

VOLUNTEERISM IN THE ARTS

Volunteers are integral to the success of the arts and culture sector

DID YOU KNOW?



- Volunteers **build capacity**. Without their support, many public art galleries in Ontario would be unable to fulfil their mandates.
- Motivation for volunteering includes making a contribution to your community, networking, and an **improved sense of well-being**.*
- Through this work, volunteers indicate that they acquire interpersonal skills (69%), and feel **more successful** in their paid job (59%).**

Attendance matters! Art gallery visitors are significantly more likely to volunteer than those who have never attended before. **(50% vs. 31%)*****

WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF VOLUNTEERS?



Sector growth

Arts and culture volunteers contribute, on average, **120 hours a year**, more than volunteers in any other type of organizations, including healthcare.***

This impact is greater in rural areas, where many art and culture organizations **are volunteer-run** and receive less funding.****



Time

Approximately 900,000 Canadians contributed **107 million hours** to arts and culture organizations in 2013.***



Value

Canadian volunteer contributions are valued at nearly **\$1.9 billion**, equivalent to 56,000 jobs.***

OAAG RECOMMENDATIONS

OAAG recognizes that volunteers provide integral support to public art galleries and arts organizations in communities across Ontario. Therefore, the importance of those who dedicate their time to sustaining culture needs to be acknowledged and celebrated. Organizations and governments must provide support for volunteers, and put policies in place that will ensure that the volunteer experience is positive and enriching.

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ADDITIONAL READINGS

- Hill Strategies Research Inc. (2003). *Volunteers in Arts and Culture Organizations in Canada*.
- Norah McClintock. (2004). *Understanding Canadian Volunteers*. Canadian Centre for Philanthropy.

REFERENCES

* Vézina, Mireille and Suzan Crompton. (2012). "Volunteering in Canada" *Canadian Social Trends*. Statistics Canada.

** Hill, Kelly. (2016). *Volunteers and Donors in Arts and Culture Organizations in Canada in 2013*. Hill Strategies Research.

*** Hill Strategies Inc. (2013) *The Arts and Individual Well-Being in Canada Connections between Cultural Activities and Health, Volunteering, Satisfaction with Life, and Other Social Indicators in 2010*.

**** Community Foundations of Canada and CAPACOA (2017). *Vital Signs: Arts & Belonging*.



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