



## About the Hagerstown Arts & Entertainment (A&E) District

### Hagerstown Art & Entertainment District

- Created in 2001 and Designated by the State of Maryland for 2001 - 2012
- Redesignated for 2012 – 2022
- Redesignation Application for 2022 – 2032 – in process
- Boundaries – See Map – Current & Proposed A&E District Boundaries
- Website Information: <https://www.hagerstownmd.org/157/Arts-Entertainment-District>

### Community Input

The A&E District Advisory Council is seeking community input and stakeholder feedback as it prepares for the application to the State of Maryland for the redesignation of the A&E District.

Two Community Input and Listening Sessions are scheduled for:

- Tues, 1/25, 10-11:30 am at the BuroBox at 60 W. Washington
- Thurs, 1/27, 5-6:30 pm – **location changed** to Zoom to provide a virtual option due to COVID. (Email [DCED@hagerstownmd.org](mailto:DCED@hagerstownmd.org) to RSVP and receive the Zoom link.)
- Survey Option – For anyone unable to attend, there is an online survey available until Friday, 1/28 at [www.hagerstownmd.org/survey](http://www.hagerstownmd.org/survey).

Additionally, the Mayor and City Council Public Hearing for the Redesignation of the Hagerstown Arts & Entertainment District is scheduled for:

Tuesday, February 22, 2022  
7:00 pm  
City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Council Chambers  
1 E. Franklin Street  
Hagerstown, MD 21740

### Goals

The 2022 – 2032 Goals of the A&E District are under development. They will reflect continued momentum from the first 20 years of the Hagerstown A&E District and build upon the past goals.

#### 2012 Redesignation Goals:

- Create a residential community of artists
- Make the Hagerstown A&E District a unique and supportive community for artists and arts-related businesses and organizations
- Attract financial investment to the A&E District
- Establish the A&E District as an entertainment center
- Assure implementation and success of the A&E District Strategy

## **A&E District Accomplishments and Special Events**

### **A sampling of accomplishments include:**

- Attraction of new arts & entertainment businesses and attractions into the district
- Expansion of the Maryland Theatre
- Expansion of the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts (BISFA)
- Creation and expansion of the Hagerstown Cultural Trail (Opened May 2017)
- Public art and mural installations
- Implementation of the Community's City Center Plan
- Programming of the A&E District with special events

### **A sampling of special events in the A&E District include:**

- Art Outside
- AugustoberFest
- The Donut Drop
- Holiday Tree Lighting
- Imagine Hagerstown
- Holly Fest
- Barbara Ingram School for the Arts (BISFA) performances
- Barbara Ingram School for the Arts "Do What Moves You Festival" (May 2021)
- The Maryland International Film Festival
- Maryland Symphony Orchestra performances
- Maryland Theatre performances
- The Mummer's Parade
- Music on the Square

## **A&E District Incentive Programs**

There are three (3) Arts & Entertainment District incentive programs available to property owners, businesses and artists.

- **Real Estate Tax Credit** – A ten-year tax credit on change in assessed value resulting from a qualifying renovation project that creates artist housing or space for arts & entertainment enterprises. This is a credit on City and County Real Estate Tax provided to a property owner. The tax credit is currently set 50% of the change in assessed value for 10 years.
- **Exemption from Admissions and Amusement Tax** – An exemption from Admission and Amusement Tax for qualifying visual and performing arts enterprises. This applies to the tax on gross receipts resulting from an admissions/ticket entry charge.
- **Personal Income Tax Subtraction** – A subtraction on personal income tax for qualifying resident artists related to income from the sale, publication or production of artistic work. Eligible artists use Maryland Form 502AE with their annual state tax filing to claim the subtraction.

For more information about the A&E District Incentive Programs:

<https://www.hagerstownmd.org/797/Arts-Entertainment-District>

## A&E District Management

The 2022 members of the A&E District Advisory Council are: Kristin Holt, Kalim Johnson, Melissa Noel, Scott Powell, Evan Smedley.

The Hagerstown A&E District is a program of the City of Hagerstown, Department of Community and Economic Development. The department provides management and staffing for the program.

(Pictured (left to right): Evan Smedley, Kristin Holt, Melissa Noel, Kalim Johnson. Not pictured - Scott Powell)



## A&E District Partners

The A&E District Advisory Council works in partnership with arts organizations and community partners. A sampling list of partners is as follows:

- ACT Black Box – Authentic Community Theatre
- Barbara Ingram School for the Arts (BISFA) and Washington County Public Schools (WCPS)
- Discovery Station
- Doleman Black Heritage Museum
- Douglas Zaruba Studio
- Greater Hagerstown Committee
- Hagerstown Youth Advisory Council
- Just Lookin’ Gallery
- Main Street Hagerstown
- Mansion House Arts Center
- The Maryland International Film Festival
- Maryland Symphony Orchestra
- The Maryland Theatre
- Miller House Museum – Washington County Historical Society
- University System of Maryland at Hagerstown
- Visit Hagerstown/Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Washington County Arts Council
- Washington County Chamber of Commerce
- Washington County Free Library
- Washington County Industrial Development Foundation (CHIEF)
- Washington County Museum of Fine Arts
- The Washington County Playhouse

Plus additional arts & entertainment organizations, businesses and community partners.

### **The State of Maryland Arts & Entertainment (A&E) District Program**

A&E Districts Program are designated by the Maryland State Arts Council, Department of Commerce. There are 29 A&E Districts across the state.

The goal of the Maryland's A&E Districts program is to develop, promote, and support diverse artistic and cultural centers in communities across Maryland that preserve a sense of place, provide unique local experiences, attract tourism, and spur economic revitalization and neighborhood pride. In turn, this furthers the State's goal of reinvesting in existing communities and creating places that help people, businesses, the economy, and the environment thrive as articulated in the Maryland Department of Planning's Reinvest Maryland strategy.

For more information about the State of Maryland Program:

<https://msac.org/programs/arts-entertainment-districts>

### **Questions**

For questions about the Hagerstown A&E District, please contact us:

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Department of Community & Economic Development

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