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Research Brief

TO: Representative Lynn Gattis
FROM: Roger Withington, Legislative Analyst
DATE: December 16, 2013
RE: Percent for Art Expenditures in Alaska
LRS Report 14.134

You asked for information regarding Alaska's Percent for Art Program. Specifically, you asked for a summary of Percent for Art expenditures for each of the last 10 years.¹

The Art Works in Public Buildings and Facilities program, established in 1975 and codified at AS 35.27.010 through AS 35.27.030, requires that a portion of the funds appropriated for capital projects for public facilities (such as schools, office buildings, court buildings, and state ferries) be set aside for the purchase and installation of works of art.

Payments for purchases of art come from project funds for public buildings and schools; there are no individual appropriations or regular annual expenditures for the acquisition of public art. At least one percent of a project's construction or renovation costs must be dedicated to the purchase of art, although schools in Rural Education Attendance Areas (REAs) may reserve a lower amount (no less than one-half of one percent). If the project's costs are under \$250,000, or the project will receive minimal public use, the amount reserved for art is placed in the Art in Public Places Fund.

The overall Percent for Art Program is not managed by a single agency, and there is no centralized repository of information on amounts spent for art in public places. Historically, entities such as the Alaska Court System and individual school districts have maintained their own accounting records on their projects; in general, the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOTPF) maintains information on state building and facility projects, the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) maintains information on school district projects, and the Alaska Court System maintains information on Court System projects. In Table 1 we summarize Percent for Art expenditures for each of the last 10 years.

¹ You also asked a number of other questions regarding the Percent for Art Program which we answered in previous report.

Table 1: Summary of Percent for Art Program Expenditures, State Fiscal Year 2004 through 2013

State Fiscal Year	Department of Transportation and Public Facilities	Department of Education and Early Development	Alaska Court System	Fiscal Year Total
2004	\$26,060	\$138,406	\$9,188	\$173,654
2005	\$273,763	\$100,958	\$-	\$374,721
2006	\$342,329	\$140,043	\$58,777	\$541,149
2007	\$24,950	\$140,750	\$76,092	\$241,792
2008	\$357,523	\$328,119	\$5,258	\$690,900
2009	\$546,804	\$599,377	\$58,665	\$1,204,846
2010	\$712,684	\$563,006	\$-	\$1,275,690
2011	\$992,066	\$759,335	\$79,300	\$1,830,701
2012	\$818,523	\$1,172,355	\$48,950	\$2,039,828
2013	\$354,115	\$345,987	\$56,198	\$756,300
<p>Notes: Department of Transportation and Public Facilities figures represent actual expenditures. Department of Education and Early Development figures represent percent of art expenditures for closed projects from 2004 through 2013. Please note, however, that it is possible that there may be additional expenditures for art after project closeout. Alaska Court System figures represent money spent (FY2004 and 2006), or encumbered (FY2007 forward), for art costs. Please note that not all funding, such as deferred maintenance, is included in the Percent for Art figures. Also, an unspecified portion of the Courts' FY2006 expenditure occurred in FY2007, and the FY2009 encumbrance includes the FY2010 encumbrance. Additionally, much of the art funding for the Anchorage (Court) Campus project is being consolidated and will be procured after completion of the remodels in 2015.</p> <p>Sources: Mark OBrien, Chief Contracts Officer, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, 907-465-6990. Marcy Herman, Special Assistant to the Commissioner, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, 907-465-2803. Lesa Hall, Facilities Manager, Alaska Court System, 907-264-8282.</p>				

We hope this is helpful. If you have questions or need additional information, please let us know.