

A PROGRAM OF ELGL & CIVIC ARTS  
WITH SUPPORT FROM ARTPLACE

# 2020 CREATIVE PLACEMAKING COHORT

*a national program for public servants in all  
departments interested in bringing creative  
processes & strategies to their communities*

**APPLY BY MAY 22, 2020**

**PROGRAM DATES:  
JUNE-DECEMBER 2020**

Space is limited, so make sure to apply today!  
Applications are available at [elgl.org/cohorts](http://elgl.org/cohorts).

**[Direct Link to Application Form](#)**

# CREATIVE PLACEMAKING

## Program Overview

### APPLICATIONS

Local government employees who are interested in creative placemaking opportunities in any department are invited to apply. Applications require a short 350-word essay identifying a problem or project in your community that integrates arts and cultural strategies as part of its development.



### COST

With generous funding from ArtPlace America, this year's cohort registration is only \$1,000, after a \$1,500 sponsorship from ArtPlace America. All cohort materials, resources, and trainings are included, as is registration for ELGL20 (October 14-16 in Portland, OR). Additional scholarship funds, up to 100% of program costs, are also available.



### TIME COMMITMENT

Applicants must commit to roughly nine hours per month of participation: one monthly collaboration call of 1.5 hrs; one monthly training opportunity of 1.5 hrs; and six additional hours of asynchronous work that can be completed on your own time



### MENTORSHIP

As a participant in the cohort, you'll also be matched with an expert mentor from the ELGL & CivicArts network who will work with you one-on-one through monthly calls.



### TIMELINE

Applications Announced  
April 22, 2020  
Applications Due  
May 22, 2020  
Program Dates  
June 1-December 18, 2020



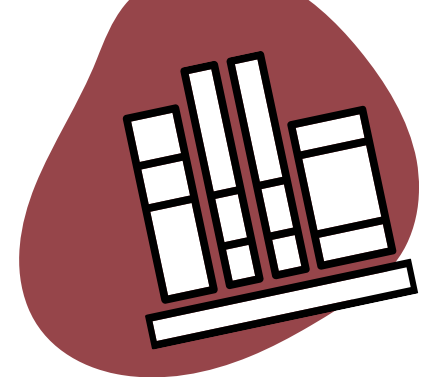
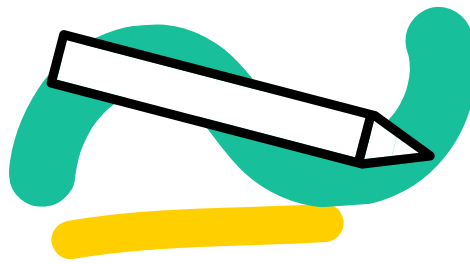
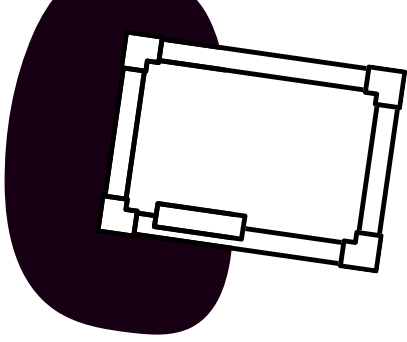
### PROGRAM CONTACTS

Questions?

Contact Emily Edmonds, ELGL's Programs Director, at [emily@elgl.org](mailto:emily@elgl.org).

Read more about the program at [elgl.org/cohorts](http://elgl.org/cohorts).





# ABOUT THE COHORT

## Program Summary

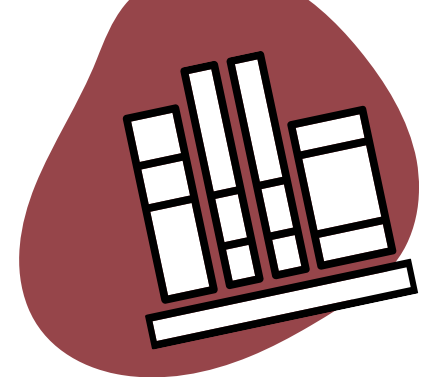
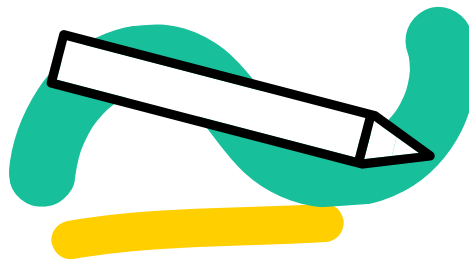
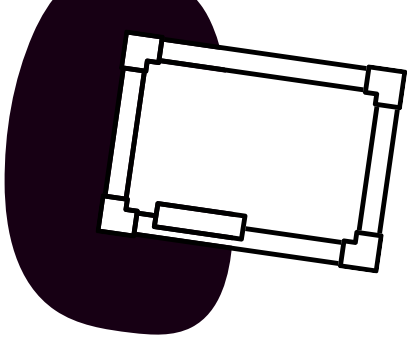
Civic Arts & ELGL are excited to announce the Creative Community Cohort, a six-month learning opportunity designed for busy local government staff who are currently working to develop and implement creative placemaking projects and processes in their communities.

The cohort-model learning process allows local government practitioners in any department to enhance their knowledge of creative placemaking and the integration of creative, arts-based, or culturally-based strategies to meet community goals. The cohorts will comprise up to 4 teams of 8-10 individuals from different communities who will work together to learn from national experts, develop strategies, build project management skills, and identify solutions to the complex challenges that arise in cross-sector work.

Cohort participants will work as peer groups to support one another's developing knowledge and understanding of creative placemaking tools and strategies, and will be mentored in support of individual solutions and strategies.

## The Benefits of Cohort Learning

- Peer coaching and problem solving in cohort groups of 8-10
- Sessions organized and facilitated by Civic Arts staff who bring over a decade of experience in the creative placemaking sector
- A peer-learning framework that aids each participant in learning project management skills while addressing real-life issues
- Rotating opportunity to present a work challenge or issue for the peer group to discuss and problem-solve together
- Development of each participant's own toolkit for creative strategies and knowledge of model case studies
- Creation of a trusted, understanding peer network to lean on in the future



# ABOUT THE COHORT



## Eligibility, Cost, and Time Commitment

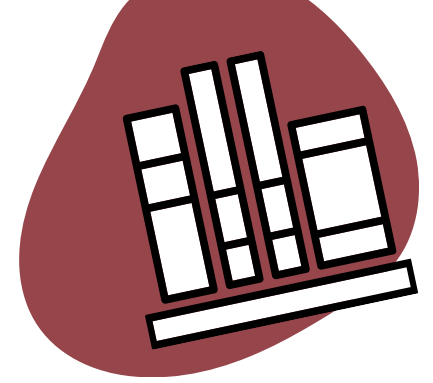
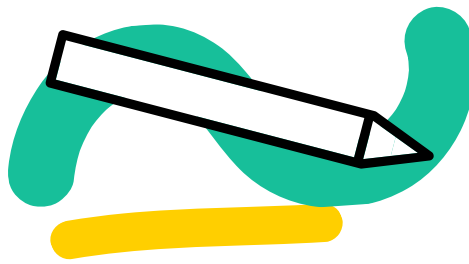
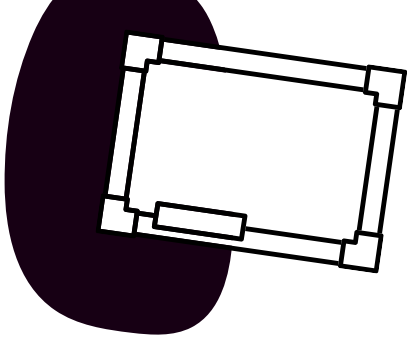
Local government employees who are interested in creative placemaking opportunities in any department are invited to apply. Applications will require a short 350-word essay identifying a problem or project in your community that they are currently working on, or planning to work on soon, that integrates arts and cultural strategies as part of its development.

Applicants must commit to a once a month peer-based video call (1.5 hour to be determined by the full cohort), as well as a 1.5 hour per month content webinar and discussion. Applicants should have access to a computer with video and microphone access and be able to commit up to 9 hours per month for peer meetings (1.5), skill development webinars (1.5), case study review (1.5), mentorship calls (1), readings and resource exploration (2), and idea sharing and collaboration with other participants (1.5).

Each participant in the cohort is asked to commit to:

- attending all or most of the twice monthly learning sessions;
- completing assignments in a timely manner and communicating with peers to complete work and reviews of other participants' work;
- suggesting at least one work challenge or issue for the peer-group to discuss and address;
- actively participating in discussions, asking open ended questions and listening (while keeping all conversations confidential); and
- offering Civic Arts / ELGL suggestions for improving the Creative Communities Cohort experience for future cohorts.

This program is supported through the generous support of ArtPlace America. Program cost is \$1,000, with an additional \$1,500 of tuition cost being covered by ArtPlace America for each participant. Additional scholarship funding is available, up to 100% of program costs, and can be requested during the application process. The registration cost minus any scholarships is due by July 30, 2020 and will be invoiced to program participants upon acceptance.



# ABOUT THE COHORT

## Cohort Learning Structures

### Peer-Learning Sessions

Using an Action-Learning framework, these peer group collaborations are opportunities to learn from each other. Each month, one member of the group will present a current challenge they're facing in their creative placemaking work. Together the group explores possible causes and avenues for understanding the challenge at hand in order to help the presenter find a strategic solution.

### Skill Development Webinars

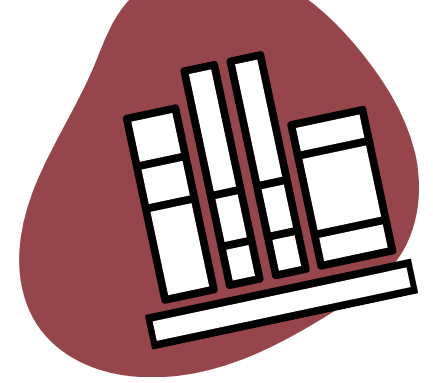
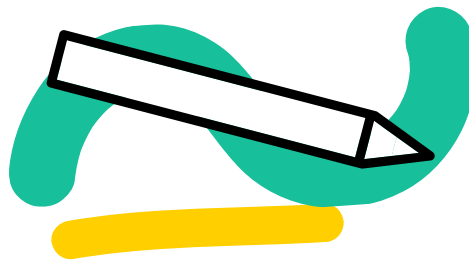
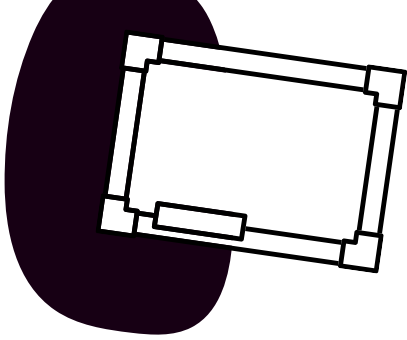
As part of ELGL's larger Creative Communities offerings of blogs and podcasts, a series of webinars focused on the fundamentals of Creative Placemaking will be available along with supplemental resources for the cohort groups. After each webinar presentation, cohort members will have an additional 30 minutes to talk as a larger group and ask additional project related questions.

### Case Study Presentations

Each month a new case study project will be made available to cohort members. The goal of the case study materials is to help cohort members learn from past projects and develop a deeper understanding of how cross-sector projects integrate arts and cultural strategies in highly divergent contexts. During each collaboration call, the group will discuss the previous month's case study and knowledge gained from independent study.

### Mentor Sessions

Each month, cohort members will have individual sessions with a Civic Arts mentor to help them talk through the opportunities and challenges that are presenting themselves in their individual projects. The goal of the session is to explore project ideas, gain knowledge and resources that are specific to individual community projects, and help advance cohort members' understanding of creative placemaking work in general.



# ABOUT THE COHORT



## Final Deliverables & Certification

Final deliverables will include articles in local newspaper or government publications about project work, likely at three and five months into the cohort; two ELGL blog posts; story sharing and idea collaboration each week; and a final project including all materials produced during the cohort and a draft policy or board proposal for a specific future project.

After meeting required attendance and deliverables, each Creative Communities Cohort participant will receive a certificate of completion. Cohort members will then also have the opportunity to partake in more advanced learning opportunities with Civic Arts/ELGL and will be invited to serve in the role of mentor for future students.

## For More Information

Contact Emily Edmonds, ELGL's Programs Director, at [emily@elgl.org](mailto:emily@elgl.org).

## About ELGL

ELGL's mission is to engage the brightest minds in local government by providing timely and relevant content and fostering authentic and meaningful connections that are grounded in practices of equity and inclusion.



## About Civic Arts

Civic Arts' mission is to support the integration of arts and culture strategies into the ways local governments envision, plan and develop healthy, equitable, and vibrant communities.

The cohort program is made possible through the generous support of ArtPlace America whose mission is to position arts and culture as a core sector of community planning and development.