

City of Bangor, Commission on Cultural Development

April 9, 2015

8:30 a.m.

Council Chambers, City Hall

- 1. Welcome & Introductions**
- 2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**
- 3. Individual Artist Grant Applications**
 - a. Babe the Blue Ox/Normand Martin
 - b. Detritus/Christopher Peary
- 4. Final Report**
 - a. Downtown Bangor Partnership/Downtown Countdown
- 5. Discussion of Recurring Work Session Day/Time**
- 6. Committee Updates**
- 7. Arts and Culture Forum/Survey Summary**
- 8. Committees To-Do Lists and Deliverables**
- 9. Other Business**

Future Commission Meetings (8:30 a.m. in Council Chambers):

2015

May 14

June 11

July 9

August 13

September 10

October 8

November 12

December 10

City of Bangor, Commission on Cultural Development
Minutes
March 12, 2015
8:30 a.m.
City Council Chambers

Commissioners Present: Jamie Ballinger (Chair), Kierie Piccininni (Vice Chair), Tom Avila, Judy Boothby, Mary Budd, Emily Burnham, Ulrike Guthrie, Josh Plourde, Elissa Young, and Caitlin Brooke (staff)

Unexcused Absence: Kat Johnson, Chris Roberts

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Kierie requested a change on the second page of the February 12 meeting minutes. The date of the workshop dedicated to partnering with businesses will be in May, not April.

With this correction, a motion was made by Uli and seconded by Mary to approve the previous meeting minutes. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

3. Final Report from Bangor Ballet

The Commission reviewed the final report from Bangor Ballet highlighting their holiday performances of The Nutcracker in 2014. They were commended on the success of the event, the amount of attendees, the outreach to underserved communities, and the thoroughness of the final report presented.

4. Committee Updates

Advocacy Committee – The second annual Arts and Cultural Forum was held last night (March 11) and 48 people attended. During the April meeting for Bangor Arts, a few Commissioners will be present to receive feedback from the group.

Funding Committee – The next grant that the Commission will be recommending to the Council permission to apply for will be from the Maine Arts Commission. The deadline is April 15 so the grant will go before the Business and Economic Development Committee in March for recommendation to full Council in early April.

Education Committee – The most recent workshop was hosted at Launchpad’s Central Gallery and focused on publishing. Uli noted that there was a full house (one seat empty!) and the organizers learned a lot about how not to lead a workshop. They felt it went off track a bit with discussions and may/may not have met the needs of the entire group. On a positive note, the attendance was high and folks travelled from all over the state to be part of the discussion. Post-workshop feedback has been positive.

Marketing Committee – The Committee has created a one-pager for ARTober which has been distributed at various events, including the publishing workshop in March and last night’s forum. A press release will be sent around next week to ask for organizations and individuals to submit event information to include in the ARTober (October) celebration.

Jamie and Caitlin summarized an action that had been taken by Council during the most recent Personnel Committee meeting to eliminate the status of Associate Members on the Commission. This would give two current Associate Members (Elissa Young and Chris Roberts) the opportunity to become full-fledged voting members of the Commission. The quorum of 4 would remain. Judy moved to support this recommendation by Council, Emily seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

5. Review Proposed Grant Eligibility, Review, and Scoring Changes

Jamie presented a revised draft of the suggested grant eligibility, review and scoring guidelines for the Commission that was originally put forth in 2013. The scoring sheet has been updated to reflect the City of Bangor's ordinance which directs Commissioners to look for certain criteria when reviewing a grant application.

Commissioners discussed the process of evaluating applications based on the drafted document and looked at the potential vagueness in some of the questions. They also thought explicit quality metrics for the scoring section would be essential to eliminating emotional responses about projects and considering a consistent scale of measurement across all Commissioners.

6. Discuss Public Art and Monuments Policy

Jamie summarized that part of the Commission's direction from the Code of Ordinance is to create a Public Art and Monuments Policy. There is currently nothing in that fashion which exists for the City of Bangor. Elissa did some preliminary research and found a great example of a policy that exists in another city. Jamie urged Commissioners to look at examples of other cities that have good policies and that one of the committees should take on the task of delving more into the drafting of the policy. It was noted that George Kinghorn (UMMA Director and previous Commission Chair) should be consulted as he has had experience developing and implementing such a policy.

The energy and activeness of the Committees seems to warrant the need for another public meeting to discuss Commission initiatives, outside of the regular monthly meeting. Caitlin will send around a Doodle to see when a second working group could meet.

7. Vote on FY2016 Budget Request to the City of Bangor

Each year the Commission makes a request from the City Council to continue its mission of supporting the arts in Bangor by graciously providing a budget. Last year the budget was \$10,000. Jamie suggested that because of the extent of the Commission's work, the Commission request a budget of \$15,000 for fiscal year 2016. Staff noted that flat funding was a reality and recommended a continuation of last year's budget of \$10,000.

Tom made a motion to request \$15,000 from the City of Bangor's Council for the fiscal year 2016 budget for the Commission on Cultural Development, Judy seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

To watch a full version of the Commission on Cultural Development's March 12 meeting, please visit: <http://bangormaine.pegcentral.com/>.

Grant Application – Bangor Commission for Cultural Development
for Individual Artists

Materials addressed to Caitlin Brooke 993.4234 * caitlin.brooke@bangormaine.gov

**Construction of 1/8th Scale Clay Model of Babe the Blue Ox to Create
Later a Full Size Fiberglass Sculpture to Join Paul Bunyan Statue at 515
Main Street Bangor**

submitted February 27, 2015

Applicant Name – J. Normand Martin

Mailing Address - 1800 Essex Street, Bangor, Maine 04401

Phone – 942.9218

Email -nannypatmartin@yahoo.com

General Description of Proposed Work

J. Normand Martin, an 89 year-old Bangor resident and renowned sculptor and artist, who created and oversaw the installation of the famous Paul Bunyan statue at 515 Main Street in 1959 as part of Bangor's 125th anniversary celebration events.

Cost constraints in 1959 precluded the construction of Paul Bunyan's trusty companion, Babe the Blue Ox. The goal of this artistic endeavor is to design and build a 1/8 scale model of clay that would be an exact model of a later full size Babe project to accompany the statue of Paul Bunyan.

The proposed Babe clay model would be approximately two feet long and one foot high and serve as a template for a later full size fiberglass sculpture to be constructed and located beside the existing Paul Bunyan statue. The clay model would closely match the Paul Bunyan statue as both structures would be designed by one artist albeit 56 years between these two pieces of art.

Private fundraising efforts for the full size Babe is estimated to take three to five years. It is hoped that this model, once constructed would be publicly and prominently displayed at Bangor City Hall, Bangor Public Library, The Cross Center, Bangor International Airport and other appropriate Bangor venues. It would also be used in fundraising efforts for the full size sculpture.

Funding Request Summary

Amount Requested

\$1000

Date Needed By

May 15, 2015

Total Funding Already Raised for This Project

Matching Funds for the hoped for Cultural Commission Funding has been already been raised (nearly \$3,000). The privately raised funds will be used in part to compensate Mr. Martin for his work to create the model None of the Cultural Commission funding will be utilized to compensate Mr. Martin Unveiling of the Babe model (Little Babe) expected to be held in May of 2015, at the Northeast Logging Expo at Bass Park

Fundraising for the full-size fiberglass sculpture (Big Babe) will be a significant fundraising project . Funds will be used to construct and transport Big Babe to Bangor and include artistic and functional lighting for both Paul and Babe statues, two webcams erected at the site for 24/7/365 statue viewing worldwide, artist travel to the site of construction, expected to be out of state, Mr. Martin's compensation for oversight of the project, and related expenses. It is anticipated that Big Babe will participate in the 2016 Fourth of July parade and later to be installed next to Paul Bunyan on Main Street the following week with a formal unveiling, dedication, and related formal reception in the foyer of the Cross Center. We will be requesting that Bangor Public Works build the Big Babe pedestal as they did with Paul in 1959.

Use of the Requested Funds

Purchase of construction materials for an estimated two foot long by one foot high clay rendition of Babe the Blue Ox and related expenses.

(see attached summary/signature page)

Funding Request Summary

Amount Requested \$1,000.00 Date Needed By May 15, 2015

Total fundraising goal for this project:

1,000

Total funding already raised for this project and description of the source(s):

ZERO

Assurances Form

If the grant is made, the grantee agrees to provide the City of Bangor, within 12 months of receipt, an accounting of how the grant money was used, and a description of how well the project met the grantee's original objectives, as well as any other reports that the City of Bangor may require.

Grantee will also provide digital photographs of the finished project or event funded, and authorizes use and publication of the photos by the City of Bangor.

If the grant is made, the grantee agrees to repay, upon demand, to the City of Bangor the amount of said grant if any of the following events occur:

- Failure to spend the grant as indicated in the application.
• The grant application of any required report to the City of Bangor is found to be inaccurate in any material respect.

The foregoing is certified to be true to the best of our knowledge, information, and belief.

Name of Applicant: J. NORMAN MARTIN

Signature: [Handwritten Signature] Date: FEBRUARY 27, 2015

BABE THE BLUE OX
1/8 SCALE CLAY MODEL



COMMISSION FOR CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION FOR INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS

The Commission for Cultural Development's mission is to promote the development of Bangor as a regional arts center that nurtures the artistic and cultural expression of its diverse peoples.

APPLICATION DETAILS

- **Small grant applications** (equaling or less than \$1,000) will be accepted on a rolling basis and must be received by 4pm on the 1st Tuesday of the month; otherwise, review will be moved to the next meeting.
- **Match requirement:** Applicants must demonstrate how City of Bangor funds will be leveraged. City funding must be matched by 100% (1 to 1 ratio) through other means of fundraising (grants, donations, in-kind)
- Eligible individuals may only submit one application per calendar year.
- Individual artists are eligible for reimbursement of actual costs for supplies and materials incurred for **completed works of art** produced, at least initially, for public use. Receipts will be required for reimbursement. City Staff will conduct a physical inspection of the work prior to reimbursement. Work must be ready for public use and "installation" or performance must be scheduled and committed prior to reimbursement.
- The Bangor City Council gives final approval on all Commission recommendations.
- Funds granted are intended to be used within 12 months and a final report is required of all successful applicants.
- Applicants will be given the opportunity to speak on behalf of project, both with the Commission and with the Council.

Incomplete applications will not be scored or reviewed.

Materials and questions should be addressed to:

Caitlin Brooke
(207) 992-4234
caitlin.brooke@bangormaine.gov
City of Bangor
73 Harlow Street
Bangor, ME 04401

CHECKLIST OF ITEMS DUE WITH GRANT REQUEST

Please provide 5 hard copies AND 1 electronic copy of the following:

- Grant Application Form
- Funding Request Summary and signed Assurances Form
- Budget detailing the costs associated with the production of the work
- Schematic(s) or image(s) of visual works of art (if applicable)
- Additional detail of work if spoken, performance or written work. Or, if it otherwise cannot be understood/conveyed with still images.

Grant Application Form

Applicant name	Phone	Email
Christopher Peary	(207) 992-2643	editor@detrituspress.com

Name of project for funding
Detritus issue 3

Mailing address
31 Central St. Suite 315, Bangor, ME 04401

Please give a general description of your proposed work, its approximate size or length, the number of pieces within the work, its medium and other information:

Detritus is a journal of comics, writing and art published in Bangor. Issue 3 will contain work by several artists and writers, most of whom either live in Maine or have Maine roots. Content includes sequential art and essays curated by editor and publisher Chris Peary.

Format is an 8.5"x11" black-and-white magazine printed on high-quality paper, with a multicolor, screen-printed cover. Estimated length of issue 3 is 80 pages. First press run will be 200 copies.

Please provide a brief description of your project. Please specify when, where, how and how long it will be available for public use. Also, how will the public availability be advertised? What are the plans for art once the public availability time period is over?

The mission of Detritus is twofold: To foster collaboration and dialogue among artists and writers, and to make the resulting work available to the community via a mass-produced (albeit limited-edition), low-cost publication.

A bit of history: In an effort to have more interaction with others working in the arts, I decided to invite several creative people whose work I respected to contribute to my publication project. I came up with a theme, in hopes that it might provide a means for the contributors to begin thinking, and then left them alone to create whatever they wanted. As the project progressed and the works came together, I discovered thematic connecting threads woven throughout the resulting body of work, which gave the finished magazine a cohesiveness and overall tone that I hadn't predicted or expected. Those connecting threads included the reality of dreams versus the reality of waking life, where the energy to make art comes from, and alienation and isolation in our post-post-modern society. I'm hoping to get similar results this time around. The current working theme is "The Eternal Digital Now."

Contributors for this issue include: Chris Peary, a Bangor-based artist; Dana Wilde, a Maine writer and columnist for the Kennebec Journal (books include "The Other End of the Driveway" and "Nebulae: A Backyard Cosmography"); Amy Gagnon, an MDI-based artist; Val Mayerik, an illustrator and comic artist best known as the co-creator of Marvel's "Howard the Duck" and as an artist for Harvey Pekar's "American Splendor" comic series; Bangor resident Chuck Carter, president of Eagre Games, known among the video game community as one of the creators of the popular video game "Myst"; Adam Lacher, an Orland-based artist; and Eryk Salvaggio, author of the blog "This Japanese Life" (thisjapaneselife.org) and a book of the same title.

Detritus is currently available in the following places: The Rock and Art Shop in downtown Bangor; The Store Ampersand in Orono; Bookstacks in Bucksport; Longfellow Books and Strange Maine in Portland; Bergen Street Comics in Brooklyn, NY; Gotham Central in Getafe, Spain; and The Comic Co. in Madrid, Spain. We will continue to sell copies through these established retail ties, while attempting to find other stores to carry it.

Issue 3 will be advertised through posted fliers around town, the Detritus website and Facebook page, and through a press release. The Rock and Art Shop has offered to host a party on the day that the issue is released, in which members of the public can come in, meet the creators and purchase copies. We had a similar event for the release of Issue 2, and it proved beneficial for both parties: People came in, bought a copy of Detritus, and then hung around. Many ended up buying other items in the store.

Since the very nature of this project is that of a publicly available art magazine, the “publicly available time period” will exist until all copies are sold. In that event, a reprint will be considered.

Detritus is by no means a profit-making venture. All sales revenue so far has gone back to cover the printing costs of the last issue. All contributors have been gracious enough to lend their work outright or with in-kind agreements. Until now I have been financing all material and production costs myself. This grant will enable me to put a product that meets my standards for quality out into the community, and to keep the dialogue going.

Funding Request Summary

Amount Requested \$425	Date Needed By June 15, 2015
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Total fundraising goal for this project:

\$852.41

Total funding already raised for this project and description of the source(s):

I will be self-financing the matching funds and whatever additional funds that might be needed. Therefore, no fundraising has been done at this point.

Assurances Form

If the grant is made, the grantee agrees to provide the City of Bangor, within 12 months of receipt, an accounting of how the grant money was used, and a description of how well the project met the grantee's original objectives, as well as any other reports that the City of Bangor may require.

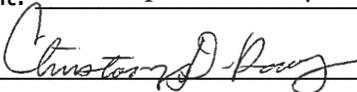
Grantee will also provide digital photographs of the finished project or event funded, and authorizes use and publication of the photos by the City of Bangor.

If the grant is made, the grantee agrees to repay, upon demand, to the City of Bangor the amount of said grant if any of the following events occur:

- Failure to spend the grant as indicated in the application.
- The grant application of any required report to the City of Bangor is found to be inaccurate in any material respect.

The foregoing is certified to be true to the best of our knowledge, information, and belief.

Name of Applicant: Christopher D. Peary _____

Signature:  _____ Date: 3/30/15 _____

Christopher Peary
31 Central St. Suite 315
Bangor, ME 04401
(207) 992-2643
editor@detrituspress.com

Projected budget for Detritus issue 3

Printing and binding	600.00
Silkscreen frames	88.95
Silkscreen inks	80.62
Extender base	14.27
Acrylic retarder	20.21
Dura-Lar film	21.30
Film drawing tools	6.34
India ink	16.00
Gouache	4.72
TOTAL	\$852.41



Ms. Jamie Ballinger
City of Bangor, Commission on Cultural Development
73 Harlow Street
Bangor, Maine 04401

Dear Ms. Ballinger,

On behalf of the Downtown Bangor Partnership, I want to thank City of Bangor's Commission on Cultural Development for your support of the ninth annual Downtown Countdown, a New Year's Eve celebration in downtown Bangor. In total, we estimate approximately 3,500 people participated in free entertainment throughout the downtown on New Year's Eve. From improvisational comedy and colorful party favors, to a variety of musical acts and children's activities, the evening was a brilliant opportunity for our community to come together and ring in 2015!

This year's event included several hours of planned activities at sponsored venues. Parents were able to include their young ones in all the excitement with an afternoon of tiara and crown making at the University of Maine Art Museum and a multi-language countdown at Maine Discovery Museum. As the evening progressed, Information Central at Epic Sports welcomed and directed party-goers to all the happenings, the Trendy Robots set the soundtrack of the evening in West Market Square, and the Countdown Connector transported folks around downtown. Packed-house performances by The Juke Rockets at Bagel Central, The Bangor Symphony Orchestra at Central Gallery, Motor Booty Affair at Hollywood Casino, "Legends: The Music of Judy Garland" at Penobscot Theatre, Improv Acadia at The Rock & Art Shop, and The RetroRockerz at Union Street Brick Church kept revelers warm and entertained until the ball drop at midnight.

Media attention and social media interactions before and during Downtown Countdown were strong with television and radio interviews by event programmers, several live reports at multiple venues, and thousands of online impressions.

Downtown Countdown has become the largest, free public New Year's Eve celebration in the state of Maine. This year's event was once again a resounding success and would not have been possible without the support of the Commission on Cultural Development. Downtown Countdown draws a variety of people from all over the state to downtown Bangor for a unique New Year's experience that supports our local economy and showcases Bangor's quirky originality.

The Commission on Cultural Development's support is greatly appreciated by residents, downtown business community, and by the Downtown Bangor Partnership's Board of Directors. We are hopeful that this partnership will continue in 2015 and excited for the event's evolution.

With Sincere Thanks and Appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen A. Boardway". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Stephen Boardway
President
Downtown Bangor Partnership





Downtown Countdown Promotional Material



75 11 x 17 inch and 100 8.5 x 11 inch event posters were printed and distributed throughout the greater Bangor region.

CountdownBangor.com was created in late November and will run, in its current form, until early fall 2015.

Event map appeared in the December 24, 2014 edition of The Maine Edge.



Sandwich boards marked 5 Countdown Connector (free shuttle service) stops, located throughout downtown.

500 Downtown Countdown buttons were produced with accompanying cards listing discounts available at participating downtown businesses.



Downtown Countdown **Press Coverage**

Coverage of this year's Downtown Countdown included local, state, and national news outlets. Previews of the New Year's Eve celebrations ran throughout the week leading up to the events and on December 31, live broadcasts from venues throughout downtown took place.

Print and Online Publications

Bangor Daily News

"Downtown Countdown in Bangor Offers New Year's Eve Activities for All Ages" – December 30, 2014

<http://bangordailynews.com/2014/12/30/news/bangor/downtown-countdown-in-bangor-offers-activities-for-all-ages/>

"Bangor Marks 10th Annual New Year's Eve Ball Drop," by Dawn Gagnon – December 31, 2014

<https://bangordailynews.com/2014/12/31/living/bangor-marks-10th-annual-new-years-eve-ball-drop/>

MaineToday.com

"Bring on 2015: New Year's Eve Events in Maine," by Shannon Bryan – December 17, 2014

<http://mainetoday.com/do-this-2/bring-on-2015-new-years-eve-events-in-maine/>

Rocky Coast News – December 18, 2014

<http://rockycoastnews.blogspot.com/2014/12/downtown-countdown-in-bangor-is-maines.html>

Yankee Magazine

"Best New Year's Eve Events in New England," by Aimee Seavey – December 2014

<http://www.yankeemagazine.com/best-of-new-england/best-new-years-eve-events-in-new-england>

Television Broadcasts

WABI TV5

"Bangor Prepping for New Year's 'Downtown Countdown'" – December 29, 2014

<http://wabi.tv/2014/12/29/bangor-prepping-new-years-downtown-countdown/>

"Bangor's Not-So-Typical New Year's Ball Drop" – December 31, 2014

<http://wabi.tv/2014/12/31/bangors-not-typical-new-years-ball-drop>

"NYE Crown & Tiara Making at UMaine Museum" – December 31, 2014

<http://wabi.tv/2014/12/31/nye-crown-tiara-making-umaine-museum/>

WVFX/FOX 22

Promotional Appearance on 7 a.m. News Hour with Brian Shawver – December 30, 2014

"Downtown Countdown Event Underway in Bangor" – December 31, 2014

<http://www.foxbangor.com/news/local-news/7353-downtown-countdown-event-underway-in-bangor.html?highlight=YTozOntpOjA7czo4OiJkb3dudG93biI7aToxO3M6OToiY291bnRkb3duJtpOjI7czo4ODoiZG93bnRvd24gY291bnRkb3duJt9>

Downtown Countdown **Press Coverage (continued)**

Radio Broadcast

Z107.3.

“The Trendy Robots to Play Bangor’s Downtown Countdown” – December 15, 2014

<http://z1073.com/the-trendy-robots-to-play-bangors-downtown-countdown/>

WVOM

Appearance on “George Hale Show” – December 30, 2014

Downtown Countdown **Advertising**

Bangor Daily News

Print Advertisement

Color, front page A1 banner ads ran in both the Saturday/Sunday December 27-28 and the December 31, 2014 editions

Digital Advertisement

From December 1 through December 31, 2014 both a 300x600 and 970x90 expandable leaderboard ran on the BDN’s website homepage and event page resulting in 75,000 impressions.

Through the same date range, 32,000 impressions were the result of the banner’s presence on the BDN’s mobile site.

Event listed on BDN Events page (December 1 through December 31)

The Maine Edge

Print Advertisement (Circulation of approximately 18,000)

Three-page, color center spread ran on December 24, 2014. This spread included the event poster, a full map, and highlighted event sponsors

¼ page color ad ran on December 31, 2014

Community Calendars

Downtown Countdown was listed on online community calendars throughout the state, including Bangor Metro, Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce website, Ellsworth American, Kennebec Journal, Greater Bangor Conventions and Visitors Bureau website, Maine Campus, The Maine Edge, Maine.info.com, MaineToday.com, Morning Sentinel, MPBN, Piscataquis Observer, and WERU.

*Both *The Bangor Daily News* and *The Maine Edge* were Venue Sponsors for Downtown Countdown and provided in-kind donations of advertisement.

Downtown Countdown Social Media Analytics

The Downtown Bangor Partnership maintains an active social media presence. From engaged residents to admirers from away, the organization’s Facebook page buzzes with conversation about downtown, and its Twitter handle produces up-to-the-minute updates about happenings around town. Individuals, businesses, media outlets, and organizations look to the Downtown Bangor social media platforms for current, engaging information about the Bangor region.



The Downtown Bangor Twitter feed has over **3,400 followers**.

www.twitter.com/DowntownBGR

December 1 through January 1, the account tweeted **30 times** about Downtown Countdown (#DowntownCountdown.) During the 32 day period the account generated approximately **32,200 total impressions**—**13,235 of the impressions** were from tweets containing #DowntownCountdown.



Downtown Countdown Social Media Analytics (continued)

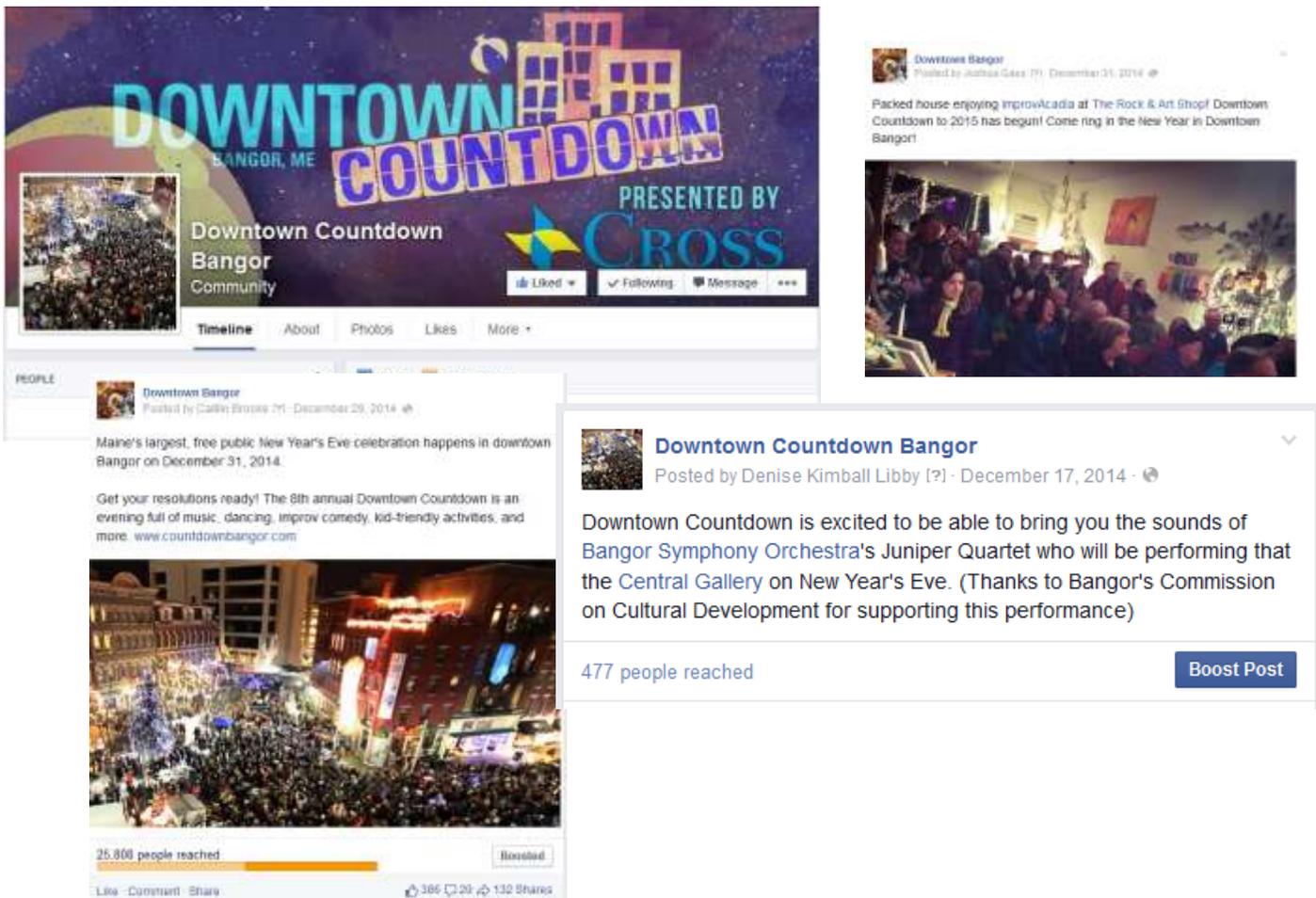


The *Downtown Countdown Bangor* Facebook page currently has **over 1,100 fans**.
(www.facebook.com/CountdownBangor)

The *Downtown Bangor* Facebook page currently has **over 9,500 fans**.
(www.facebook.com/DowntownBangor)

November 1 through January 31, the *Downtown Countdown* page posted **43 times** about the event. The total number of impressions from the posts was **25,699**. December 1 through January 5, the *Downtown Bangor* page posted **17 times** about Downtown Countdown. In total, these posts generated **2,082 likes**, **217 comments**, and **248 shares**.

A prominent cover photo featuring Cross Insurance as the Presenting Sponsor, was displayed along the top of both pages throughout November and December.

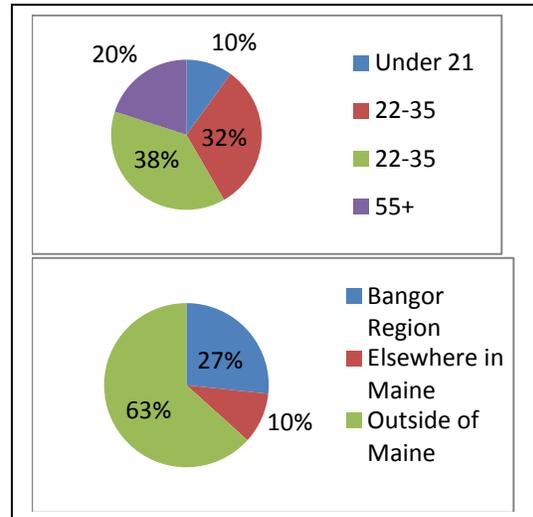


Commission on Cultural Development – 2015 Arts and Culture Forum & Survey Report

In March, the Commission hosted a cultural forum with 48 attendees and simultaneously released a survey asking questions pertinent to the cultural and economic community today. The CCD asked, “Who is that Bangor resident that cares about art and culture?”

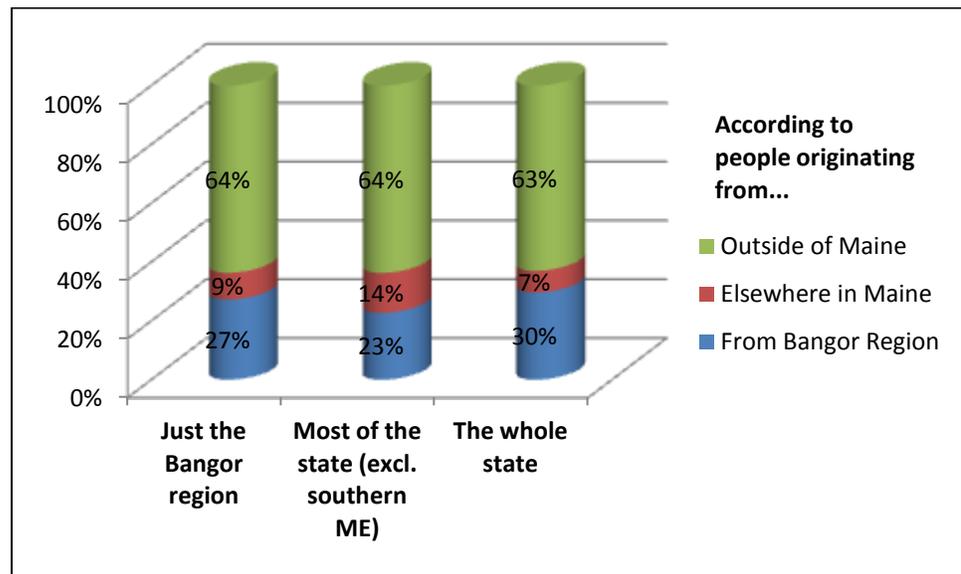
Who responded to the survey?

- 61 respondents in two weeks.
- 48% of them had heard of the CCD while 18% had not. 34% reported they had heard of the CCD but were unfamiliar about what it does.
- 48% rely on art as a portion of income. It is a hobby or passion for 52%. Maine Arts Commission reports a statewide average of 22% relying on art as a portion of income.



Do respondents think Bangor is a cultural hub?

- The entire state – 45%
- Most of the state, excluding southern Maine – 37%
- Just the Greater Bangor Region – 18%

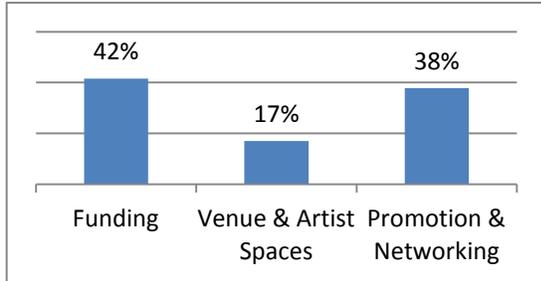


Forum attendees say Bangor “serves as a service center with infrastructure for nearby rural communities” with a “broad spectrum of artistic activities available speaking to our resources.” Downtown business is locally owned and propagated, including restaurants, venues, sponsorships, and shopping. The takeaway from both forum and survey is that Bangor’s artistic and cultural relevance is important to:

- “Fuel an engine of economic delivery”
- “Connect the young and educates us”
- “Distinguish us as a vibrant city”
- “Lead to jobs and tourist revenue”

What are Bangor’s hurdles? What more can the Commission do for the arts in Bangor?

As a part of its Advocacy goals, the Commission asked the public to identify problems. Are these within the City’s scope to address in part through the Commission’s Cultural Strategic Policy, or can the City and Commission identify organizations to address issues lying outside its scope?



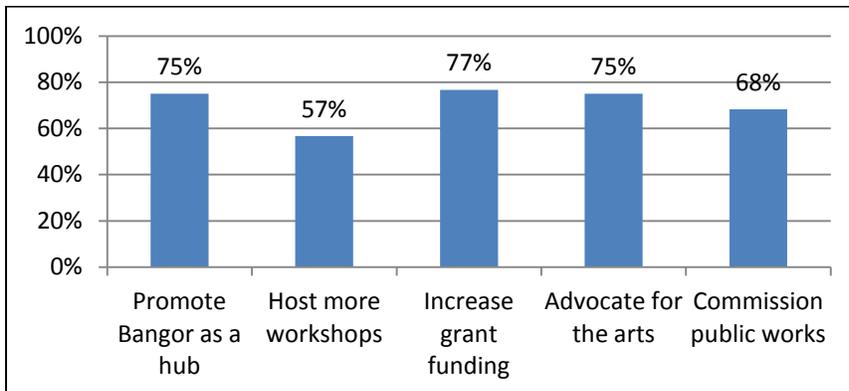
The graph here shows Bangor’s largest hurdles according to survey takers. 2% accounted for the lack of connection to youth populations and recognition by the broader population of the value arts provide.

During the forum, attendees cited additional hurdles, but also solutions:

- Expand mass transit schedule, esp. for students
- Establish a monthly recap of events and an arts calendar
- Showcase artists monthly
- Inventory artists, venues, etc.
- Redesign the city website to draw in people
- Create a visitor information center
- Excellent customer service to permeate business and public attitudes
- Build partnerships between “protective” organizations
- Tap the incoming audience of multi-million dollar event industries

Attendees were asked how Bangor can be a 365-day/year city. Responses included repackage the City’s image, position Bangor as a place to stop for passing visitors, develop a counter culture, place more public art like murals, and connect to university crowds. The largest request was for a city arts center that is 1) a space for people to connect, 2) has rotating art displays, 3) provides space for cinema and music performance, 4) and has a beautiful façade with vibrant interior to inspire artistic production.

Where should the Commission focus its efforts?



Respondents examined and rated the five overarching goals of the Commission’s Arts and Culture Policy using a scale of 1-5, representing “less of this” to “more of this.” Respondents generally believed more of each goal is needed.