Mayor Bowser’s FY 2019 budget includes $30.6 million for the arts, which includes $16.3 million in new funding for the Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH). A strong arts economy stimulates business activity, strengthens communities, attracts tourism, and assists Washington DC in retaining a high-quality workforce. Investing and promoting arts and humanities is a successful and sustainable strategy for revitalizing communities and populations struggling with poverty.
To demonstrate the Mayor’s commitment to the arts, the FY 2019 budget includes new investments in the following areas:

### Cultural Facilities

![Theatrical stage]

**$10 million**

The availability and affordability of physical spaces for DC’s arts and culture industry has been a growing concern for local arts organizations. In FY 2019, CAH will dedicate $10 million in competitively awarded grant funds to support project planning, facility renovation and repair, and facility acquisition for Washington DC nonprofit arts and humanities organizations. This funding will allow for larger grant awards for major facility renovations or acquisitions and will leverage private sector funds.

### Arts Education and Cultural Enrichment

![Paintbrushes]

**$2 million**

The Mayor’s budget funds $2 million to increase students’ art and cultural enrichment. This includes $1 million for field trips, where students will be exposed to arts and culture through exhibitions, performances, and festivals; it also includes $1 million to support student cultural exchange opportunities for public school students.

### General Operating and Project Support Grants

![Treasure chest]

**$4 million**

An additional $4 million will provide greater support and assist local organization in expanding the arts and humanities sector in DC.

### Commemorative Statue

![Statue]

**$300 thousand**

The Mayor’s budget provides $300 thousand for the creation and installation of a new commemorative statue. A blue ribbon committee will be selected to determine the honored historic individual and the site location.