



Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) Arts and Culture Planner II

SALARY	\$72,000.00 - \$82,000.00 Annually	LOCATION	Boston, MA
JOB TYPE	Full Time	JOB NUMBER	AC-JUL24-ACP
DEPARTMENT	Arts & Culture	OPENING DATE	07/24/2024

Description

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) seeks candidates for the position of Regional Arts and Culture Planner II. The Planner will help to develop and implement strategies to ensure that arts and culture can thrive in Greater Boston; to meet the needs of our region’s artists and culture-bearers; and to support healthier, more resilient, and more equitable communities across Metro Boston. The Planner will report to the Director of Arts and Culture.

In this dynamic position, we seek an individual with a balance of experience and expertise as well as an openness and drive to learn and expand into new topics and approaches. The ideal candidate will be self-directed, a strategic and systems thinker, willing to experiment and innovate, and committed to advancing arts and culture to create a more just and sustainable region. The role will draw and build on the following skills: strategic planning; project generation and implementation; and collaboration with a range of stakeholders, including members of the regional artistic, cultural, and humanities communities as well as local public officials.

About MAPC:

MAPC is the Regional Planning Agency (RPA) serving the people who live and work in metropolitan Boston. Our strategic priorities involve sustainable development, advancing equity, regional collaboration, and creating a climate-friendly region. We are guided by our regional plan, *MetroCommon2050: Shaping the Region Together*. MAPC’s staff includes approximately 100 full-time employees located in downtown Boston in a transit-accessible and bike-friendly office.

MAPC has a hybrid schedule, combining time in the office with remote work. Employees must reside within a commutable distance from MAPC’s Boston office.

MAPC strongly supports the professional development of each staff person, believing their growth to be consistent with the best interests of MAPC and the region. We encourage all our staff to develop new ideas to make MAPC’s planning and policy work more relevant and impactful, and to adapt to changing times.

This is an opportunity to work in a dynamic, interdisciplinary, and innovative environment with professionals who are committed to building a more sustainable and equitable future for everyone who lives and works in Greater Boston. For more information about MAPC or *MetroCommon2050*, please visit www.mapc.org

About the Department:

The Department engages in planning and policy work that advances artistic expression throughout Greater Boston; preserves and promotes a full and equitable view of our cultural heritage; and explores the intersection of arts and culture with other planning and policy initiatives. The Department also encourages public and community support for artists and

culture-bearers through improved public policy and funding and uses arts and humanities practices to increase community engagement in cities and towns. This will often include interdisciplinary efforts led by cross-departmental teams. Examples of recent work include cultural plans for Boston's Chinatown and Boston's Latin Quarter, a creative placemaking strategy for the Landline, our regional trails network, and a project to develop policies that will prevent the loss of and promote the expansion of creative workspace in Boston, Cambridge and Somerville. Learn more about our arts and culture planning work here.

Our goal is to cultivate an inclusive work environment so that all our colleagues feel a sense of belonging, and that their unique contributions to our mission are valued.

Responsibilities (including but not limited to)

- Manage and staff arts, culture, heritage, and creative economy planning projects in collaboration with fellow MAPC planners, municipalities, and community stakeholders focusing on efforts to expand artistic and cultural expression in cities, towns, and neighborhoods throughout Greater Boston;
- Bring methods and strategies from the arts and culture field into other local and regional planning projects in areas such as public health and food systems, climate resilience, active transportation, housing affordability and stability, and economic opportunity, and implementation of our regional land use and policy plan, MetroCommon2050.
- Work with communities to implement plans and create on-the-ground impact and change;
- Draft scopes and budgets for projects; oversee public engagement; plan and facilitate events, meetings, open houses, and focus groups; research and write local zoning, guidelines, and program documents;
- Build relationships with artists of color and organizations serving communities of color to further equity and justice in planning practice;
- Expand engagement strategies by using art and storytelling to illuminate history and generate hopefulness in a future that is more just, humane, and beautiful;
- Facilitate workshops and trainings on arts, culture, heritage, and related topics for planners, elected and appointed local officials, community developers and organizers, volunteer board members, and artists;
- Conduct research to expand and improve the collection and management of arts, culture, and heritage data as well as improve local and state laws, regulations, policies, and programs that can help arts and culture to thrive;
- Document department projects, tools, and lessons that can be shared through department communication platforms such as the MAPC Arts & Planning Toolkit or through the Arts & Culture Department newsletter;
- Expand the visibility and impact of MAPC's arts, culture and heritage planning and creative community development work through attendance and/or presentations at events and conferences; and
- Conduct other activities as assigned to implement the work plan of the Arts & Culture Department and more broadly, to advance the goals of MetroCommon2050.

Evening events, occasional weekend events, and local travel are a responsibility for this position. MAPC does not require that you have a vehicle; however, you must have a valid driver's license and/or the ability to arrange transportation to meetings in different parts of the region. MAPC provides support for travel, including MBTA passes, a Zipcar account and BlueBikes membership.

Qualifications

Candidates must have a Bachelor's degree and three (3) years of relevant professional experience **OR** a Master's degree and a minimum of two (2) years of relevant professional experience in any of the following areas: community development, urban studies, city, town, or regional planning, urban design, public humanities, historic preservation, arts administration, architecture, public art, or other related disciplines. Preference will be given to candidates whose interests and background combine arts, culture and the humanities with another area of expertise related to urban planning or community

development. Experience working directly with other artists, non-profit organizations, community-based groups, and local government is desired.

In addition to the qualifications in this posting, we recognize that people come with talent and experiences outside of past jobs. Diversity of experience and skills combined with passion is a key to innovation and a culture of inclusion.

Successful candidates for this position will demonstrate all or most of the following:

- Strong commitment to advancing access and representation in arts and culture;, addressing the loss of housing and workspace for artists; and encouraging, community well-being, social equity, sustainability, and good governance through artistic and cultural expression;
- Experience in core areas of arts and culture planning practice including arts-based community development, cultural planning, and cultural asset mapping;
- Knowledge of methods such as cultural economic development, creative placemaking, historic preservation and heritage, urban design, public art, and arts-based engagement;
- Proficiency in project development, scoping, budgeting, and management;
- Experience working effectively with community-based groups, communities of color, and/or artists and arts organizations;
- Experience with quantitative and qualitative research, data collection, analysis, and interpretation;
- Experience undertaking assigned work in a self-directed manner with capacity for innovation, self-learning, and achieving goals in a timely manner;
- Excellent written, verbal, presentation, and interpersonal communication skills;
- Proficiency in working on interdisciplinary projects and in collaborative settings;
- Experience working in projects that involve multi-lingual, multi-cultural, or cross-cultural conditions;
- Skills in graphic design or web design; experience with software and platforms such as WordPress, Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, or social media platforms; and
- Experience building and maintaining partnerships with local and state local government, (including appointed and elected officials), community-based or advocacy organizations, and other stakeholders.

Per MAPC COVID-19 Vaccine Policy, all employees including remote employees must be fully vaccinated. This position will require the selected candidate to show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19, including up to date boosters. MAPC will consider reasonable extensions or accommodations as required by law.

Compensation and Benefits:

The salary ranges from \$72,000 - \$82,000, depending on qualifications and experience. This is a full-time exempt position. MAPC offers excellent Massachusetts state employee benefits, a flexible, supportive, and family-friendly work environment and a commitment to professional development.

How to Apply:

Apply online at www.mapc.org/jobs. The position is open until filled, and applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and resume. Candidates selected to interview will be asked to submit three (3) references plus a sample of relevant writing or work product. Candidates must have legal authorization to work in the USA and a valid driver's license and/or the ability to arrange transportation to meetings in different parts of the region. MAPC participates in E-Verify, which is a federal program that helps us to determine work eligibility in the United States.

MAPC is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We believe that a staff with a range of perspectives, experiences, and skillsets strengthens our work. We are committed to building a more equitable workplace that allows staff with diverse backgrounds and identities to thrive, grow, and lead. For more information on MAPC's culture of equity, see our [Equity at MAPC](#) page.

Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)

Address

60 Temple Place

Boston, Massachusetts, 02111

Phone

(617) 451-2770

Website

<http://www.mapc.org>