools, as we will continue to roll out this cultural education program that creates and sustains engaging arts, cultural, and science-based experiences for students across King County. This grant will fund

partners with youth-focused programs meant to expand learning opportunities in K-12 public schools.

In addition, **several new public art projects** will be installed and unveiled in King County public spaces throughout 2026, including commissioned works with King County Solid Waste Division at the South County Transfer & Recycling Center, King County Parks at Eastrail in Woodinville and with other county partners on bridges, buildings and more. We'll also continue to add to the King County Public Art Collection with artwork selected through an open call for two-dimensional and low-relief artworks by King County-based artists.

There's much more to come. Thank you for your continued partnership and support.



James Hartunian, *TIMBER!*, 2025. Installation view. Photo: joefreemanjunior.com

# VISIT US

101 Prefontaine Pl S, Seattle WA 98104  
hello@4culture.org | (206) 296-7580

**Open Monday-Friday, 9AM-5PM**



Fall Farm Adventure Programming, 2025, Oxbow Farm and Conservation Center

# 2025 DOORS OPEN SUMMARY DATA REPORT



As required by Doors Open legislation and the Evaluation Plan requirements, 4Culture reports annually on the funding outcomes for arts and cultural programs across geography, discipline, and underserved communities. The following pages present summary data for these 2025 Doors Open programs: Sustained Support General Operating Support, Public Free Access, Curiosity Pass Cultural Education Program, Building for Equity facility projects, County-Wide Initiatives (Cultural Support Services projects), and Launch. These detailed reports include the distribution of applications and awards amongst these programs by total investment, discipline, location, Underserved Communities, King County Council District, and Zip Code.

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2. [Sustained Support General Operating Support \(Midstream Cycle\)](#)
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6. [County-Wide Initiatives \(Cultural Support Services Projects\)](#)
7. [Launch](#)
8. [Doors Open Impact Progress Report](#)

# OVERVIEW – DOORS OPEN 2025

Doors Open allows up to 0.1 percent sales tax in King County. The total sales tax receipts for 2025 were **\$95,792,690**. The Implementation Plan allocates projected Doors Open revenue, per Section 8 of Ordinance 19710, as follows:

- 72 percent for the following Doors Open programs:
  - 50 percent Sustained Support
  - 15 percent Public Free Access
  - 15 percent Public school access program
  - 10 percent Building for Equity
  - 7 percent County-Wide Initiatives
  - 3 percent Launch funding
- 25 percent Equity Investments for outside of Seattle.
  - Of which, 10 percent for cultural organizations by underserved populations and/or organizations located in Communities of Opportunity (COO).
- 3 percent for administration

4Culture’s approach to integrating the **25% Equity Investments** for Outside of Seattle and COO requires no separate application or additional work from applicants. Organizations located outside of Seattle seeking funding simply apply to Doors Open related programs and access additional funding as part of their awards. This process ensures that organizations don’t have to submit two applications for each type of funding, and that the 25% outside of Seattle operates as a floor, and not a ceiling.

The following is an overview of the Doors Open tax allocation for 2025:

## ALLOCATION OF 2025 DOORS OPEN SALES TAX REVENUES

Doors Open Program	Funding Allocation
Sustained Support General Operating	\$ 34,485,368
Public Free Access	\$ 10,345,610
Public School Access (Curiosity Pass)	\$ 10,345,610
Building for Equity	\$ 6,897,074
County-Wide Initiatives (Cultural Support Services projects)	\$ 4,827,952
Launch	\$ 2,069,122
<b>Doors Open Programs – Total</b>	<b>\$ 68,970,736</b>
<b>Outside of Seattle – Total</b>	<b>\$ 23,948,173</b>
<b>Administration – Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,873,781</b>
<b>Total 2025 Doors Open Sales Tax Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 95,792,690</b>

**Note:** Because some grants are administered over multiple years, the detailed allocation figures may not sum exactly to the total revenue shown in this chart.

# PROGRAM METRICS

1. Doors Open Overall - Disciplines
2. Doors Open Overall - Outside of Seattle
3. Doors Open Overall - Underserved Communities
4. Doors Open Overall - King County Council District
5. Doors Open Overall - Zip Codes

The following metrics refer to funding that was **awarded** in 2025. Because a three-year allocation of Sustained Support grants was awarded in 2024, and reported in the 2024 Annual Report, that data is not included in the below graphs. Those previously awarded grants are valued at \$42.2M and were distributed in 2025.

## DISCIPLINES – DOORS OPEN OVERALL

Project Type	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Arts	\$25.3 M	498	825	65%	69%
Heritage	\$8.5 M	134	197	22%	19%
Preservation	\$1.8 M	37	58	5%	5%
Science & Technology	\$3.3 M	49	76	8%	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$38.8 M</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>1156</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## OUTSIDE OF SEATTLE – DOORS OPEN OVERALL

Location	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Seattle	\$27.1 M	479	761	70%	67%
Outside of Seattle	\$11.6 M	239	395	30%	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$38.6 M</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>1156</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES – DOORS OPEN OVERALL

Community of Opportunity	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
COO	\$12.9 M	223	355	33%	31%
Non-COO	\$25.7 M	495	801	67%	69%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$38.6 M</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>1156</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Explanatory Note:** In 4Culture’s Evaluation Plan for Doors Open, the Communities of Opportunity (COO) framework helps identify areas within King County that experience greater barriers to opportunity. This metric reflects 4Culture’s commitment to directing resources toward underserved communities, defined here as those within the top two quintiles (top 40%) of the Communities of Opportunity Index.

## KING COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT – DOORS OPEN OVERALL

Council District	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants
District 1	\$1.5 M	44	59
District 2	\$8.7 M	159	239
District 3	\$1.8 M	39	68
District 4	\$7.1 M	118	213
District 5	\$1.8 M	45	73
District 6	\$3.0 M	50	82
District 7	\$1.2 M	24	39
District 8	\$12.2 M	213	338
District 9	\$1.1 M	26	45
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$38.4 M</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>1156</b>

## ZIP CODES – DOORS OPEN OVERALL

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98109	\$4.1 M	51	89	Seattle
98144	\$3.8 M	53	76	Seattle
98118	\$2.3 M	39	53	Seattle
98101	\$2.3 M	36	56	Seattle
98122	\$2.1 M	42	71	Seattle
98103	\$1.4 M	32	54	Seattle
98108	\$1.4 M	24	41	Seattle
98104	\$1.3 M	20	32	Seattle
98105	\$802 K	19	31	Seattle
98004	\$749 K	4	5	Bellevue
98065	\$712 K	7	7	Snoqualmie
98070	\$670 K	15	30	Vashon
98052	\$640 K	13	21	Redmond
98178	\$601 K	10	11	Seattle, Tukwila
98146	\$562 K	8	12	Seattle
98166	\$547 K	8	14	Burien
98114	\$535 K	9	11	Seattle
98121	\$521 K	10	17	Seattle
98027	\$514 K	8	22	Issaquah

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98106	\$497 K	13	21	Seattle
98195	\$496 K	4	5	Seattle
98111	\$444 K	5	7	Seattle
98032	\$430 K	5	8	Kent
98165	\$395 K	6	6	Seattle
98056	\$393 K	5	8	Renton
98057	\$391 K	12	17	Renton
98126	\$378 K	6	11	Seattle
98102	\$367 K	9	16	Seattle
98112	\$362 K	9	14	Seattle
98116	\$353 K	9	13	Seattle
98034	\$352 K	10	11	Kirkland
98033	\$351 K	7	17	Kirkland
98030	\$344 K	7	13	Kent
98092	\$312 K	2	2	Auburn
98005	\$303 K	6	9	Bellevue
98007	\$297 K	5	7	Bellevue
98168	\$295 K	6	12	Burien, Tukwila, SeaTac, Seattle
98139	\$284 K	4	4	Seattle
98188	\$267 K	8	12	Seattle, Tukwila
98124	\$253 K	5	7	Seattle
98117	\$249 K	5	8	Seattle
98058	\$234 K	6	9	Renton
98155	\$232 K	3	4	Seattle, Shoreline, Lake Forest Park
98125	\$231 K	7	15	Seattle
98148	\$220 K	5	9	Burien
98063	\$202 K	5	5	Federal Way
98134	\$199 K	5	9	Seattle
98045	\$192 K	5	10	North Bend
98074	\$189 K	6	9	Sammamish
98115	\$189 K	9	14	Seattle
98003	\$186 K	4	9	Federal Way
98023	\$182 K	4	5	Federal Way
98113	\$176 K	4	7	Seattle
98014	\$164 K	3	7	Carnation
98133	\$162 K	7	10	Seattle
98040	\$158 K	4	6	Mercer Island
98009	\$153 K	3	6	Bellevue
98194	\$144 K	4	5	Seattle
98136	\$142 K	5	8	Seattle
98001	\$137 K	2	3	Auburn
98093	\$127 K	2	3	Federal Way

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98071	\$125 K	4	6	Auburn
98107	\$122 K	6	9	Seattle
98010	\$113 K	4	6	Black Diamond
98008	\$102 K	3	3	Bellevue
98002	\$99 K	1	2	Auburn
98042	\$95 K	2	2	Kent
98038	\$93 K	4	9	Maple Valley
98145	\$80 K	3	6	Seattle
98006	\$73 K	3	7	Bellevue
98028	\$72 K	4	5	Kenmore
98024	\$64 K	3	3	Fall City
98031	\$60 K	3	5	Kent
98127	\$53 K	2	5	Seattle
98035	\$50 K	1	1	Federal Way
98288	\$47 K	3	3	Skykomish
98119	\$45 K	1	8	Seattle
98011	\$41 K	2	2	Bothell
98022	\$39 K	2	6	Enumclaw
98059	\$37 K	1	3	Renton
98019	\$27 K	1	3	Duvall
98020	\$27 K	1	1	Edmonds
98041	\$27 K	1	1	Bothell
98072	\$27 K	1	2	Woodinville
98083	\$27 K	1	1	Kirkland
98175	\$27 K	1	1	Seattle
98177	\$27 K	1	6	Seattle
98862	\$27 K	1	1	Winthrop
98073	\$16 K	1	1	Redmond
98075	\$15 K	1	1	Sammamish
98053	\$12 K	1	1	Redmond
98199	\$10 K	1	5	Seattle
98198	\$5 K	1	4	Des Moines
98051	\$0 K	0	1	Ravensdale
98055	\$0 K	0	1	Renton
98064	\$0 K	0	1	Kent
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$38.6 M</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>1155</b>	

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025 – SUSTAINED SUPPORT

Sustained Support provides **operating support to meet the day-to-day needs** of arts, preservation, heritage, and science and technology organizations. Organizations may use this funding for a variety of operating expenses including staff salaries, utilities, supplies, fees, and services that make programs and activities available to King County residents and visitors.

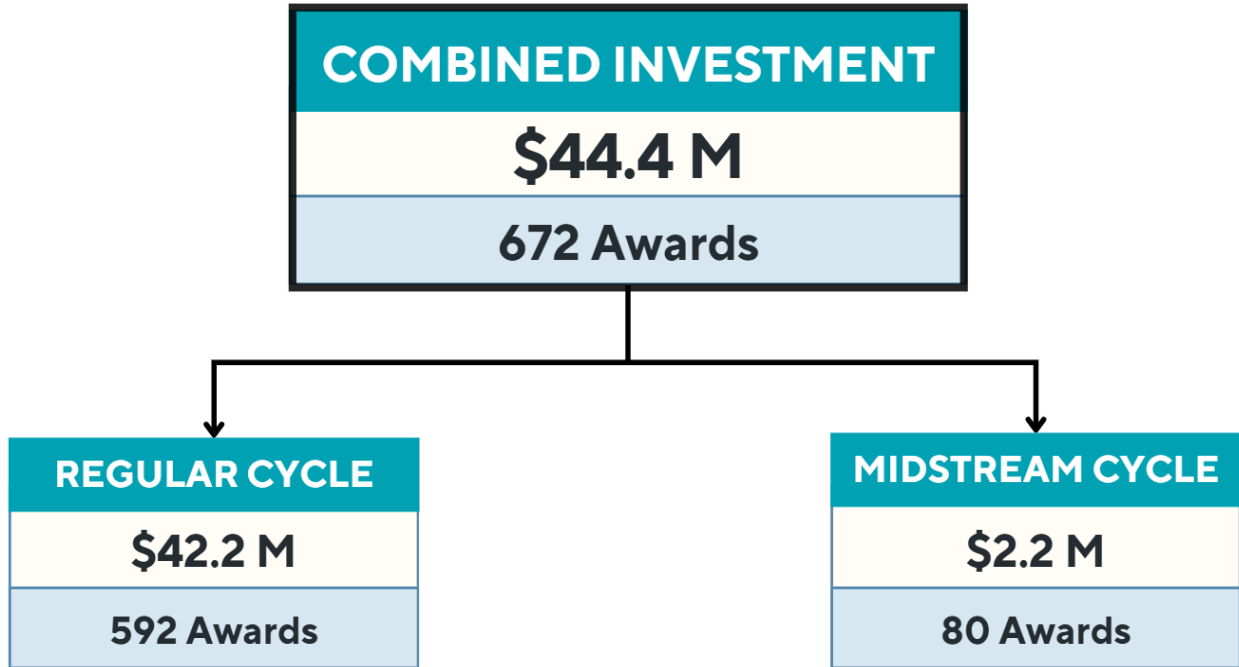
Previously biennial, the program is now run on a **three-year cycle**, allowing organizations to plan ahead and make strategic investments knowing they have a stable source of revenue; the first three-year cycle was awarded in 2024 for the calendar years of 2025, 2026 and 2027 and awarded 42.2M to 592 applicants. This year, 4Culture additionally ran a **Midstream cycle for the 2026 and 2027** distribution years, to allow organizations who had missed the 2024 deadline, or who had not been eligible or successful the previous year, to apply to the program. The **80 successful applicants** will be combined with the original 592 applicants for 2026 and 2027 fund distribution.

Beginning in 2025, 4Culture's Sustained Support program returned to its historic reimbursement model following a one-time advance payment process, as directed by King County Council to meet emergent needs.

## PROGRAM METRICS

1. Sustained Support (Combined) – Total Investment
2. Sustained Support (Midstream) – Disciplines
3. Sustained Support (Midstream) – Outside of Seattle
4. Sustained Support (Midstream) – Underserved Communities
5. Sustained Support (Midstream) – King County Council District
6. Sustained Support (Midstream) – Zip Codes

## TOTAL INVESTMENT – SUSTAINED SUPPORT



## DISCIPLINES – SUSTAINED SUPPORT MIDSTREAM

Project Type	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Arts	\$1.3 M	49	49	57%	61%
Heritage	\$0.5 M	23	23	22%	29%
Preservation	\$0.1 M	3	3	5%	4%
Science	\$0.3 M	5	5	16%	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2.2 M</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## OUTSIDE OF SEATTLE – SUSTAINED SUPPORT MIDSTREAM

Location	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Seattle	\$1.5 M	48	48	66%	60%
Outside of Seattle	\$0.7 M	32	32	34%	40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2.2 M</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES – SUSTAINED SUPPORT MIDSTREAM

Community of Opportunity	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
COO	\$0.8 M	24	24	39%	30%
Non-COO	\$1.4 M	56	56	61%	70%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2.2 M</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Explanatory Note:** In 4Culture’s Evaluation Plan for Doors Open, the Communities of Opportunity (COO) framework helps identify areas within King County that experience greater barriers to opportunity and may benefit from additional support. This metric reflects 4Culture’s commitment to directing resources toward underserved communities, defined here as those within the top two quintiles (top 40%) of the Communities of Opportunity Index.

## KING COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT – SUSTAINED SUPPORT MIDSTREAM

Council District	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants
District 1	\$209K	13	13
District 2	\$372K	16	16
District 3	\$159K	9	9
District 4	\$311K	12	12
District 5	\$176K	6	6
District 6	\$224K	6	6
District 7	\$0K	0	0
District 8	\$725K	16	16
District 9	\$23K	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2.2M</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>

## ZIP CODES – SUSTAINED SUPPORT MIDSTREAM

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98005	\$138K	2	2	Bellevue
98007	\$21K	1	1	Bellevue
98011	\$21K	1	1	Bothell
98022	\$13K	1	1	Enumclaw
98024	\$49K	2	2	Fall City
98028	\$36K	2	2	Kenmore
98031	\$13K	1	1	Kent
98034	\$58K	4	4	Kirkland
98052	\$60K	3	3	Redmond
98053	\$12K	1	1	Redmond
98057	\$121K	3	3	Renton
98059	\$10K	1	1	Renton
98073	\$16K	1	1	Redmond
98074	\$40K	2	2	Sammamish
98075	\$15K	1	1	Sammamish
98101	\$119K	2	2	Seattle
98103	\$216K	6	6	Seattle
98104	\$316K	3	3	Seattle
98105	\$30K	2	2	Seattle
98106	\$91K	3	3	Seattle
98107	\$12K	1	1	Seattle
98108	\$58K	1	1	Seattle
98109	\$26K	2	2	Seattle
98115	\$56K	3	3	Seattle
98116	\$10K	1	1	Seattle
98117	\$17K	1	1	Seattle
98118	\$93K	3	3	Seattle
98121	\$30K	1	1	Seattle
98122	\$197K	7	7	Seattle
98125	\$57K	4	4	Seattle
98126	\$28K	1	1	Seattle
98134	\$10K	1	1	Seattle
98144	\$83K	5	5	Seattle
98168	\$50K	2	2	Burien, Tukwila, SeaTac, Seattle
98178	\$12K	1	1	Seattle, Tukwila
98188	\$43K	2	2	Seattle, Tukwila
98199	\$10K	1	1	Seattle
98288	\$15K	1	1	Skykomish
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2.2M</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025 – PUBLIC FREE ACCESS

Public Free Access aims to reduce the significant barrier that admission fees pose to many King County residents— particularly underserved communities—and visitors in accessing quality, relevant, cultural experiences. Grants may be used to support free and reduced cost participation in the arts, heritage, historic preservation, or science and technology-related experiences.

## PROGRAM METRICS

1. Public Free Access – Disciplines
2. Public Free Access – Outside of Seattle
3. Public Free Access – Underserved Communities
4. Public Free Access – King County Council District
5. Public Free Access – Zip Codes

## DISCIPLINES – PUBLIC FREE ACCESS

Project Type	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Arts	\$8.8 M	205	205	73%	79%
Heritage	\$1.7 M	28	28	14%	11%
Preservation	\$0.4 M	10	10	3%	4%
Science	\$1.2 M	15	15	10%	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12.0 M</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## OUTSIDE OF SEATTLE – PUBLIC FREE ACCESS

Location	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Seattle	\$8.5 M	178	178	71%	69%
Outside of Seattle	\$3.5 M	80	80	29%	31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12.0 M</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES – PUBLIC FREE ACCESS

Community of Opportunity	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
COO	\$3.1M	71	71	26%	28%
Non-COO	\$8.9 M	187	187	74%	72%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12.0 M</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Explanatory Note:** In 4Culture’s Evaluation Plan for Doors Open, the Communities of Opportunity (COO) framework helps identify areas within King County that experience greater barriers to opportunity and may benefit from additional support. This metric reflects 4Culture’s commitment to directing resources toward underserved communities, defined here as those within the top two quintiles (top 40%) of the Communities of Opportunity Index.

## KING COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT – PUBLIC FREE ACCESS

Council District	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants
District 1	\$0.5 M	13	13
District 2	\$2.0 M	52	52
District 3	\$0.7 M	16	16
District 4	\$3.0 M	52	52
District 5	\$0.3 M	11	11
District 6	\$0.8 M	17	17
District 7	\$0.4 M	9	9
District 8	\$4.0 M	79	79
District 9	\$0.2 M	9	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12.0 M</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>258</b>

## ZIP CODES – PUBLIC FREE ACCESS

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98109	\$1.7 M	20	20	Seattle
98101	\$1.2 M	14	14	Seattle
98103	\$628 K	14	14	Seattle
98108	\$613 K	9	9	Seattle
98122	\$556 K	14	14	Seattle
98144	\$520 K	13	13	Seattle
98104	\$385 K	7	7	Seattle
98105	\$305 K	8	8	Seattle
98118	\$297 K	10	10	Seattle

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98027	\$254 K	5	5	Issaquah
98195	\$247 K	2	2	Seattle
98070	\$221 K	6	6	Vashon
98166	\$220 K	3	3	Burien
98065	\$216 K	2	2	Snoqualmie
98111	\$196 K	4	4	Seattle
98112	\$194 K	5	5	Seattle
98033	\$182 K	3	3	Kirkland
98004	\$179 K	1	1	Bellevue
98116	\$164 K	5	5	Seattle
98063	\$159 K	2	2	Federal Way
98052	\$151 K	4	4	Redmond
98139	\$143 K	2	2	Seattle
98121	\$141 K	3	3	Seattle
98146	\$137 K	4	4	Seattle
98106	\$137 K	4	4	Seattle
98155	\$132 K	2	2	Seattle, Shoreline, Lake Forest Park
98102	\$113 K	4	4	Seattle
98057	\$107 K	4	4	Renton
98148	\$107 K	4	4	Burien
98133	\$107 K	4	4	Seattle
98115	\$107 K	4	4	Seattle
98008	\$102 K	3	3	Bellevue
98002	\$99 K	1	1	Auburn
98125	\$84 K	2	2	Lake City, Seattle
98113	\$84 K	2	2	Seattle
98014	\$84 K	2	2	Carnation
98114	\$84 K	2	2	Seattle
98030	\$84 K	2	2	Kent
98107	\$82 K	3	3	Seattle
98145	\$80 K	3	3	Seattle
98124	\$80 K	3	3	Seattle
98136	\$80 K	3	3	Seattle
98178	\$75 K	2	2	Seattle, Tukwila, Renton
98032	\$74 K	2	2	Kent
98045	\$59 K	2	2	North Bend
98165	\$57 K	1	1	Seattle
98009	\$53 K	2	2	Bellevue
98194	\$53 K	2	2	Seattle
98058	\$53 K	2	2	Renton
98134	\$53 K	2	2	Seattle
98038	\$53 K	2	2	Maple Valley
98127	\$53 K	2	2	Seattle

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98071	\$53 K	2	2	Auburn
98007	\$53 K	2	2	Bellevue
98006	\$53 K	2	2	Bellevue
98168	\$37 K	1	1	Seattle
98028	\$33 K	1	1	Kenmore
98188	\$27 K	1	1	Tukwila, SeaTac
98020	\$27 K	1	1	Edmonds
98126	\$27 K	1	1	Seattle
98072	\$27 K	1	1	Woodinville
98041	\$27 K	1	1	Bothell
98083	\$27 K	1	1	Kirkland
98059	\$27 K	1	1	Renton
98175	\$27 K	1	1	Seattle
98010	\$27 K	1	1	Black Diamond
98117	\$27 K	1	1	Seattle
98288	\$27 K	1	1	Skykomish
98005	\$27 K	1	1	Bellevue
98023	\$27 K	1	1	Federal Way
98074	\$27 K	1	1	Sammamish
98003	\$27 K	1	1	Federal Way
98093	\$27 K	1	1	Federal Way
98040	\$27 K	1	1	Mercer Island
98019	\$27 K	1	1	Duvall
98177	\$27 K	1	1	Seattle
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12.0 M</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>258</b>	

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025 – CURIOSITY PASS

The Curiosity Pass grant funds cultural partners with youth-serving programs and activities that expand learning opportunities in King County K-12 public schools. Programs can include in-school activities (residencies, workshops, performances, lessons), before and after school programs, field trips, programs that take place in the summer and/or during school breaks, and professional development for educators.

## PROGRAM METRICS

1. Curiosity Pass – Disciplines
2. Curiosity Pass – Outside of Seattle
3. Curiosity Pass – Underserved Communities
4. Curiosity Pass – King County Council District
5. Curiosity Pass – Zip Codes

## DISCIPLINES – CURIOSITY PASS

Project Type	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Arts	\$6.4 M	126	135	75%	73%
Heritage	\$1.0 M	30	31	12%	17%
Science & Technology	\$1.1 M	17	18	13%	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8.6 M</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## OUTSIDE OF SEATTLE – CURIOSITY PASS

Location	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Seattle	\$5.4 M	110	115	62%	64%
Outside of Seattle	\$3.2 M	63	69	38%	36%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8.6 M</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES – CURIOSITY PASS

Community of Opportunity	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
COO	\$2.8 M	53	55	32%	31%
Non-COO	\$5.8 M	120	129	68%	69%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8.6 M</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Explanatory Note:** In 4Culture’s Evaluation Plan for Doors Open, the Communities of Opportunity (COO) framework helps identify areas within King County that experience greater barriers to opportunity and may benefit from additional support. This metric reflects 4Culture’s commitment to directing resources toward underserved communities, defined here as those within the top two quintiles (top 40%) of the Communities of Opportunity Index.

## KING COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT – CURIOSITY PASS

Council District	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants
District 1	\$364 K	10	10
District 2	\$1.5 M	37	39
District 3	\$463 K	8	10
District 4	\$1.2 M	26	29
District 5	\$835 K	14	14
District 6	\$622 K	12	13
District 7	\$465 K	9	11
District 8	\$2.9 M	50	50
District 9	\$212 K	7	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8.6 M</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>184</b>

## ZIP CODES – CURIOSITY PASS

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98109	\$750 K	13	13	Seattle
98144	\$500 K	11	11	Seattle
98122	\$458 K	10	11	Seattle
98101	\$454 K	8	8	Seattle
98108	\$425 K	7	7	Seattle
98103	\$352 K	8	8	Seattle
98118	\$264 K	8	8	Seattle
98105	\$225 K	5	6	Seattle

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98070	\$223 K	4	4	Vashon
98121	\$177 K	4	4	Seattle
98027	\$170 K	2	3	Issaquah
98114	\$170 K	2	2	Seattle
98112	\$168 K	4	4	Seattle
98032	\$160 K	2	2	Kent
98178	\$160 K	4	4	Seattle, Tukwila, Renton
98106	\$154 K	3	3	Seattle
98057	\$152 K	4	4	Renton
98166	\$140 K	2	2	Burien
98023	\$140 K	2	2	Federal Way
98134	\$136 K	2	2	Seattle
98104	\$136 K	3	3	Seattle
98188	\$132 K	3	3	Tukwila, SeaTac
98056	\$132 K	2	2	Renton
98005	\$123 K	2	2	Bellevue
98004	\$120 K	2	2	Bellevue
98040	\$116 K	2	2	Mercer Island
98058	\$115 K	2	2	Renton
98003	\$109 K	2	3	Federal Way
98065	\$105 K	2	2	Snoqualmie
98165	\$104 K	2	2	Seattle
98148	\$100 K	1	1	Burien
98155	\$100 K	1	1	Seattle, Shoreline, Lake Forest Park
98093	\$100 K	1	1	Federal Way
98009	\$100 K	1	1	Bellevue
98042	\$95 K	2	2	Kent
98113	\$92 K	2	2	Seattle
98111	\$90 K	1	1	Seattle
98125	\$90 K	1	1	Seattle
98052	\$88 K	3	4	Redmond
98045	\$88 K	2	2	North Bend
98146	\$80 K	1	1	Seattle, Burien
98194	\$80 K	1	1	Seattle
98014	\$80 K	1	2	Carnation
98195	\$80 K	1	1	Seattle
98030	\$80 K	1	2	Kent
98126	\$75 K	2	2	Seattle
98071	\$70 K	1	1	Auburn
98034	\$65 K	3	3	Kirkland
98136	\$62 K	2	2	Seattle
98033	\$56 K	1	1	Kirkland

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98038	\$40 K	2	2	Maple Valley
98063	\$40 K	2	2	Federal Way
98010	\$32 K	1	2	Black Diamond
98031	\$32 K	1	1	Kent
98133	\$32 K	2	2	Seattle, Shoreline
98116	\$32 K	1	1	Seattle
98102	\$32 K	1	1	Seattle
98107	\$24 K	1	1	Seattle
98011	\$20 K	1	1	Bothell
98006	\$20 K	1	1	Bellevue
98074	\$20 K	1	1	Sammamish
98124	\$15 K	1	2	Seattle
98115	\$14 K	1	2	Seattle
98001	\$7 K	1	1	Auburn
98119	–	–	1	Seattle
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8.6M</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>184</b>	

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025 – BUILDING FOR EQUITY

The Building for Equity program supports cultural building projects and creates a pathway to racial equity and geographic access in cultural facilities funding. Building for Equity provides a unique combination of funding, technical support, and strategic partnerships.

## PROGRAM METRICS

1. Building for Equity – Disciplines
2. Building for Equity – Outside of Seattle
3. Building for Equity – Underserved Communities
4. Building for Equity – King County Council District
5. Building for Equity – Zip Codes

## GRANT CYCLES – BUILDING FOR EQUITY

The following grant cycles are included under the Building for Equity heading in the 2025 report:

Grant Cycle
Building for Equity: Anchoring Community
Building for Equity: Facilities
Building for Equity: Project Development
Emergency and Unforeseen
Equipment for Organizations
Landmarks Capital

## DISCIPLINES – BUILDING FOR EQUITY

Project Type	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Arts	\$3.3 M	75	244	41%	52%
Heritage	\$3.6 M	39	75	45%	27%
Preservation	\$1.0 M	22	35	12%	15%
Science & Technology	\$0.1 M	9	25	2%	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7.9 M</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## OUTSIDE OF SEATTLE – BUILDING FOR EQUITY

Location	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Seattle	\$5.9 M	98	251	75%	68%
Outside of Seattle	\$2.0 M	47	128	25%	32%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7.9 M</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES – BUILDING FOR EQUITY

Community of Opportunity	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
COO	\$3.6 M	53	119	46%	37%
Non-COO	\$4.3 M	92	260	54%	63%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7.9 M</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Explanatory Note:** In 4Culture’s Evaluation Plan for Doors Open, the Communities of Opportunity (COO) framework helps identify areas within King County that experience greater barriers to opportunity and may benefit from additional support. This metric reflects 4Culture’s commitment to directing resources toward underserved communities, defined here as those within the top two quintiles (top 40%) of the Communities of Opportunity Index.

## KING COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT – BUILDING FOR EQUITY

Council District	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants
District 1	\$83 K	6	16
District 2	\$2.9 M	41	82
District 3	\$345 K	5	20
District 4	\$1.3 M	19	70
District 5	\$220 K	12	23
District 6	\$735 K	11	28
District 7	\$83 K	4	12
District 8	\$1.8 M	42	115
District 9	\$338 K	5	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7.9 M</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>379</b>

## ZIP CODES – BUILDING FOR EQUITY

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98144	\$1.9M	17	25	Seattle
98118	\$1.3M	17	25	Seattle
98109	\$736K	10	31	Seattle
98004	\$450K	1	1	Bellevue
98178	\$354K	3	3	Seattle, Tukwila, Renton
98065	\$280K	2	2	Snoqualmie
98108	\$263K	6	17	Seattle
98092	\$256K	1	1	Auburn
98146	\$237K	2	4	Seattle, Burien
98114	\$218K	4	5	Seattle
98103	\$211K	4	15	Seattle
98101	\$182K	9	20	Seattle
98122	\$162K	7	22	Seattle
98139	\$141K	2	2	Seattle
98070	\$136K	4	16	Vashon
98033	\$113K	3	10	Kirkland
98074	\$102K	2	3	Sammamish
98188	\$65K	2	3	Tukwila, SeaTac
98058	\$65K	2	3	Renton
98165	\$65K	2	2	Seattle
98056	\$58K	2	2	Renton
98010	\$54K	2	3	Black Diamond
98035	\$50K	1	1	Federal Way
98003	\$50K	1	3	Kent
98104	\$48K	3	9	Seattle
98045	\$45K	1	5	North Bend
98030	\$45K	3	4	Kent
98105	\$33K	3	13	Seattle
98022	\$26K	1	5	Enumclaw
98117	\$23K	1	3	Seattle
98168	\$21K	1	6	Seattle, Burien, Tukwila, SeaTac
98007	\$20K	1	2	Bellevue
98102	\$19K	2	5	Seattle
98023	\$15K	1	2	Federal Way
98005	\$15K	1	2	Bellevue
98052	\$15K	1	2	Redmond
98024	\$15K	1	1	Fall City
98040	\$15K	1	2	Mercer Island
98121	\$15K	1	4	Seattle
98031	\$15K	1	2	Kent

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98148	\$13K	1	2	Burien
98115	\$12K	2	5	Seattle
98116	\$12K	1	3	Seattle
98194	\$11K	1	1	Seattle
98057	\$11K	1	3	Renton
98106	\$10K	1	8	Seattle
98166	\$7K	1	3	Burien
98288	\$5K	1	1	Skykomish
98198	\$5K	1	3	Des Moines
98034	\$5K	1	2	Kirkland
98107	\$4K	1	2	Seattle
98063	\$3K	1	1	Federal Way
98133	\$3K	1	4	Seattle, Shoreline
98028	\$3K	1	1	Kenmore
98071	\$2K	1	3	Auburn
98126	\$0K	0	3	Seattle
98001	\$0K	0	1	Seattle
98113	\$0K	0	2	Seattle
98155	\$0K	0	1	Seattle, Shoreline, Lake Forest Park
98093	\$0K	0	1	Federal Way
98006	\$0K	0	2	Bellevue
98111	\$0K	0	1	Seattle
98014	\$0K	0	1	Carnation
98072	\$0K	0	1	Woodinville
98019	\$0K	0	1	Duvall
98009	\$0K	0	3	Bellevue
98038	\$0K	0	2	Maple Valley
98199	\$0K	0	1	Interbay, Magnolia
98177	\$0K	0	5	Seattle, Shoreline
98134	\$0K	0	1	Seattle
98125	\$0K	0	5	Seattle
98127	\$0K	0	2	Seattle
98136	\$0K	0	1	Seattle
98002	\$0K	0	1	Auburn
98145	\$0K	0	1	Seattle
98027	\$0K	0	7	Issaquah
98112	\$0K	0	2	Seattle
98119	\$0K	0	3	Seattle
98195	\$0K	0	1	Seattle
98032	\$0K	0	1	Kent
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7.9M</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>379</b>	

## CONSULTING HOURS - PROJECT DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

The Project Development Grant program operates in a unique way, pairing cash awards with consultant support. Each Project Development grantee receives a grant award plus 10 hours of free consultation from 4Culture’s Network of Support. The value of these consultation vouchers is \$1,850 per grantee. For 20 awards, this adds up to 200 consultation hours valued at \$37,000.

### Building For Equity 2025 – Project Development Consultants

Count of Total Awards	Count of Total Applicants	Total Consultation Hours	Total Consultation Value	Total Award Value
20	48	200 Hours	\$37 K	\$900 K

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025 – CULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Cultural Support Services Projects program provides funding for organizations that improve the quality of life and careers for King County cultural practitioners. Cultural Support Services are investments in the people who lead and sustain the culture and science sectors. A thriving, sustainable workforce strengthens the arts, culture, and science ecosystems and in turn, improves the cultural and science experiences available to residents and visitors of King County.

## PROGRAM METRICS

1. Cultural Support Services – Disciplines
2. Cultural Support Services – Outside of Seattle
3. Cultural Support Services – Underserved Communities
4. Cultural Support Services – King County Council District
5. Cultural Support Services – Zip Codes

## DISCIPLINES – CULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Project Type	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Arts	\$4.1 M	25	120	69%	64%
Heritage	\$1.0 M	9	23	16%	23%
Preservation	\$0.3 M	2	7	5%	5%
Science & Technology	\$0.6 M	3	9	10%	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5.9 M</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## OUTSIDE OF SEATTLE – CULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Location	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Seattle	\$4.4 M	29	115	75%	74%
Outside of Seattle	\$1.5 M	10	44	25%	26%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5.9 M</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES – CULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Community of Opportunity	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
COO	\$1.6 M	11	48	27%	28%
Non-COO	\$4.3 M	28	111	73%	72%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5.9 M</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Explanatory Note:** In 4Culture’s Evaluation Plan for Doors Open, the Communities of Opportunity (COO) framework helps identify areas within King County that experience greater barriers to opportunity and may benefit from additional support. This metric reflects 4Culture’s commitment to directing resources toward underserved communities, defined here as those within the top two quintiles (top 40%) of the Communities of Opportunity Index.

## KING COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT – CULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Council District	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants
District 1	\$303 K	2	6
District 2	\$1.4 M	8	32
District 3	\$111 K	1	7
District 4	\$976 K	6	31
District 5	\$196 K	1	11
District 6	\$529 K	3	11
District 7	\$130 K	1	4
District 8	\$2.0 M	15	52
District 9	\$258 K	2	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5.9 M</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>159</b>

## ZIP CODES – CULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98109	\$682K	4	18	Seattle
98122	\$551K	3	13	Seattle
98144	\$533K	4	14	Seattle
98118	\$365K	2	7	Seattle
98101	\$364K	3	9	Seattle
98052	\$326K	2	6	Redmond
98105	\$209K	1	2	Seattle
98007	\$203K	1	1	Bellevue
98056	\$203K	1	3	Renton

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98126	\$203K	1	3	Seattle
98032	\$196K	1	2	Kent
98104	\$180K	1	6	Seattle
98195	\$169K	1	1	Seattle
98165	\$169K	1	1	Seattle
98121	\$158K	1	3	Seattle
98111	\$158K	1	1	Seattle
98124	\$158K	1	2	Seattle
98102	\$158K	1	3	Seattle
98117	\$137K	1	1	Seattle
98034	\$134K	1	1	Kirkland
98001	\$130K	1	1	Auburn
98065	\$111K	1	1	Snoqualmie
98146	\$108K	1	3	Seattle, Burien
98168	\$97K	1	1	Seattle, Burien, Tukwila, SeaTac
98114	\$63K	1	2	Seattle
98106	\$60K	1	2	Seattle
98092	\$56K	1	1	Auburn
98074	\$0K	0	2	Sammamish
98030	\$0K	0	2	Kent
98107	\$0K	0	1	Seattle
98166	\$0K	0	1	Burien
98014	\$0K	0	1	Carnation
98057	\$0K	0	2	Renton
98003	\$0K	0	2	Federal Way
98070	\$0K	0	1	Vashon
98145	\$0K	0	2	Seattle
98005	\$0K	0	1	Bellevue
98188	\$0K	0	1	Tukwila, SeaTac
98127	\$0K	0	1	Seattle
98108	\$0K	0	5	Seattle
98033	\$0K	0	1	Kirkland
98116	\$0K	0	2	Seattle
98031	\$0K	0	1	Kent
98134	\$0K	0	2	Seattle
98125	\$0K	0	3	Seattle
98119	\$0K	0	1	Seattle
98004	\$0K	0	1	Bellevue
98006	\$0K	0	1	Bellevue
98112	\$0K	0	1	Seattle
98194	\$0K	0	1	Seattle
98040	\$0K	0	1	Mercer Island

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98103	\$0K	0	6	Seattle
98027	\$0K	0	3	Issaquah
98064	\$0K	0	1	Kent
98038	\$0K	0	2	Maple Valley
98148	\$0K	0	1	Burien
98113	\$0K	0	1	Seattle
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5.9M</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>159</b>	

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025 – LAUNCH

The Launch program supports new and emerging cultural and science organizations in King County. Organizations that are selected through the Launch program will receive three years of general operating support and will also have access to additional capacity-building support services.

## PROGRAM METRICS

1. Launch - Disciplines
2. Launch - Outside of Seattle
3. Launch - Underserved Communities
4. Launch - King County Council District
5. Launch - Zip Codes

## DISCIPLINES – LAUNCH

Project Type	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Arts	\$1.44 M	20	74	72%	83%
Heritage	\$0.54 M	4	16	28%	17%
Preservation	\$0.00 M	0	3	0%	0%
Science	\$0.00 M	0	4	0%	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1.98 M</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## OUTSIDE SEATTLE – LAUNCH

Location	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
Seattle	\$1.22 M	16	54	61%	67%
Outside of Seattle	\$0.77 M	8	43	39%	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1.98 M</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES – LAUNCH

Community of Opportunity	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	Percent Funding Amount	Percent of Awards
COO	\$0.90 M	11	38	45%	46%
Non-COO	\$1.08 M	13	59	55%	54%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1.98 M</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Explanatory Note:** In 4Culture’s Evaluation Plan for Doors Open, the Communities of Opportunity (COO) framework helps identify areas within King County that experience greater barriers to opportunity and may benefit from additional support. This metric reflects 4Culture’s commitment to directing resources toward underserved communities, defined here as those within the top two quintiles (top 40%) of the Communities of Opportunity Index.

## KING COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT – LAUNCH

Council District	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants
District 1	\$0 K	0	1
District 2	\$315 K	4	17
District 3	\$0 K	0	6
District 4	\$360 K	5	21
District 5	\$90 K	1	8
District 6	\$90 K	1	7
District 7	\$135 K	1	3
District 8	\$810 K	10	25
District 9	\$180 K	2	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1.98 M</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>97</b>

## ZIP CODES – LAUNCH

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98144	\$270 K	3	8	Seattle
98109	\$225 K	2	5	Seattle
98166	\$180 K	2	5	Burien
98122	\$180 K	1	4	Seattle
98030	\$135 K	1	3	Kent
98116	\$135 K	1	1	Seattle
98027	\$90 K	1	4	Issaquah
98034	\$90 K	1	1	Kirkland

Zip Code	Funding Amount	Count of Awards	Count of Applicants	City in King County
98056	\$90 K	1	2	Renton
98070	\$90 K	1	3	Vashon
98104	\$90 K	2	3	Seattle
98119	\$90 K	2	4	Seattle
98168	\$90 K	1	2	Burien, Tukwila, SeaTac, Seattle
98102	\$45 K	1	3	Seattle
98106	\$45 K	1	1	Seattle
98108	\$45 K	1	2	Seattle
98117	\$45 K	1	2	Seattle
98126	\$45 K	1	1	Seattle
98101	\$0 K	0	3	Seattle
98005	\$0 K	0	1	Bellevue
98006	\$0 K	0	1	Bellevue
98007	\$0 K	0	1	Bellevue
98014	\$0 K	0	1	Carnation
98019	\$0 K	0	1	Duvall
98022	\$0 K	0	0	Enumclaw
98028	\$0 K	0	1	Kenmore
98032	\$0 K	0	1	Kent, Tukwila
98033	\$0 K	0	2	Kirkland
98038	\$0 K	0	1	Maple Valley
98045	\$0 K	0	1	North Bend
98051	\$0 K	0	1	Ravensdale
98052	\$0 K	0	2	Redmond
98055	\$0 K	0	1	Renton
98057	\$0 K	0	1	Renton
98058	\$0 K	0	2	Renton
98059	\$0 K	0	1	Renton
98103	\$0 K	0	5	Seattle
98105	\$0 K	0	0	Seattle
98107	\$0 K	0	1	Seattle
98112	\$0 K	0	2	Seattle
98121	\$0 K	0	2	Seattle
98125	\$0 K	0	0	Lake City, Seattle
98134	\$0 K	0	1	Seattle
98136	\$0 K	0	2	Seattle
98148	\$0 K	0	1	Burien
98178	\$0 K	0	1	Seattle, Tukwila, Renton
98188	\$0 K	0	2	Tukwila, SeaTac
98198	\$0 K	0	1	Des Moines
98199	\$0 K	0	3	Seattle
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1.98 M</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>97</b>	

# TOTAL INVESTMENT – LAUNCH

Each Launch award includes two components: a **cash grant** and a **\$10,000 credit** for consulting, coaching, or mentoring through 4Culture’s Network of Support.

Across 24 awards supported by Doors Open funding, this represents:

- **\$2.220 M total investment**
  - \$1.98 M in cash grants
  - \$240 K in consulting credits

Total Count of Awards	Total Count of Applicants	Percentage Win Rate	Cash Awards	Consulting Credits	Total Investment
24	97	25%	\$1.98 M	\$240 K	\$2.220 M

# DOORS OPEN IMPACT PROGRESS REPORT

## PUBLIC BENEFIT

Doors Open funds must be used to increase the public benefits that cultural organizations provide throughout King County. Specifically, per the ordinance, all Doors Open grant recipients must meet at least one General Public Benefit requirement and one Equity or Geographic Inclusion benefit, though they may choose to deliver more.

The Doors Open Implementation Plan approved in 2024 includes a public benefit reporting framework that sets expectations and standards for awarded organizations. The provision of public benefits is directly tied to 4Culture’s contract and payment process. Awardees are expected to deliver and report on public benefits that match the intention of their application and contract.

## GENERAL PUBLIC BENEFITS

1. **Providing low-barrier opportunities for everyone** in the county to take part in the region's cultural life and participate in cultural programs;
2. **Providing performances and programs throughout the county**, directly in and for local communities, or through partnerships between and among cultural organizations;
3. **Providing cultural educational programs and experiences** at a cultural organization's own facilities or in schools or other cultural facilities or venues;
4. **Bringing cultural facilities and programming into compliance** with access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act;
5. **Supporting cultural organizations that strive to engage traditional cultures** and crafts;
6. **Presenting free cultural festivals**;
7. **Providing free events, programming, and educational materials**, which enhance a cultural experience either before or after, or both, attending an exhibit, performance, or event;
8. **Providing arts, science, and heritage career building opportunities for youth** through internships and apprenticeships or other means;
9. **Establishing partnerships between cultural organizations** or other cultural institutions to present new multidisciplinary cultural experiences;
10. **Implementing organizational capacity-building projects** or activities that a cultural organization can demonstrate will enhance the ability of that cultural organization to execute community outreach, communications, and marketing strategies to attract and engage county residents with **opportunities for access to cultural experiences** and with emphasis on underserved communities; and
11. **Implementing organizational capacity-building projects** or activities that a community-based cultural organization can demonstrate will enhance the ability of that cultural organization to provide or **continue to provide meaningful public benefits** not otherwise achievable

## EQUITY INCLUSION BENEFITS

1. **Providing free or low-cost attendance** to cultural organizations and cultural facilities for county residents who have economic, geographic, and other barriers to access;
2. **Providing free access to curriculum-related arts, science, and heritage programs** for public school students throughout the county at school and at cultural sites with emphasis on underserved students;
3. **Increasing the diversity of staff and governing boards** of cultural organizations;
4. **Increasing opportunities for access** to cultural facilities, programs, and services for diverse and underserved populations and communities;
5. **Broadening cultural programs and provide programming** that appeals to diverse populations within the county;
6. **Increasing investment in programs and organizations** that represent and reflect the diversity of the county; and
7. **Planning and implementing cultural programs** or collaborating with other cultural organizations to extend the reach and impact of cultural programs to diverse and underserved populations and communities.

## GEOGRAPHIC INCLUSION BENEFITS

1. **Planning and implementing cultural programs** and activities **outside** established cultural centers;
2. **Partnering with other cultural organizations** on cultural programs and activities outside established cultural centers, through direct investment or in-kind support, on priority projects and initiatives;
3. **Providing cultural programming to communities outside the city** in which a cultural organization is primarily located, either directly or in partnership with other cultural organizations, or public schools, or through other means.

## DOORS OPEN PUBLIC BENEFITS AWARDED IN 2025

In 2025, all six Doors Open programs were launched and implemented as planned. This report represents data on public benefits planned to be provided by awarded organizations according to the application and contracting process.

### ORGANIZATION-LEVEL

**One-hundred percent (100%) of organizations met the legislative requirement** to provide at least one general public benefit and one of either an equity inclusion benefit or a geographic inclusion benefit. **Eighty-seven (87%) percent of organizations exceeded** this baseline requirement by providing more benefits.

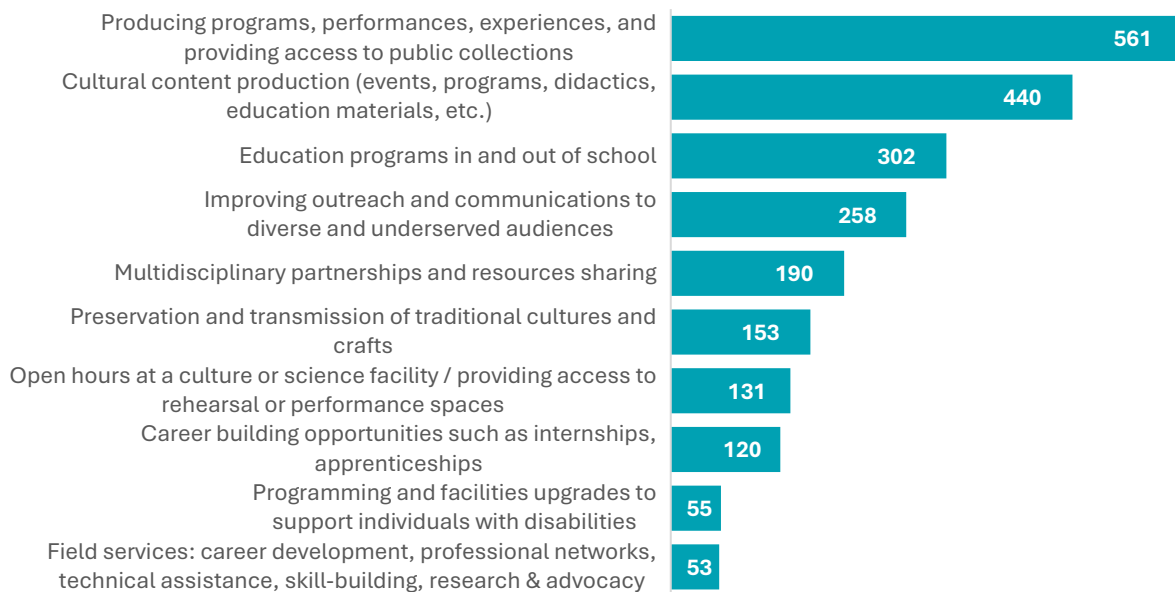
The median number of general benefits named by organizations was 3, meaning half of organizations provide 3 or more benefits. Organizations, particularly those that were awarded through multiple grant making programs, could provide many more benefits, up to a maximum of 10 listed by one organization.

The **median organization provided three equity inclusion benefits**, up to a maximum of all 7 equity inclusion benefits listed.

## GENERAL PUBLIC BENEFITS BY ORGANIZATION COUNT

Three-quarters of awarded organizations across all programs provide the public benefit of “producing programs, performances, experiences, and providing access to public collections.” The second most common public benefit offered is “cultural content production,” provided by 59 percent of organizations.

About 40 percent of organizations reported providing benefits related to “education programs in- and out- of school.” However, this benefit area receives relatively greater investment by dollar amount, reflecting the focus and prioritization of cultural access for school-age youth.



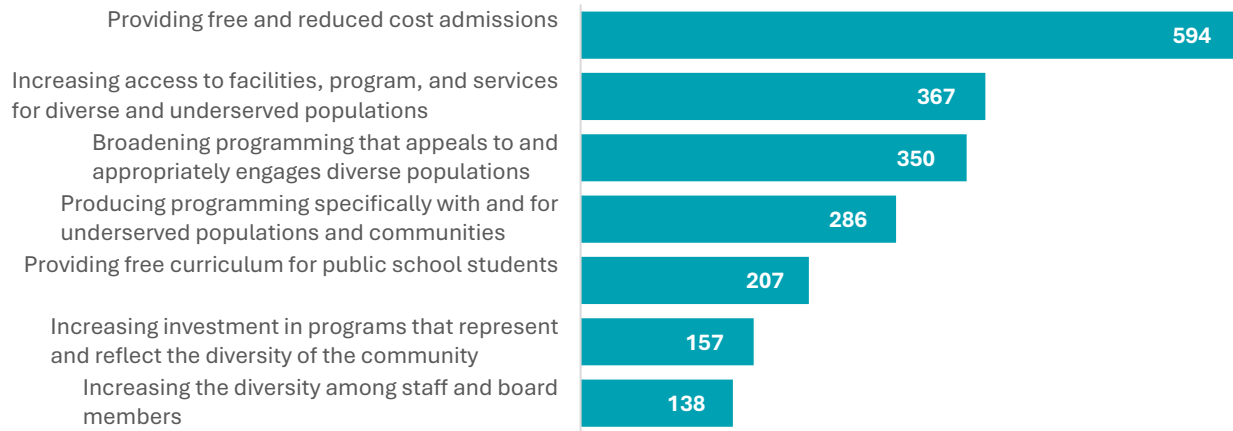
Note: Counts for each benefit category may exceed the total count of awarded organizations, as most organizations reported multiple general public benefits.

## EQUITY INCLUSION BENEFITS BY ORGANIZATION COUNT

The most common equity inclusion benefit by far is “providing free and reduced cost admissions,” a benefit provided by 79 percent of Doors Open funded organizations. “Increased access to facilities, programs, and services for diverse and underserved populations” and “broadening programming that appeals to and appropriately engages diverse populations” are benefits provided by nearly half of organizations.

**Equity inclusion benefits by dollars generally follows a similar pattern** to the count of organizations. As a group, organizations “producing programming specifically with and for

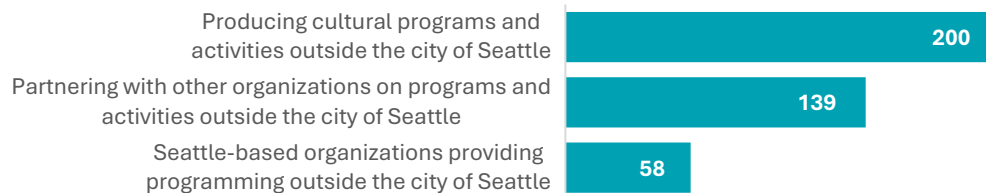
underserved populations and communities” have a slightly higher award amount, possibly reflecting larger average grant sizes in relevant programs.



Note: Most organizations listed more than one equity benefit.

## GEOGRAPHIC INCLUSION BENEFITS BY ORGANIZATION COUNT

Twenty-seven percent (27%, or 200) of awarded organizations reported producing “cultural programs and activities outside the city of Seattle.” Nineteen percent (19%, or 139) report “partnering with other organizations on programs and activities outside of the city of Seattle.”



Analysis by awarded dollars similarly shows significant investment going to areas of King County outside of Seattle.

Note: Organizations could select more than one geographic benefit.