

Commentary/Op-Ed - June 2016

Op-ed: A small boost in arts funding would go a long way

The arts provides thousands of jobs, enriches communities, enlivens public spaces, and gives voice to immigrant and low-income residents. In this *New York Daily News* op-ed, CUF's Adam Forman urges the city to prioritize spending on cultural affairs.

by Adam Forman

In 1988, New York City's Department of Cultural Affairs received 36 cents for every $100 of total taxpayer spending. Today, its share of the city's operating budget is just 20 cents, an all-time low. In a city where the arts provide thousands of jobs, enrich communities, enliven public spaces and give voice to immigrant and low-income residents, 20 cents is not enough.

In this *New York Daily News* op-ed, CUF Senior Researcher Adam Forman urges New York City policymakers to better support individual artists and cultural organizations, providing three recommendations to reach small and midsize nonprofits, help reform the granting process, and ensure that New York remains the arts capital of the world.

Click here to read the op-ed.

The op-ed builds on *Creative New York*, a 2015 CUF report that identifies the creative sector as one of New York City's most important economic assets, while recognizing that the city's working artists, nonprofit arts groups, and for-profit creative firms face a growing number of challenges.

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Center for an Urban Future (CUF) is a catalyst for smart and sustainable policies that reduce inequality, increase economic mobility, and grow the economy in New York City. An independent, nonpartisan policy organization, CUF uses fact-based research to elevate important and often overlooked issues onto the radar of policymakers and advance practical solutions that strengthen New York and help all New Yorkers participate in the city's rising prosperity.

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New York Daily News , by Adam Forman, June 08, 2016

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