



THE KRESGE FOUNDATION

Arts & Culture Program

Elevating the unique attributes of a community through the voices of its residents.
Photo courtesy of NuLawLab/Northeastern University

We position culture and creativity as drivers of more just communities.

The animating principle of Kresge's Arts & Culture Program is an explicit focus on equitable Creative Placemaking where residents lead self-determined lives. We support creative practices that advance the pre-conditions for long-term change, such as resident agency, narrative change and collective action. We believe support for this social, cultural and civic infrastructure create dynamic platforms for enduring change.

Culture and creativity are levers that can contribute to stronger connections to place, bridge across divides and activate individuals to take action and mobilize for change. How might **culture and creativity** contribute to the pre-conditions for long-term change?

Reframe: Explore problems through different lenses and apply creative, place-based and human-centered processes that contribute to more equitable solutions.

Restore: Repair the social fabric, support interpersonal engagement and trust, such as interactions with neighbors or informal community-building activities.

Reimagine: Influence how the arts, community development and planning fields work in harmony to promote more resilient and just practices.

We invest through three focus areas:

Increase Creative Capacity for Healthier Neighborhoods

We work to advance creative approaches that invest in residents-led and community-based change processes that repair harm and support self-determined futures.

Catalyze Creative Change in Cities

We work to promote creative solutions to community development and planning in targeted geographies to support change over time.

Equitable Creative Placemaking Practices

We work to advance the field of Creative Placemaking, practices and principles committed to racial equity, justice and economic inclusion.

KEY INITIATIVES

BASED

Building and Supporting Equitable Development

The BASED initiative seeks to advance community development through arts and culture. The primary goal of BASED is to develop a platform for continued learning of both leading practitioners and Kresge staff around emerging field priorities, such as strengthening racial equity and inclusion best practices within the community development sector.

Culture of Justice

Reimagining community justice through arts and culture

Created to ignite new approaches to community justice, this national initiative will center around a grantee cohort of five community-based organizations that are using arts and culture to reimagine justice in their local cities. Culture of Justice is a joint effort of Kresge's Arts & Culture Program, the Boys and Men of Color Working Group and the Human Services Program.

FreshLo

Fresh, Local & Equitable

The Kresge Health and Arts & Culture Programs collaborated to fund neighborhood-scale projects demonstrating creative, cross-sector visions of food-oriented development through the FreshLo initiative. FreshLo projects intentionally integrate healthy food, creative placemaking, community development and equity in their work.



Seeding change in urban housing and community development through arts and culture.
Photo courtesy of NuLawLab/Northeastern University

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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