

January, 25 2023

Dear Oregon House Bill 2459 Supporters,

As the Executive Director of the Chehalem Cultural Center (CCC) in Newberg, Oregon, I am writing to express my strong support for Oregon House Bill 2459. Our organization was fortunate to receive funding from the CARES Act, which was distributed locally by the Oregon Cultural Trust (OCT) through the Yamhill County Cultural Coalition (YCCC). This funding was essential in stabilizing our organization by giving us the flexibility to adapt to a changing environment and offers a strong template for how future investment can support the arts and culture sector.

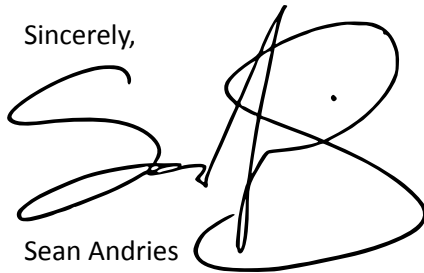
As we continue rebuilding from COVID-19 related disruptions, it is clear that the needs of our community are evolving. The funding provided by HB 2459 will allow us to continue meeting the needs of our community, by providing support for our cultural organizations as we navigate the ongoing challenges of the pandemic.

As a board member of the Oregon Cultural Trust, I can assure you that we stand ready to assist the cultural sector, and from our perspective, the need for the sector to receive this vital, ongoing support is clear. We are dedicated to working with our partners to ensure that the cultural sector is able to continue providing valuable services to our communities.

As the President of the YCCC, I can attest to the impact that the CARES Act had across our community, supporting culture providers of all sizes. The YCCC is ready and eager to help support its community again, and we believe that Oregon House Bill 2459 will provide much-needed support to our cultural organizations and the broader community.

Thank you for your consideration of our support for this important bill.

Sincerely,



Sean Andries

Executive Director of the Chehalem Cultural Center, President of the Yamhill County Cultural Coalition and Board Member of the Oregon Cultural Trust.