

Events

Adult Prom

With a different theme each year, this fund-raiser is set for May. It features dance music, a photo booth, and the crowning of a prom king and queen.



By Jim Edwards

First Night® Springfield

The Arts Council's signature event will celebrate its 36th year on December 31, 2023. Held in downtown Springfield on New Year's Eve, this annual "Celebration of the Arts" features over 200 performers. Free activities and performances are held for children in the afternoon.

{ Social Media: @SpringfieldArtsCo }

Springfield Area Arts Council

*Enriching the community
through the arts*

Our History

The Springfield Area Arts Council, formerly known as Springboard, was established in 1976 and serves Sangamon and Menard counties.

Our Mission

Enriching the community by promoting all art forms and providing creative opportunities to participate in and enjoy the arts

Our Newsletter

"Accolades for the Arts" arrives via postal and electronic mail.

Springfield Area Arts Council



SPRINGFIELD AREA
ARTS COUNCIL

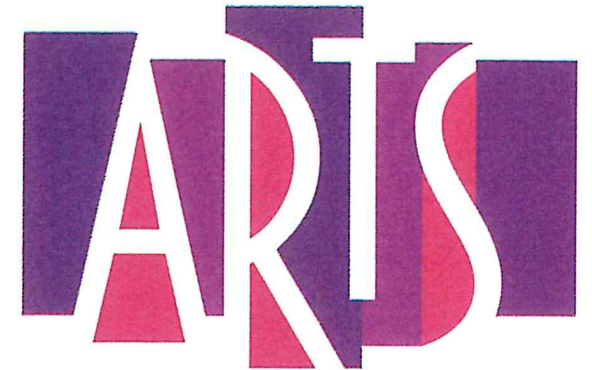
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Programs



Artist on the Plaza

An entertainment series featuring local performers, this outdoor, noon-hour, summertime program has been held for over thirty-five years.



José Gobbo, jazz guitarist

Friday Night Jazz

The year-round jazz and blues live music series is held weekly from 5:30 to 7:30. A 50/50 raffle benefits Arts Council programming.

Mayor's Awards for the Arts

In collaboration with the Mayor of Springfield, these awards are given to recognize artists, arts educators, arts organizations, businesses, and volunteers from Menard and Sangamon counties. Awards are based on nominations from the public. A commissioned artist designs the awards for this biennial program.

Music at the Market

The Arts Council contracts with local performers to provide entertainment at the Old Capitol Farmers Market on Saturday mornings in spring, summer, and fall.

On My Own Time

A city-wide visual arts exhibit featuring artwork created by employees is held in collaboration with local businesses, educational and medical institutions, and state agencies. It is a biennial program.

Penny Wollan-Kriel Arts in Education

Performing and visual artists visit schools through matching funds or by providing full payment of artist stipends.

Poetry Out Loud:

National Recitation Contest

This program features high school students reciting memorized works by classic and contemporary poets and is presented in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the Poetry Foundation, and the Illinois Arts Council Agency. The Arts Council has hosted the Central Illinois Regional and Illinois State contests for eighteen years.



*Scottlynn Ballard,
state champion and
national runner-up*

Summer Youth Employment in the Arts
Teenagers who plan to major in the arts are granted paid internships.



*Jillian Herter and Ava Jacobs,
2022 interns*

Re-granting Programs

City Arts

In cooperation with the City of Springfield, a panel of artists, city employees, and community members determines grant awards to artists and to arts and social service organizations whose projects bring the arts to the city.

Community Arts Access

With funding from the Illinois Arts Council Agency, project-based grants are awarded to local arts organizations and to nonprofit organizations with arts programming. A panel of artists and community members determines the recipients.