# **Creativity is an Economic Driver**

# **BUILD YOUR ADVOCACY SKILLS**

### Get Involved in Your Area

Statewide coordination is crucial, but progress happens locally—at the regional, town, organization and individual levels. Below are some ideas of ways to shape the priorities of creative zones, planning commissions, select boards, nonprofits, businesses, creatives and champions.

#### Take Stock:

- Does your community have performance and workspaces that are accessible and affordable for artists and creative enterprises?
- Are artists and creative business owners represented on leadership bodies like the city council, town selectboard, or chamber of commerce?
- Does your town or regional plan recognize that support for the creative sector boosts economic development?

#### **Take Action:**

- Develop a local or regional creative sector plan
- Improve accessibility of creative spaces & programs
- Upgrade cultural, community & arts facilities for accessibility
- Develop affordable offerings for diverse local audience.
- Create artful public spaces where people can congregate and connect.
- Apply for a grant to fund small, community-driven, creative projects.

## Build and Join Teams for Local Action

The Vermont Creative Network (VCN) comprises six Creative Zones across Vermont. Each zone is managed by a self-governed leadership team of diverse regional voices. In each zone, a Zone Agent is tasked with organizing regional and local action teams. Find out more by visiting the pages below.

#### Chittenden County

https://bit.ly/vcnchittenden

Four-County Franklin, Grand Isle, Lamoille & Washington <u>https://bit.ly/vcnfourcounty</u>

Northeast Kingdom Caledonia, Essex & Orleans <u>https://bit.ly/vcnnortheastkingdom</u>

#### 3CVT (Cornerstone Creative Community) Orange & Windsor https://bit.ly/vcncornerstone

#### Southern Vermont Bennington & Windham https://bit.ly/vcnsouthern

Addison/Rutland https://bit.ly/vcnaddisonrutland

For more ways to get involved, it's all in the <u>CreateVT Action Plan</u> at <u>vermontcreativenetwork.org/actionplan</u>



The Vermont Creative Network (VCN) is a broad collective of organizations, businesses, and individuals working to advance Vermont's creative sector. Authorized by the Vermont Legislature in 2016, the VCN is a program of the Vermont Arts Council. Learn more about the VCN at <u>vermontcreativenetwork.org</u>

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