Ideas to Sustain Existing Arts & Culture in Your Community:
• Direct Grants ($5,000 each) to local organizations for general operating support to aid with planned events in summer and fall*
• Back to Business Grants ($1,000 to $5,000) to organizations to help with reopening costs (masks, HVAC, signage, etc.), marketing costs, and events
• BIPOC - Black, Indigenous, People of Color- Grants ($5,000) to arts and cultural organizations, creative businesses, or arts programs that have historically been disenfranchised and underrepresented in your community*
• Direct sponsorships of cultural events such as summer concert series, festivals/fairs, and performances.*
• Hire musicians, theater troupes, etc. for performances in downtown areas, public parks, festivals, outdoor areas

*Consider 2-/3-year grants to help sustain recovery and expend ARP funds over time

Ideas to Expand Existing Arts & Culture in Your Community
• Accelerator Grants ($5,000 to $10,000) to collaborative projects & programs, including cross-sector partners (arts & culture, restaurants, hotels, etc.)
• Empty Storefront Pop Ups, using local artists, creative business start ups, and performers to fill spaces, generate foot traffic and support new businesses
• Public Art in downtowns, parks, and neighborhoods to celebrate culture, provide community healing, address social & racial justice, beautify cities and towns
• Create Cultural Districts, with a budget (min. $5,000) for the inaugural Cultural District Commission/Advisory Council
• Long-Term Recovery Support through a 3-year $10k a year (total investment $30k for an individual municipality) for CT Office of the Arts & AIR Institute partnership for the state of CT.

Ideas to Create New Forms of Arts & Culture in Your Community
• WPA-Style program that puts artists - muralists, performers, actors, musicians, etc. - back to work by commissioning new public art in buildings, streetscapes, transportation projects, beautification projects, lighting projects, blight removal
• Shark Tank-Style community centered program for rapid investment to bring creative ideas, programs and events to fruition.
• Covid Memorials using local artists
• Hire local artists to create or lead community arts projects
• Fund arts and culture in schools: bring arts to school assemblies or hire teaching artists for residencies that help children readjust to learning in a classroom environment.