

HARTSVILLE

CULTURAL

DISTRICT

# What is a Cultural District

A cultural district is a geographic area that has a concentration of cultural facilities, activities and assets. It is an area that is easily identifiable to visitors and residents and serves as a center of cultural, artistic and economic activity. A cultural district may contain galleries, live performance venues, theaters, artist studios, museums, arts centers, arts schools, and public art pieces. A cultural district may also contain businesses like restaurants, banks or parks whose primary purpose is not arts, but that regularly make their spaces available to artists or create opportunities for the public to encounter the arts.

Legislation ratified by the South Carolina General Assembly and signed by Governor Nikki Haley authorizes the S.C. Arts Commission to grant official state designation to cultural districts in the Palmetto State.

## **The legislation specifies the goals of this program:**

- attract artists, creative entrepreneurs and cultural enterprises to communities
- encourage economic development
- foster local cultural development
- provide a focal point for celebrating and strengthening local cultural identity

## **Additionally, cultural districts:**

- attract tourists
- help preserve and reuse historic buildings
- enhance the image and visibility of a place
- foster a supportive environment for arts and culture

# Hartsville Cultural District Goals and Objectives

- Increase traffic to district by increasing the number of events and businesses
- Broaden an awareness of the arts in Hartsville in schools, businesses, churches, community organizations, and to community leaders
- Promote and preserve the City of Hartsville's Cultural Identity
- Help effectively communicate cultural events to the community at large

## Who Can Apply

The applicant must be a city or town in South Carolina. The application must be signed by the municipality's chief elected official or appointed chief administrator. The city or town may designate a municipal department or community partner organization to serve as contact for the application and to manage the proposed district. Entities such as an arts council, Main Street program, chamber of commerce, empowerment zone, historic district, visitor's bureau or other capable bodies may serve in this capacity.

## Resolution

**Any city or town applying for state designation of a cultural district must hold a public hearing with adequate notice regarding the proposed district and pass a resolution making a commitment to establish a state-designated cultural district.**

If designation is approved, S.C. Arts Commission staff will work with local contacts to arrange appropriate announcements, publicity and public events. If designation is not approved, staff will work with local contacts to address board concerns and determine the feasibility of reapplying.

## Recertification

Every five years, S.C. Arts Commission staff will evaluate the annual reports and action plans of designated cultural districts to assess the district's impact and continued viability for state designation.

# S\*1172

## Session 120 (2013-2014)

**S\*1172(Rat #0237, Act #0232 of 2014) General Bill, By Nicholson, Hayes, Turner, Sheheen, L. Martin, McGill, Alexander, O'Dell, Johnson, Scott and Williams**

Similar(H 4984)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 60-15-75 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES FOR STATE-DESIGNATED CULTURAL DISTRICTS BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA ARTS COMMISSION, TO STATE THE INTENDED PURPOSE OF THE CULTURAL DISTRICTS, AND TO PROVIDE RELATED POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO THE CULTURAL DISTRICTS. - ratified title

03/27/14 Senate Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 4)  
03/27/14 Senate Referred to Committee on Education  
(Senate Journal-page 4)  
04/09/14 Senate Committee report: Favorable Education  
(Senate Journal-page 22)  
04/15/14 Senate Read second time (Senate Journal-page 33)  
04/15/14 Senate Roll call Ayes-39 Nays-1 (Senate Journal-page 33)  
04/16/14 Senate Read third time and sent to House  
(Senate Journal-page 27)  
04/29/14 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 24)  
04/29/14 House Referred to Committee on Education and Public  
Works (House Journal-page 24)  
04/30/14 House Recalled from Education and Public Works  
(House Journal-page 105)  
04/30/14 House Referred to Committee on Medical, Military,  
Public and Municipal Affairs (House Journal-page 105)  
05/15/14 House Committee report: Favorable Medical, Military,  
Public and Municipal Affairs (House Journal-page 5)  
05/15/14 Scrivener's error corrected  
05/20/14 House Read second time (House Journal-page 67)  
05/20/14 House Roll call Yeas-102 Nays-0 (House Journal-page 67)  
05/21/14 House Read third time and enrolled (House Journal-page 7)  
05/29/14 Ratified R 237  
06/03/14 Signed By Governor  
06/13/14 Effective date 06/03/14  
06/16/14 Act No. 232

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## VERSIONS OF THIS BILL

3/27/2014  
4/9/2014  
5/15/2014  
5/15/2014-A

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S. 1172

(A232, R237, **S1172**)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 60-15-75 SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES FOR STATE-DESIGNATED

**CULTURAL DISTRICTS BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA ARTS COMMISSION, TO STATE THE INTENDED PURPOSE OF THE CULTURAL DISTRICTS, AND TO PROVIDE RELATED POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO THE CULTURAL DISTRICTS.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**Statewide cultural districts**

SECTION 1. Chapter 15, Title 60 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

"Section 60-15-75. (A) The commission shall develop criteria and guidelines for designating a cultural district by the State.

(B) A cultural district:

(1) must be a geographical area that is within a community and that has a concentration of cultural facilities, creative enterprises, or arts venues located within it;

(2) may be home to not-for-profit and for-profit creative entities; and

(3) is intended to impact the larger community in which it is located by:

(a) attracting artists, creative entrepreneurs, and cultural enterprises;

(b) encouraging economic development;

(c) encouraging the preservation and reuse of historic buildings;

(d) fostering local cultural development; and

(e) providing a focal point for celebrating and strengthening its unique cultural identity.

(C) A geographical area of the State only may be designated as a cultural district under the provisions of this section by applying to the commission for the designation, satisfying criteria and other requirements of this section, and upon approval by the commission.

(D) The commission shall:

(1) provide leadership and assistance to a community that seeks to develop or foster a cultural district;

(2) develop a process through which a community may apply for the designation of a cultural district by the State, including:

(a) specific guidelines and criteria; and

(b) a process for the periodic evaluation of the success of a designated cultural district and the periodic recertification of the district; and

(3) pursue partnerships and collaborative agreements with other public agencies and the private sector to maximize the benefits and value of cultural districts designated by the commission."

**Time effective**

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 29th day of May, 2014.

Approved the 3rd day of June, 2014.

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## Hartsville Cultural District Steering Committee Representatives

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<b>Becky Askins-Weaver</b>	Downtown Resident
<b>Jordan Braddock</b>	City of Hartsville, Marketing and Events Coordinator
<b>Quinetta Buterbaugh</b>	Greater Hartsville Chamber of Commerce
<b>Dr. William Carswell</b>	Coker College, Downtown Resident
<b>Kim Cranford</b>	Hartsville Center Theater, Building Commission
<b>Daniel Dorsel</b>	SC Governor's School for Science and Mathematics
<b>Brian Gandy</b>	Darlington County Historic Commission
<b>Karla Green</b>	Hampton Inn of Hartsville
<b>Brian Ham</b>	South Hartsville Representative, Downtown Business Owner
<b>Casey Hancock</b>	Downtown resident, IT Consultant
<b>Brenda Kelley</b>	City of Hartsville, Development Project Manager
<b>Suzy Moyd</b>	Main Street Hartsville
<b>Allison Pederson, Co-Chair</b>	Black Creek Arts Council
<b>Andrea Powell</b>	Hartsville Museum
<b>Cathy Thomas</b>	SC Governor's School for Science and Mathematics
<b>Matt Winburn, Co-Chair</b>	Black Creek Arts Council

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