

ARTS, CULTURE, TOURISM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Arts and culture are increasingly being acknowledged as catalysts of economic development and vitality. A robust arts and culture industry/sector is (1) a strong marketing asset, serving to (2) attract local, regional and international tourism. Furthermore, the robust presence of arts and culture (3) helps to provide and sustain a positive quality of life that (4) attracts and retains a strong (and often youthful) workforce that support local businesses. Finally, (5) “concentrating cultural enterprises and creative workers in a geographic area provide a competitive edge, likely by elevating the quality of life, improving a community’s ability to attract economic activity, and *creating a climate in which innovation can flourish.*”

Tourism itself is also a boon for Cities like Burien. It helps to unite a community around its unique and positive traits, helping to develop a stronger sense of community. Additionally, regional visitors invest their dollars in the local economy, benefiting local business and employees. Sales generated at local businesses also provide cities with crucial tax revenue that they use to offer high quality public services like policing and parks.

Additional Resources:

- [How the Arts and Culture Sector Catalyzes Economic Vitality.](#)
- [The Role of the Arts in Economic Development](#)