

4Culture 2021–2026 PROGRAM OF WORK

Introduction

The 2021–2026 4Culture Program of Work implements the newly adopted King County Cultural Strategic Plan. It maintains core programs and services at 2020 levels and adapts existing 2021 and 2022 programs to respond to the unique circumstances of the COVID 19 pandemic and resulting economic downturn. These include activities and partnerships that will help the cultural sector stabilize and recover, strengthening the regional cultural support system, improve equity to cultural resources, and ensure access to culture for all.

Program and Services

The 2021–2026 Program of Work includes programs and services in the following areas:

- Sustained Support for Arts
- Sustained Support for Heritage and Historic Preservation
- Special Projects
- Cultural Facilities
- Public Art
- Cultural Education

Sustained Support for Arts

In the wake of the COVID 19 pandemic, 4Culture will maintain general operating support to stabilize arts organizations, as well as provide additional support to the hardest hit organizations by the policies of *Stay Home, Stay Healthy* and facilitate a speedy recovery of all. 4Culture awards “annual grants for two consecutive years to local governments and nonprofit organizations that provide or facilitate quality arts experiences for residents of and visitors to King County.” These monies support “financial stability, artistic excellence, and encourages a commitment to provide ongoing cultural programs or events for the benefit of King County residents and visitors,” especially those who face barriers in accessing cultural experiences or have been historically underserved. Over 350 organizations participate in the program and reflect a countywide geographic distribution, including organizations of all sizes and in all artistic disciplines.

Sustained Support	2019-2020 Estimated Actuals		2021-2022 Proposed Budget		2023-2024 Projected		2025-2026 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	3.4	4,935,633	3.2	5,389,764	3.2	6,106,593	3.2	6,659,405
Inflation Rate		TBD		9.2%		13.3%		9.1%

Sustained Support for Heritage and Historic Preservation

In the wake of the COVID 19 pandemic, 4Culture will maintain general operating support to stabilize heritage museums and historic preservation organizations, as well as provide additional support to the hardest hit organizations by the policies of *Stay Home, Stay Healthy* and facilitate a speedy recovery of all. 4Culture awards “annual grants for two consecutive years to historical museums and heritage organizations that make exceptional contributions to the preservation, collection, exhibition, interpretation or protection of resources related to the history of the people and places of King County.” These monies support “financial stability, excellence, and encourages a commitment to provide ongoing cultural programs or events for the benefit of King County residents and visitors, especially those who face barriers in accessing cultural experiences or have been historically underserved.” Over 75 organizations participate in the program and reflect a countywide geographic distribution, including organizations of all sizes and in all heritage disciplines and historic preservation.

Sustained Support	2019-2020 Estimated Actuals		2021-2022 Budget		2023-2024 Projected		2025-2026 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	3.4	1,987,673	3.2	2,124,609	3.2	2,340,966	3.2	2,515,595
Inflation Rate		TBD		6.9%		10.2%		7.5%

Special Projects

“Expanding the role of local arts and heritage organizations and individuals as artistic and cultural educational resources that develop King County through arts and historic events and features” is at the heart of 4Culture’s project-based funding programs. We address “the needs of either mid- and smaller-sized organizations or individual artists and heritage professionals” through capacity building and technical assistance programs in each of our program areas. 4Culture will continue to partner with community-based organizations, cultural funders, other government agencies, and local and national cultural service organizations on “innovative arts projects, heritage endeavors and collaborative programs that reflect the cultural and geographic diversity of King County and are not funded by other county programs.” This includes sector-wide COVID-19 recovery initiatives.

Special Projects	2019-2020 Estimated Actuals		2021-2022 Budget		2023-2024 Projected		2025-2026 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	7.6	6,006,648	7.4	6,851,260	7.4	9,209,857	7.4	10,363,798
Inflation Rate		TBD		14.1%		34.4%		12.5%

Cultural Facilities

4Culture will continue to “build the cultural infrastructure throughout the region” and address one of the cultural sector’s most pressing issue, space security, which is the availability and affordability of appropriate space that meets the needs of King County’s diverse cultural organizations and practitioners. 4Culture will focus its efforts on **Building for Equity**, a program that encourages the first-time ownership, through purchase or long-term lease, of cultural space for organizations with priority given to underserved communities and community-based organizations. 4Culture will also continue to “support the purchase of fixed assets that will benefit art, heritage and cultural organizations” through the **Cultural Equipment Program**. “Support for the preservation and restoration of historic properties” increases through the **Barn Again Program** and **Landmarks Capital Program**. 4Culture also encourages “the acquisition of historic properties” through the **Preservation Action Fund**, a revolving fund operated in partnership with the King County Historic Preservation Program, Historic Seattle, and the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation.

Cultural Facilities	2019-2020		2021-2022		2023-2024		2025-2026	
	Estimated	Actuals	Budget		Projected		Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	5.1	15,198,539	3.9	8,227,600	3.9	5,316,398	3.9	7,212,412
Inflation Rate		TBD		(45.9%)		(35.4%)		35.4%

Public Art

Public art manages existing and new public art commissions funded by the **King County 1% for Art Ordinance** and maintains the **King County Public Art Collection** with collection stewardship funds. The goal of 4Culture public art is to “integrate the work and thinking of artists into the planning, design and construction” of county facilities, buildings, infrastructure and public spaces for our County partners. The public art program of work has 25 active, multi-year projects underway with an estimate of up to 16 art projects for 21–22. 4Culture will continue to care for the King County Public Art Collection of over 1,800 portable artworks and over 360 permanent and integrated artworks on display in publicly accessible sites, throughout King County. Gallery 4Culture is a 4Culture initiative managed by public art that provides ongoing opportunities for King County artists to exhibit their work with free access to King County’s diverse population.

Public Art	2019-2020		2021-2022		2023-2024		2025-2026	
	Estimated Actuals		Budget		Projected		Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	7.6	5,803,446	7.4	9,037,701	7.4	4,422,387	7.4	4,271,195
Inflation Rate		TBD		55.7%		(51.1%)		(5.1%)

Cultural Education

4Culture has learned that arts and heritage study and cultural experiences are not uniformly offered throughout King County’s 19 public school districts. Beginning in 2021, 4Culture will establish a **Public Schools Cultural Access Program**. The new program provides operating and startup funding to expand existing cultural education programs or create new programs that “provide the sequential and comprehensive study of the elements of the various arts and heritage forms in King County K–8 public schools.” The program also provides targeted access to cultural experiences for students at King County public school districts that have a disproportionately high percentage (over 40 percent) of low–income students.

Cultural Education	2019-2020 Estimated Actuals		2021-2022 Budget		2023-2024 Projected		2025-2026 Projected	
	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$
Program Expenses	0.3	235,867	0.3	388,035	0.3	443,611	0.3	449,413
Inflation Rate		TBD		64.5%		14.3%		1.3%

Fund Sources

4Culture is primarily supported by 37.5 percent of the proceeds from **King County Lodging Tax** as well as the **Percent for Art Program**, a portion of King County new capital construction projects. Historically, 4Culture operated from a **Special Account Reserve Fund** that will be phased out in 2021 and transitioned into a contingency fund. 4Culture also utilizes grants and other revenue sources to fund the programs.

Total Program	2019-2020 Estimated Actuals	2021-2022 Budget	2023-2024 Projected	2025-2026 Projected
Lodging Tax Proceeds	0	\$19,339,313	\$28,467,905	\$31,268,138
Percent for Art	7,081,397	3,633,265	3,000,000	3,000,000
King County Art Collection	552,240	552,240	552,240	552,240
Building For Equity Interfund Loan	10,432,949	3,623,252	2,962,097	2,981,702
Interest Income	1,575,694	200,291	149,868	160,315
Grants and Other	618,703	300,000	300,000	300,000