RAISING THE VALUE OF ARTISTS IN EVERY COMMUNITY.

ARTISTS THRIVE

www.artiststhrive.org
WHAT IS ARTISTS THRIVE?

- A national tool that can change conditions so artists thrive
- Introduces shared language and standards for organizations doing this work
- Imagines the world we want, then aligns our goals and coaches our performance to get us there
- Sets the stage for a conversation about points of excellence and challenges for individuals and within organizations
- Supports professional development for individuals and within organizations
- Encourages input from the field with opportunities to submit your feedback at www.artiststhrive.org/tool-feedback

Think of Artists Thrive Like a Navigation System
Artists Thrive helps us see where we are in our work, where we want to go, what is important to measure, and how we can improve in ways that benefit everyone involved. Artists Thrive is meant to be customized, adapted, and applied to support your work. Whether you are using Artists Thrive as an individual, organization, agency, department, community collaboration, partnership, or artist collective, the tools can be used again and again as a reference point for advancing your goals over time.

Who Is Behind Artists Thrive?
Artists Thrive started in 2016 when a group of arts professionals and artists produced the first draft of this field-wide assessment rubric. Through multiple rounds of feedback, Artists Thrive was publicly launched in 2017. Artists Thrive is driven by a leadership team of artists and diverse collaborators from different sectors and communities across the country and is supported by the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation. You can read more about the team at www.artiststhrive.org/team and view a complete list of collaborating organizations at www.artiststhrive.org/collaborators.

Artists and organizations nationwide are now beginning to put these tools to practice and continuing the feedback loop. This collective action will lead to future iterations of the tools and, with your help, systems-wide change. This is a true work-in-progress that can only be successful with the broadest network of caring and committed people contributing, so we invite your feedback!

Current Tools & Categories

I Am an Artist
Practice
Power
Planning & Capacity
Money
Communicating & Connecting

I Work with Artists
Engaging with Artists
Services & Programs
Paying Artists
Community Connections
Advocacy
NAVIGATING THE TOOLS ONLINE

STEP 1
SELECT A TOOL
www.artiststhrive.org

STEP 2
TAKE A SURVEY

STEP 3
SEE YOUR SPECTRUM

STEP 4
SAVE RESPONSES
BOOKMARK YOUR RESULTS

STEP 5
EXPLORE PEER STORIES
www.artiststhrive.org/stories

STEP 6
CHECK OUT THE RESOURCES
www.supportingartists.org

STEP 7
TAKE ACTION!

STEP 8
SHARE ARTISTS THRIVE!
Materials available in the IMPLEMENT tab

THE ARTISTS THRIVE SPECTRUM
The Artists Thrive tools are framed around a spectrum of performance that can guide improvements in conditions from a low end of artists give up to a high end where artists thrive.

ARTISTS GIVE UP  ARTISTS STRUGGLE  ARTISTS SURVIVE  ARTISTS THRIVE
HOW CAN I USE ARTISTS THRIVE?

Self-improvement

REFLECTION: You might begin very small with one key insight or inspiration. Remember the tool is aspirational, not judgmental. No one is (or needs to be) good at everything. This is a way to gain clarity on your strengths and needs.

SELF-CARE: This reflection may offer awareness on areas where you’re pushing yourself too hard and prioritize caring for yourself.

FOCUS: These new insights may focus your energies and make decision-making clearer. Define success for yourself or your organization and work backwards from there—use this tool to help along your journey.

Organizational Improvement

CREATE THE FOUNDATION for more effective, reciprocal, and collaborative relationships based upon a shared vision of success and common values.

FILL IN GAPS: No single individual or one organization can go it alone in changing conditions for artists to thrive. You can use the tools to identify the categories that you might lead on and those where you may need partners for support.

DEVELOP CROSS-SECTOR RELATIONSHIPS: Many of the categories within the tools call for experience and expertise outside of the cultural sector. Artists Thrive can help you prioritize and spark interest across different fields.

Advocacy

RAISE AWARENESS: New tool to advocate for and raise awareness of the needs of artists in your community.

JUSTICE AND EQUITY CONVERSATIONS: This resource can support complex conversations by facilitating a dialogue and inviting multiple perspectives.

INCREASE PARTICIPATION: This democratic process can engage diverse individuals and groups in creating a shared vision.

POLICY REFORM: Offers language and specific actions for policy changes that can improve the conditions of artists in your community.

FUNDERS: Share these best practices in the field with funders to encourage collaboration with artists and identify potential for significant impact.

MEDIA: Invite your local media to join this national conversation. Tell a story, share a blog post, write an op-ed. Maybe even rent a billboard!