COVID-19 Impact on Oregon Culture  
May 2020

A Cultural Trust survey reveals that without additional relief funding to offset the devastating impact of the COVID-19 health crisis, the majority of Oregon’s cultural organizations are facing suspension of operations and programming. Oregon’s arts and culture sector has been hit disproportionately hard by the crisis, especially in rural communities with little access to relief funding.

**Projected revenue loss by June 30**

$40,023,000

“[Without relief funding,] we will have to close our doors and lose the investment of our community over 30 years.”

Gilbert House Children’s Museum, Salem

**FTE reduction since March 15**

1,385

“Museums and cultural organizations in more rural areas will be hit hardest immediately and will have a much longer recovery period.”

The High Desert Museum, Bend

**Paycheck Protection Program provided limited relief**

Over half of respondents did not/could not apply*

Most who received PPP funds report “not adequate to support financial losses”

51% 90%

*due to lack of paid employees or inability/reluctance to borrow

**Respondents:**

330 cultural organizations in 83% of Oregon counties

Majority are outside Portland Metro and have annual revenue less than $250,000

- Outside Portland Metro (171 organizations) 65%
- Portland Metro (159 organizations) 35%

- Under $250,000 (181 organizations) 35%
- $250,000—$2 million (112 organizations) 51%
- Over $2 million (37 organizations) 41%

**Limited Reserves**

Organizations report only 2 to 3 months of reserves

“Grantors have cancelled funding opportunities we had counted upon..., [t]oo many resources have disappeared.”

Drexel H Foundation, Vale

**Source:** Nonprofit Association of Oregon

*Due to lack of paid employees or inability/reluctance to borrow