



Tualatin Valley Creates drives the development of inclusive, resilient, creative communities using arts, culture, heritage, and humanities.

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Janelle Bynum
Chair, House Cmte on Economic Development and Small Business
Oregon State Legislature
Salem, Oregon. 97301

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RE: HB 3532, Trust for Cultural Development Administrative Cap Change

Dear Chair Bynum and Committee Members,

I am writing to you today in support of HB 3532, a revenue neutral bill to change the administrative spending cap of the Trust for Cultural Development (dba The Oregon Cultural Trust – OCT). Our organization, Tualatin Valley Creates supports this bill which will enable the Trust to better serve its grantees, including both direct support to small- and medium-sized organizations as well as the Cultural Coalitions responsible for regranting funds within their local communities.

OCT provides a service and funding impact unlike any other offered across the US. It is a unique vehicle for supporting over 1500+ eligible Oregon-based nonprofits with grant funds to meet a shared mission of making sure every Oregonian has access to arts and culture where they live, work and play. Oregonians have built a corpus of over \$30-mil dollars using the tax credit generously provided by the state. The original administrative cap of \$400,000 (established 20+ years ago) needs to be modernized to keep pace with the current demands and needs of Oregon's cultural organizations, the 45 County and Tribal Coalitions, and the 5 statewide agency partners currently supported. HB 3532 is a revenue neutral policy change that will exponentially increase the collective capacity to serve Oregonians at-large.

We in Washington County know the power of creativity to build communities and collective understanding. We know the economic impacts that arts and culture bring to our state through tourism, event attendance and scholarly study. This sector has been among the hardest hit from the pandemic and recovery continues. Not only do we need more public financial support, but we need to update our tools and networks to serve the sector at this critical time.

On behalf of TVC, we strongly urge your support for HB 3532. Thank you for the opportunity to hear directly from the field about the important work of the Oregon Cultural Trust.

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I can be reached at 503-567-1713 or director@tvcreates.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raziah Roushan".

Raziah Roushan
Executive Director

TVC is an independent 501c3 nonprofit, founded in 1999. TVC is the leading arts service organization for Washington County, Oregon and its 600,000+ residents. TVC drives the development of inclusive, resilient, creative communities using arts, culture, heritage, and humanities by increasing visibility for community engagement opportunities and by bridging resources needed to support people working in the local creative industries. Visit www.tvcreates.org to learn more.