

POSITION PROFILE

# Executive Director

Dublin Arts Council

Dublin, Ohio



## About Dublin Arts Council

For more than forty years, Dublin Arts Council (DAC) has been a vibrant hub of innovation, cultural enrichment, and community connection in Ohio and beyond. A nonprofit organization that celebrates art as a catalyst to spark imagination, foster understanding, and bring people together, DAC creates opportunities for curiosity, dialogue, and creativity. Through interactive public art installations, immersive gallery exhibitions, and expansive community programs, DAC celebrates art as part of daily life—a force that connects neighbors, enriches communities, and strengthens cultural and economic vitality.

With a steadfast commitment to diversity and guided by its mission to engage communities, cultivate artistic expression, and foster lifelong learning through the arts, DAC ensures the arts are not just for some, but for everyone who lives, works, visits, plays and learns in Dublin.

### Leading the Way in Public Art Innovation

A trailblazer in public art, DAC leads by fusing creativity with community. Its award-winning Art in Public Places program has transformed Dublin into an interactive indoor/outdoor gallery, with more than 60 large and small-scale permanent, temporary, and interactive public art projects thoughtfully placed in parks, paths, and gathering spaces throughout the city. Created by renowned national and international artists, these works reflect the community's values, spark dialogue, and invite residents and visitors to engage with art in their everyday surroundings.

Highlights include the award-winning Riverboxes™ program that blends art, geocaching, letterboxing, and environmental exploration, encouraging people to uncover artist-crafted containers while connecting with the city's natural beauty; and the Art in Public Places Mobile Pass, which uses interactive technology to make art discovery fun, accessible, and memorable. Through these and other initiatives, DAC continues to transform Dublin into a vibrant, ever-evolving canvas where art inspires connection, discovery, and community pride—while serving as a model for similar public art programs across the nation and around the world.



## Gallery Exhibitions: Art that Inspires and Educates

DAC's historic Dublin Arts Center is home to six-eight rotating exhibitions each year, featuring works by local, national, and international artists. These exhibitions are curated to provoke discovery, inspire curiosity, and engage a dynamic group of visitors. From showcasing the talents of emerging student artists to partnering with Art Possible Ohio for accessible, inclusive exhibitions, DAC ensures that everyone can experience the power of art. Interactive elements, such as a hands-on art lounge and sensory-friendly spaces, create opportunities for visitors to connect with art on a deeper level.

## Community Programming: Creativity Without Boundaries

DAC believes creativity thrives when shared, and its community programming reflects this ethos by offering inclusive, hands-on experiences for all ages. From the Sundays at Scioto summer concert series, which draws thousands to Scioto Park, to Kiln Room Dublin, a community ceramics studio offering workshops and open studio time, DAC creates opportunities for connection through the arts. ArtBoxes, located at seven locations across the city, provide free art supplies to spark spontaneous inspiration, while educational workshops, artist talks, and collaborative projects encourage critical thinking and self-expression. Through these programs, DAC ensures that artistry knows no boundaries.

## Awards and Recognition: A Legacy of Excellence

DAC's innovative approach to arts programming has earned local, state, and national recognition, further connecting Dublin's art ecosystem with a global community of art enthusiasts. Highlights include:

- National Endowment for the Arts Grants for public art projects and community-focused exhibitions
- Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Award of Excellence for the Riverboxes™ program
- Groundworks Group CreativITy Award for innovative use of technology in public art
- Ohio Travel Association Spirit of Community Award for the pandemic-inspired *6-ft gallery*
- CityScene Magazine Best Suburban Art Gallery for five consecutive years
- First public art tour in Ohio included in the international *CultureNOW* Museum Without Walls project database and mobile applications
- Largest Ohio public art collection featured in the global Public Art Archive

## Economic and Cultural Impact: Art as a Community Catalyst

The arts are a cornerstone of Dublin's identity and economic vitality. The city invests in DAC through the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund, and in turn, DAC contributes significantly to the city's cultural tourism with an annual economic impact exceeding \$2 million. Beyond economic benefits, DAC weaves creativity into the community's fabric, strengthens social connections, attracts new residents and visitors, and enhances Dublin's reputation as a vibrant, welcoming city.

## Looking Ahead: A Future of Creative Possibility

As Dublin continues to grow, so does the potential for its arts and cultural sector. Dublin Arts Center stands at an exciting inflection point, with opportunities to deepen community engagement, expand programming, and solidify its role as a national leader in creative placemaking. The organization's next chapter will build upon its rich history while embracing new ideas, collaborations, and artistic innovations.

## The Opportunity

Dublin Arts Council seeks an experienced and strategic arts leader to drive the organization's continued excellence in public art, exhibitions, and community programming. The Executive Director (ED) will partner with a committed board to shape the vision and strategy for DAC's next chapter. Together, they will broaden audience engagement, expand community support, and elevate awareness of this world-class institution.

Leading a passionate and knowledgeable staff, the incoming Executive Director will drive the vision to increase the organization's impact and support the team in executing high-quality exhibitions and community programs. They will bring strong management expertise and a commitment to working collaboratively to maintain a culture of excellence and accountability among the staff.

In addition, they will combine their commitment to the mission of the organization, with their understanding of nonprofit operations, community relations, finance, and management to maintain the organization's position as one central Ohio's leading arts organizations. They will serve as the lead spokesperson for the organization, partnering with the board and leadership team to connect with individuals and institutions to generate support for the organization.

The next Executive Director will assume leadership at a pivotal time in the organization's history, succeeding a well-respected arts leader who has directed the growth and evolution of DAC for nearly two decades. Building on DAC's strong foundation and financial stability, the new leader will chart a bold course for the next decade—connecting diverse audiences with the joy and transformational power of the arts.

## Key Position Functions

The Executive Director provides strategic leadership and day-to-day management of Dublin Arts Council, reporting to the organization's Board of Directors. The ED will:

- Successfully promote and fulfill the mission, vision, and impact of DAC.
- Demonstrate confidence, poise, and credibility in high-stakes environments. Effectively engage with board members, donors, key stakeholders, and staff, inspiring trust and alignment. Possess exceptional communication skills, the ability to navigate complex situations with diplomacy, and the gravitas to represent the organization at the highest levels.
- Identify and cultivate excellent relationships and rapport with the external community including volunteers, stewards, patrons, local businesses, corporations, foundations, governmental entities, and educators.
- Manage and oversee all DAC employees and contract workers, to ensure they produce the desired results and are consistent with the overall strategy and mission.
- Connect the Dublin community with artists and advocates on issues related to art and quality of life for residents in Dublin and central Ohio.
- Demonstrate a passion for and knowledge of the organization's mission.

**Leadership and Management:** Maintains and leads a positive workplace culture with strong employee engagement; maintains efficient administrative operations; formulates operational and personnel policies and procedures; overall recruits, selects, orients, and is responsible for the performance for all staff.

**Governance:** Provides regular updates to the Board of Directors and engages them in decision-making as appropriate; attends all meetings of the board as well as the executive committee and finance committees; consults with the board nominations committee, helping to identify and recruit qualified candidates for board membership from diverse backgrounds and perspectives; assists with new member orientation.

**Vision and Strategy:** Develops long-range and broad-based plans and goals, working closely with the board, committees, and staff to create and implement strategic plans; oversees overall organizational strategy and policy, setting and enforcing standards for operational excellence; advances DAC's strategy and objectives within the community through the implementation of the strategic plan and development plan to achieve the organizational vision and communicate the organization's value proposition; oversees overall artistic direction of the organization.

**Financial Management:** Oversees the organization's budget and finances; achieves financial objectives through the development and monitoring of the yearly budget; oversees internal controls to effectively manage the organization including developing and achieving all budget and financial plans, annual audits, and preparation of financial statements.

**Resource Development and Marketing:** Leads development staff and board in fundraising activities, including annual fund campaign, corporate sponsorships, special events, endowment campaigns, and planned giving programs; identifies and cultivates donors; supervises the preparation of grants, supporting materials, and reports for national, state, and local government agencies and foundations in consultation with DAC staff and Board of Directors; cultivates and maintains relationships with key funding agencies, sponsors, and donors.

**Community Relations:** Serves as liaison with the City of Dublin, City Council, and the public sector; promotes a positive organizational image as the chief spokesperson for DAC; cultivates relationships with governmental officials and organizations at the local, regional, and national level; supports the Advancement Manager in developing marketing and branding initiatives; oversees the implementation of marketing and fundraising plans and public-relations efforts.

## Qualifications

### Competencies and Attributes for Success in the Position:

- Communicates effectively
- Balances stakeholders
- Instills trust
- Collaborates
- Strategic mindset
- Drives vision and purpose
- Financial acumen
- Builds networks
- Drives engagement
- Interpersonal savvy
- Develops talent
- Organizational savvy

- Resourcefulness

#### Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in relevant field
- 5 or more years' experience leading cross-functional teams
- Demonstrated commitment to the arts and artists
- Demonstrated understanding of marketing and development principles

#### Desired Qualifications:

- Advanced degree in arts education, arts administration, nonprofit management, public administration or related field

#### Compensation

DAC is pleased to offer a competitive compensation and benefits package for this position. The target salary is \$130,000-\$160,000, commensurate with experience.

## Application Process

Benefactor Group is pleased to be assisting Dublin Arts Council with this executive search. Applications will be reviewed as they are received. All applications are considered highly confidential. To be considered for this position, please submit an application at this link: <https://bit.ly/DAC-EDapp>.

#### **Benefactor Group Recruitment Team**

[HR@benefactorgroup.com](mailto:HR@benefactorgroup.com)

<http://www.benefactorgroup.com>

To learn more about Dublin Arts Council, please visit: <https://www.dublinarts.org/>.

Please do not contact Dublin Arts Council staff or board with questions or interest in the role. All inquiries about the position should be directed to Benefactor Group.



## About Dublin, Ohio

Dublin, Ohio, is a vibrant, rapidly growing city where innovation, culture, and community intersect to create an exceptional quality of life. Known for its welcoming atmosphere and dynamic energy, Dublin offers something for everyone—from thriving business districts and top-rated schools to scenic parks and world-class cultural amenities. A city that embraces creativity and fosters collaboration, Dublin is an ideal home for artists, professionals, and families alike. Here, the arts aren't just an afterthought—they're woven into the city's identity, shaping a community that inspires and connects.

- As a vibrant suburb of Columbus, Dublin is one of [the fastest-growing wealthy cities in the U.S.](#), with a population of approximately 50,000 and an average household income of \$155,000+.
- Dublin's convenient location within the Columbus metropolitan area offers residents easy access to the capital's thriving arts scene, diverse cultural institutions, and numerous professional opportunities.
- Dublin's emphasis on education, with top-rated schools and proximity to esteemed universities, makes it an ideal place for families and professional growth. The Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, with three campuses, is the largest medical school in the state of Ohio. The Dublin campus opened in 2014 with OhioHealth as the preeminent education partner.
- The city's dedication to the arts is showcased through its commitment to the Dublin Arts Council, especially the internationally recognized Art in Public Places program.
- Embracing the beauty of its natural surroundings, Dublin offers an abundance of outdoor experiences, with nearly 1,000 acres of parks, 77 miles of scenic bike trails, and 65+ developed parks featuring wooded natural areas, playgrounds, and riverfront views. Many parks line the Scioto River, providing access for kayaking, paddleboarding, and fishing. Nearby, the Griggs and O'Shaughnessy reservoirs offer opportunities for motorboating and sailing. Just outside the city, Glacier Ridge Metro Park offers biking trails, disc golf, horseback riding, and more.
- The dynamic Bridge Park development exemplifies Dublin's innovative spirit, providing a modern, walkable neighborhood with a mix of dining, shopping, and entertainment.
- The city features vibrant cultural events that celebrate local heritage and community spirit, including the Dublin Irish Festival and the Dublin Market at Bridge Park, a weekly summer event showcasing local artisans, food vendors, and live entertainment.
- Dublin is home to several major corporate headquarters, including Cardinal Health, IGS Energy, Stanley Steemer, Wendy's, and OCLC; the city also hosts significant OhioHealth operations through Dublin Methodist Hospital.

Dublin, Ohio, is more than just a place to live—it's a community where opportunity, creativity, and connection thrive. Here, innovation meets tradition, and every corner reflects a commitment to fostering community, celebrating creativity, and shaping a brighter future. For those seeking a place where life and work intersect seamlessly, Dublin stands as an exceptional choice.





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