

AMAC Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2025, 5:30-7:00 PM

5:31 PM call to order

Location: Arts/West

Will not be present: Jeff Risner, Kate Fetterolf, Katherine Ann

Present: Tina, Andrew, Mateo, David, Devin, Kelee

Review, discuss, and move to approve or update the minutes from the July 9, 2025 meeting.

-Motion to revise Kate F's intention of statement from July 9: Kate asked if AMAC can give more feedback to city re: art selections, placement, and installations in future through their ad hoc committees.

Andrew moved to accept with revisions, Devin 2nd. Passed

AMAC Admin

- AMAC Residency Requirements for Service Eligibility Bylaws Amendment: Kelee Riesbeck
- Review and vote to update AMAC Bylaws regarding service eligibility
- See: -AMAC Bylaw Change Proposal, Aug. 2, 2025, for process and procedures
- 6/11/2025 Meeting Minutes for prior discussion
- David introduced; Kelee moved for AMAC to amend the bylaw as presented at the meeting.
- David 2nd; Andrew abstains owing to working for the City;
- Discussion ensued: Andrew says be aware that this may set a precedent for other Athens City commissions. Andrew explained what happens at Council: the committee first hears it, Micah McCarty brings it up; then 3 readings of the ordinance at City Council; could get changed or amended then goes back to first reading;
- David offered to go with Kelee to City Council.
- Motion passed.

Mateo makes a motion to adjust agenda to add guest Rachael Clark. Tina 2nd. Discussion. Motion passed.

Legislative updates

- Andrew Chiki
- Moving into 2026 budget season. What does AMAC want to see and happen for next year by Sept. 30.
- Kelee asked that A.C.A.M.F. be supported in 2026. Andrew says good for AMAC to vocalize their support for this; a letter to the Mayor for support; we know times are hard from a budget perspective
- Asking that Athens Poet Laureate stipend continue OR ask for a placeholder fund.
- Kelee asks for funding for identifying Sculpture Park works to include artists' name and title of each piece.

Public Projects

- Athens City Mural audit and enhancement: David Telega and Kelee Riesbeck
- Stage II: "Far and Near East Side Mural Walk" drafted, final edits to come

- Art Outside the Box project: Tina Wilson, Kate Fetterolf
Update on posting to mAppAthens site. Kelee offered to email Nancy Stevens. Tina approved. Kelee will report at next meeting.
- Athens Poet Laureate: Tina Wilson
-Update on applications: Applications, unsure who has applied or their materials, b/c Tina can't access AMAC email. Andrew is working out email tech glitch with City so there is a way to learn where the applications are being held. Discussion about all AMAC members getting access to amac@ email address.
-APL submission applications be accepted was promoted widely. Discussion about using a Google form in the future to mitigate losing applications to an email glitch in the future.
-David: what is the cutoff if a low number of submissions to trigger a deadline extension? -Fewer than 5 applicants triggers a deadline extension to Oct. 15, 2025.

- Art in City Spaces Project: Kate Fetterolf and Mateo Galvano
Update and plan for the future:
-Mateo: 1 meeting to date. Have a plan. Share it at a future meeting

Arts West /APRD Update:

- Katherine Ann Jordan will not be present. Andrew announces the following:
-ACC 25th anniversary is Oct. 14 5:30 - 7:00 pm at ACC. Open to the public.
-Daytime for Block Party, if AMAC wants to table, is Oct. 25. Reach out to Katherine Ann if we want to table.
-Takes place 12-4pm on Court Street between Washington Union. Street will be closed.

Announcements and other business

- Communication Breakdown: AMAC@ email. See above
-Sept. 15 Community Art meet up hosted by CoLab and Liz Pahl 5:30 - 7:00
-Mateo: Friday Sept 19, Faculty Exhibition at KMA 5:30-7:00. Refreshments offered.
-Andrew: Armory Open House Tuesday, Sept. 30 3:30-6:00 pm
-Parking Garage project; demolition happening; have to remove 7 APP works for this
-Andrew: acquisition of painting by Pappy Mitchell; of City Hall done in 1960s; AMAC has to vote to accept it so that it can be formally accessioned. Rules of care for any piece accessioned by the city is in the AMAC files. Andrew is formally accessioning the piece. Suggesting it is hung in an unnamed conference room in City Hall. Mateo moves to vote on the acquisition of the painting. Tina 2nd the motion. Discussion. Motion passed.

Guest: Rachel Clark, Education Director at Dairy Barn Arts Center

- Project: Witch Walk, partnership with Arts/West. Presented a flier, see below. Event is Nov. 2, 5:30-8:30. Rural Action and Honey for the Heart puppets are involved.
-Field Trip for All of Athens FTFAA. Passed out info, see below. The idea is that arts orgs team up to build capacity to better serve the county in and through the arts.
-Presented information about the Athens County Art Trails Festival. Passed out information, see below.

Adjourn: 7:02 PM Andrew moved to adjourn. Mateo 2nd. Motion passed.

Next Meeting: October 8, 2025, 5:30-7:00 PM, Arts/West

Athens County Art Trails Festival:

Imagine a weekend (or week) when every corner of Athens County becomes a stage, a gallery, and a classroom. Local libraries host storytelling circles, historic churches echo with music, museums transform into hands-on labs, and the Dairy Barn Art Center anchors it all with exhibitions of local artists and workshops highlighting **Appalachian arts/crafts**. Families, students, and visitors travel a circuit of venues — creating, learning, and celebrating together.

What is it?
This is the **Athens County Art Trails Festival**: a rotating, countywide program linking our arts, culture, science, and history sites into one immersive experience. It's not a passive walk — it's an invitation to make art, hear stories, experiment, and explore.

Why Now

Athens County is rich in creative talent and cultural institutions, but these experiences are often siloed. By connecting them, we:

- **Drive economic vitality** — new visitors, overnight stays, and local spending.
- **Build community pride and belonging** — celebrating our Appalachian heritage and resilience.
- **Offer equitable access** — free or low-cost participation for kids, families, and schools.
- **Highlight local creativity** — from professional artists to youth makers.

How It Works

- **10+ Sites, 10+ Experiences** — from the Ohio Valley Museum of Discovery to Stuart's Opera House, the Kennedy Museum, Passion Works, Hocking College, Southeast Ohio History Center/Mt. Zion, the Dairy Barn, and more.
- **Interactive Programming** — each site offers a hands-on art experience tied to its mission: screen printing at the Dairy Barn, recycled sculpture with Rural Action, music class/performance at Stuart's, science-art experiments at the Discovery Museum.
- **The Passport** — visitors collect stamps or digital badges at each site, unlocking special activities or prizes.
- **Guided Trails** — walking, biking, or shuttle routes connect clusters of venues, creating a true festival flow.
- **Themed Years** — e.g. "Threads of the Hills," "Songs of the Rivers," "Stories of the Ancestors," weaving Appalachian folklore and resilience into every activity.

Phase 1 (Year One Pilot)

Launch with 5–6 anchor partners to test programming, logistics, and marketing. Create the Art Trails Passport and brand. Build a steering committee with site representatives and community members.

Phase 2 (Expansion)

Add additional partners and venues. Introduce night programming (projection mapping, live performances, and food trucks). Engage artists in large-scale collaborative works.

Impact

- **Education:** Every student can participate through school trips or family visits.
- **Equity:** Transportation and scholarships are provided for low-income families.
- **Tourism:** Increased visibility for Athens County's cultural assets.
- **Community Resilience:** Celebrates our Appalachian identity and future through art, creativity, and shared experiences.

Together we can transform Athens County into an open-air arts campus, where every child, family, and visitor can explore, create, and belong.

Expanded Partner / Venue Matrix:

Site	Focus/Theme	Potential Interactive Activity
Local Libraries	Literacy & Community	Storytelling booths, zine-making, public poetry wall
Rural Action	Science & Environment	Eco-art installations, recycled art workshops, citizen science art mapping
Kennedy Museum of Art	Visual Arts	Interactive exhibition tours, printmaking demos, youth-led curation
Passion Works Studio	Inclusive Art-Making	Collaborative sculpture/mural, community "paint by numbers"
Athens Photo Project	Photography & Social Practice	Pop-up portrait studio, photo scavenger hunt, "postcards from Athens" project
Hocking College	Technical & Hands-On Arts	Ceramics throw-a-pot challenge, glassblowing demos, digital media lab
Ohio University	Cross-Disciplinary Innovation	Student-led performances, experimental music, AR/VR art experiences
Ohio Valley Museum of Discovery	Science/Exploration	Hands-on STEAM exhibits, "make your own experiment" stations, nature-art link projects

Stuart's Opera House

Historic Performing Arts

Live rehearsals, stage design demos, youth-led open mic or improv

Southeast Ohio History Center / Mt. Zion Baptist Church

Local History

"Living history" re-enactments, oral history recording booth, quilt-story exhibits

The Dairy Barn Arts Center

Visual Arts & Exhibitions

Anchor exhibitions, artist meet-ups, large collaborative installations

I would include story telling to

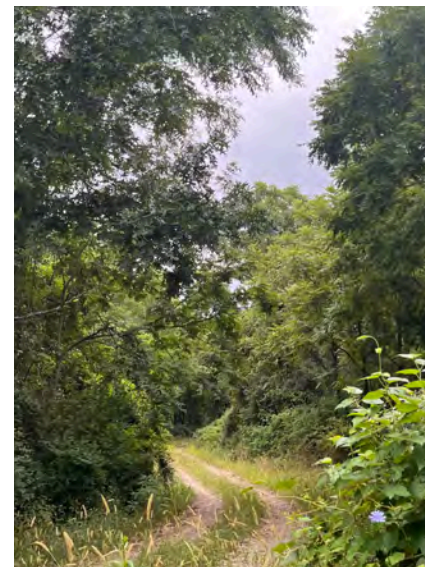


WITCH WALK

November 2nd
5:30 - 8:30 pm



Join us for a free twilight gathering at the Ora Anderson Trail - a place shaped by art and wonder. Stroll through community-made art installations and celebrate creativity rooted in our hills as we welcome the turning of the season together.



Field Trips For All of Athens FTFAA

“Learning Beyond the Classroom Rooted in Athens County”

Every child in Athens County — from preschool through graduation — will step out of the classroom each year to engage in a place-based cultural and/or arts learning experience. Through a rotating field trip system that is sustainable, equitable, and aligned to academic standards, students will connect deeply with our local heritage, creativity, and environment.

Why It Matters

- **Simplicity:** One grade = one site = one consistent plan each year, allowing institutions to refine grade-specific programming and deepen partnerships.
- **Equity:** Ensures *all* students, regardless of district, have access to cultural learning.
- **Engagement:** Hands-on experiences deepen learning and connect students to their community.
- **Sustainability:** Partners build long-term capacity with rotating grade-level programming.

Cultural & Arts Centers / Sites

- Develop and deliver a **4–5 hour, standards-aligned, developmentally appropriate program** for their assigned grade level.
- Integrate **place-based learning** that connects directly to Athens County’s culture, history, environment, or creative industries.
- Provide **pre- and post-trip educational resources** for teachers to extend learning in the classroom.
- Coordinate with the central team to confirm program dates, capacity, and logistics.
- Participate in annual review sessions to refine programming based on teacher, student, and family feedback.
- Offer in-kind support where possible (e.g., waived admission fees, staff time) to stretch grant funding further.

Program Structure Rotating Grade-Level Model

- **4 - 5 hour schedule**
- **Standards-aligned, developmentally appropriate curriculum**
- **Place-Based learning**
- Optional pre/post-classroom materials

Phased Implementation Plan

Phase 1 (2025)

- Form a **steering committee** (educators + site staff + admin)
- Pilot program in **1- 4 grade levels**, track attendance, and provide feedback
- Secure 1-2 years of seed funding
- Build a simple **website/scheduling portal**.

Grade	Cultural Site(s)	Type
K	Ohio Valley Museum of Discovery	Science/Exploration
3rd	Stuart's Opera House	Historic Performing Arts
4th	Southeast OH History /Mt. Zion	Local History
5th	Dairy Barn Arts Center	Visual Arts and Exhibitions

Phase 2 (2027)

- Expand to full countywide grades PreK-12
- Formalize site lesson plans (shared rubric)
- Offer **teacher PD** and **pre-trip materials**.
- Publish an **annual "Passport to Arts & Culture"** booklet for students

Grade	Cultural Site(s)	Type
1st	Local Libraries	Literacy/Community (potentially)
2nd	Rural Action Kennedy Museum Passion Works Athens Photo Project Hocking College Ohio University	Science

Phase 3 (2028+)

- Add new sites (libraries, festivals, nature centers)
- Create **student reflection gallery** (rotating showcase)
- Scale model regionally (Meigs, Vinton, Hocking counties)

Hypothetical Budget & Sustainable Funding Plan

Estimated Annual Costs (Full County Implementation)

- Site Program Costs / Materials: \$10,000-\$15,000
- Teacher PD & Resources: \$5,000-\$7,500
- Transportation: \$35,000 (depending on mileage & bus rates)