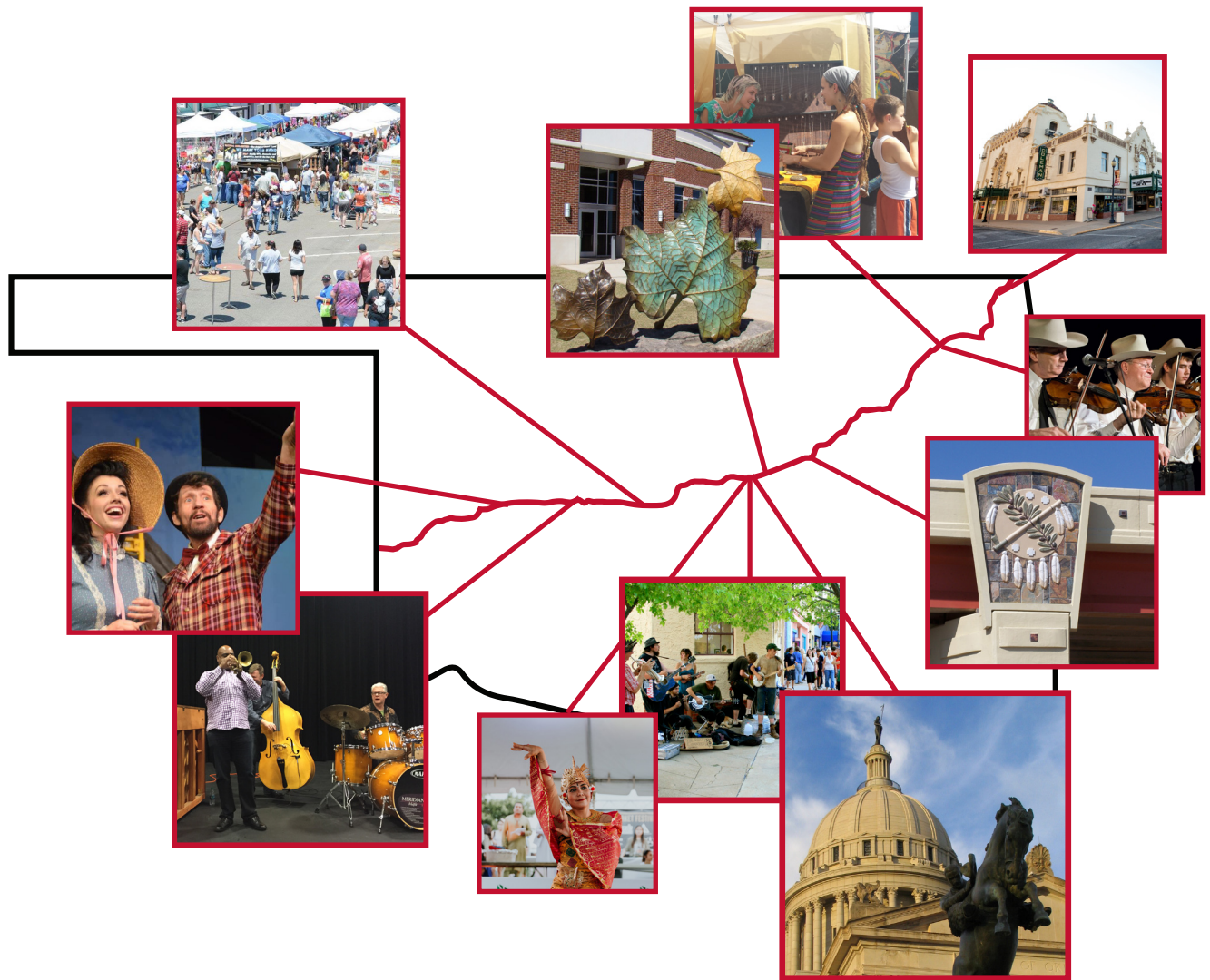




Route 66

Grants and Resources
for the Mother Road



The Arts and Route 66

Introduction

Route 66 embodies timeless qualities that are defining values of our nation and our state. Integral to Oklahoma history and culture, the iconic roadway, with its allure to people worldwide, continues to evolve as an economic engine for communities along its 400 mile expanse in our state.

The Arts and Route 66

The arts are inseparable from the legacy of Route 66. Novelist John Steinbeck originated the highway's nickname, "Mother Road," in his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, "Grapes of Wrath." Songs such as "(Get Your Kicks on) Route 66," the pop music standard recorded by Nat King Cole, Chuck Berry, The Rolling Stones, John Mayer and others, have been influenced by the celebrated roadway. Its magnetism is the subject and backdrop of numerous films. Its historic theatres are enduring landmarks.

The arts continue to offer tools for Oklahoma communities to use in leveraging the story of Route 66 to ignite economic development and enrich quality of life. Grant funding and other opportunities available through Oklahoma Arts Council programs and services can assist communities with realizing the full potential of the world-famous highway to drive cultural tourism, lure international travelers, and more.

About the Oklahoma Arts Council

The Oklahoma Arts Council is the official state agency for the support and development of the arts. Established in 1965, the agency provides grant funding to hundreds of organizations and schools each year, organizes professional development opportunities for the state's arts and cultural industry, and manages the state's public art program and the collections of artwork at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

Grants and Resources for Route 66 Communities

Programs of the Oklahoma Arts Council directly serve a wide range of diverse Oklahomans, including:

- Artists
- Arts and cultural nonprofits
- Business leaders
- City, county, and tribal governments
- Community developers
- Educators
- Public libraries
- Rural communities
- Students
- Veterans

Leaders and residents of Oklahoma Route 66 communities are encouraged to learn below about Oklahoma Arts Council grants and resources that can help them leverage the full potential of the arts. Find out more about these programs and others at arts.ok.gov.

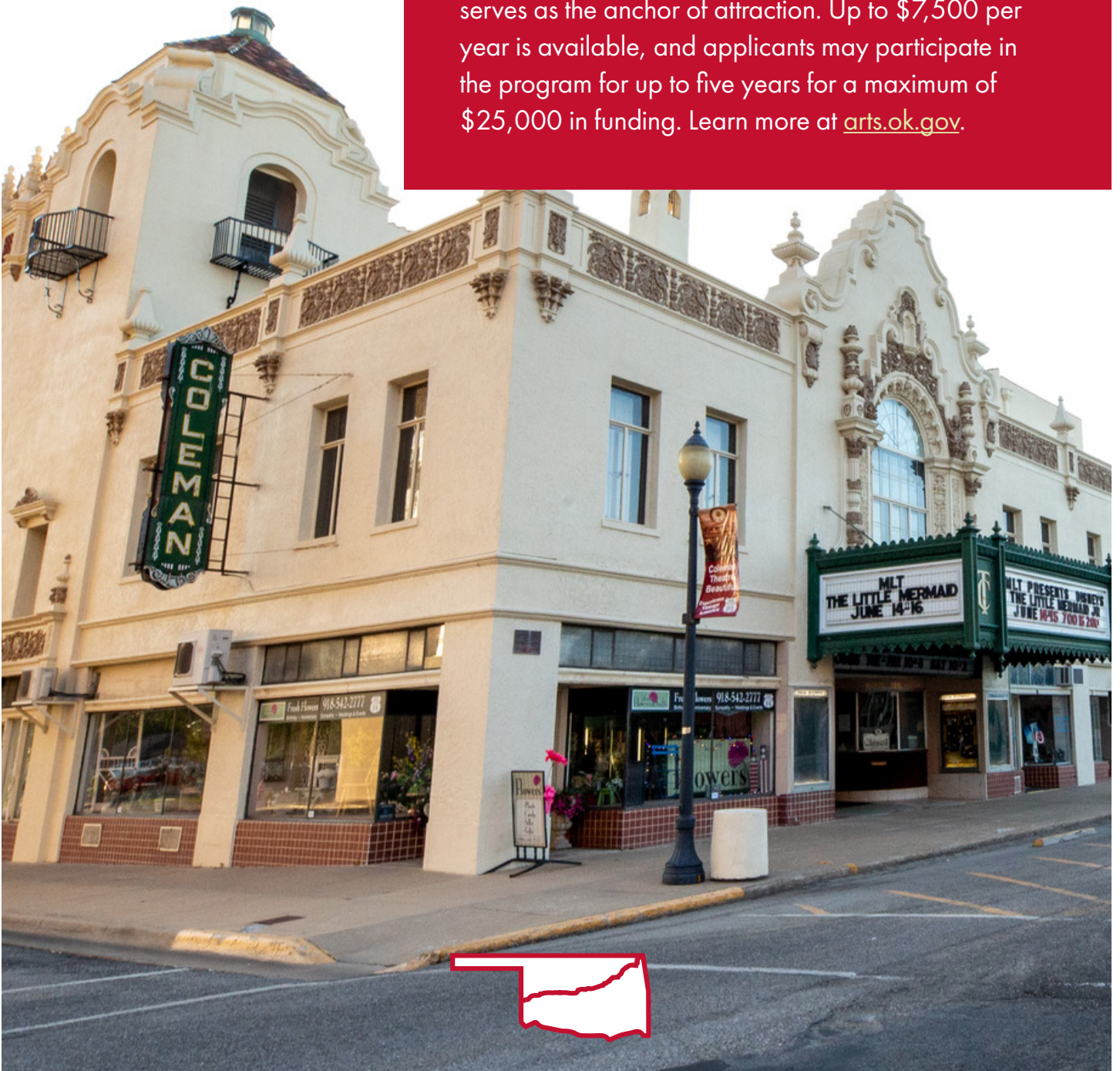
Grant Funding for Arts Programs

Funding from the Oklahoma Arts Council can help Route 66 communities offer arts programs that draw audiences and promote quality of life. Nonprofit organizations; city, county, and tribal governments; public libraries; universities and regional colleges; and PreK-12 schools may be eligible for small grants of up to \$2,500 twice per fiscal year. Festivals, community theater productions, art exhibitions, hands-on arts learning programs, and more can be funded through the Oklahoma Arts Council Small Grant Support program. Learn about our grants at arts.ok.gov.



Cultural District Development

Route 66 communities can capitalize on their unique histories, local assets, and artistic traditions by participating in the Oklahoma Arts Council Cultural District Development program. The program makes funding available to assist in the creation of a formal cultural plan and more. A cultural district is a mixed-used area of a community where a high concentration of arts and cultural facilities or activities serves as the anchor of attraction. Up to \$7,500 per year is available, and applicants may participate in the program for up to five years for a maximum of \$25,000 in funding. Learn more at arts.ok.gov.



Public Art

Route 66 communities embarking on public art projects may benefit from the expertise of the Oklahoma Arts Council visual arts department. Our visual arts staff members are experienced professionals who administer the state's public art program and manage the collections of artwork at the Oklahoma State Capitol. Public art is a valuable tool for supporting cultural tourism, strengthening community image, and fostering local pride. It can give visitors iconic backdrops for photos that will amplify a community's marketing efforts. The Oklahoma Arts Council can help communities realize the potential for public art along Route 66. Learn more at arts.ok.gov.



Professional Development

Oklahoma Arts Council programs can help members of Route 66 communities gain valuable tools, information, and personal and professional networks to strengthen their efforts in the arts. The Oklahoma Arts Conference convenes nearly 500 nonprofit administrators, artists, community developers, city officials, educators, students, and others from across the state. The conference offers sessions led by national industry leaders while also highlighting successful efforts in the arts happening in Oklahoma. The Leadership Arts program equips 30 individuals from diverse communities across the state to become leaders and advocates for their arts in the local communities. Learn more about these programs and others at arts.ok.gov.



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