

Statement of the Arts

Ron Beattie, Mayor (D)

Futureforfrederick.org

The arts have always been important to me from a young age. My dad was an award winning architect and my earliest memories involved visits to museums and galleries. I myself entered the performing arts starring in a summer stock production of *Oliver* at the age of 9 and eventually earning my Actors Equity and Screen Actors Guild cards.

Improving arts and culture in Frederick, MD involves expanding community access, supporting local artists, and enhancing public spaces. Increased funding for art programs, galleries, and cultural events can help engage diverse audiences. Partnerships between schools, nonprofits, and the city can nurture creativity and arts education. Public art installations, festivals, and live performances enrich Frederick's unique historic charm while drawing visitors. Establishing affordable studio spaces and artist residencies can also retain creative talent. With its vibrant downtown and rich history, Frederick is well-positioned to become a regional cultural hub—strengthening civic pride and fostering inclusive, creative expression for all residents and visitors.