

Act on Cultural Activities in Local Government

The organisation of cultural activities is a statutory task of the municipality. The municipality is obliged to carry out the task in the manner set out in the Act (166/2019).

The municipality may organise cultural activities independently or in cooperation with other municipalities or in some other manner.



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The objectives of the Act are to

1 support people's **opportunities for engaging in creative expression and activity**, and for **producing and experiencing culture and art**;

2 promote **equal opportunities** for all population groups, and further their **participation** in the culture, arts, and education;

3 strengthen people's **health and wellbeing**, as well as their **inclusion and community engagement**, through cultural and artistic means;

4 create conditions through artistic and cultural means for **developing both local and regional vitality** and for providing **creative activities** to support them.



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Local authorities shall

1 Promote **equal access to and broad use of cultural and art services**

Municipal cultural activities strengthen equal access to and implementation of cultural and artistic services as a basic and local service.

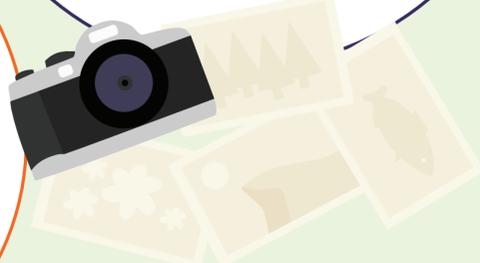
The municipality must organise cultural services for residents of different ages and in different life situations.



2 Create **conditions for professional artistic work and activities**

The municipality can support professional art by maintaining affordable workspaces, awarding grants and employing artists in cultural and other sectors.

The artistic work and activities carried out in the municipality form the basis for making art and culture available and accessible to the residents.



3 Promote **active involvement in the arts and culture and related civic activities**

Recreational and civic activities increase both wellbeing and interest in culture and art.

Local residents' creative expression and cultural activities are supported, for example, through liberal adult education, organisational activities and basic art education.



4 Offer **opportunities for goal-oriented artistic and cultural education covering different forms and fields of culture and art**

Art and cultural education can be implemented as part of art education, early childhood education, basic education, liberal adult education, children's cultural activities and club activities.

The municipality's cultural education plan is a means of providing goal-oriented artistic education and guaranteeing cultural rights for residents of all ages.



5 Promote the **preservation and use of cultural heritage**, and activities that foster and develop **local identities**

Cultural heritage refers to both tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

Local identity can be utilised as a resource in the development of the municipality.



6 Promote the arts and culture as part of residents' **health and wellbeing, inclusion and community engagement**, and **local and regional vitality**

Arts and culture, as well as inclusion and community engagement, increase the health and wellbeing of the residents of the municipality. The municipality can make a significant contribution to these through preventive measures.

A vibrant municipality is proactive and forward-looking. It is built on a sense of community and partnerships. Culture and creative industries are part of industrial policy. The municipality can create an operating environment for entrepreneurs, service providers and cultural tourism in the field.

Economic impacts are generated by tourism, staff salaries, space rentals, acquisitions, and investments.

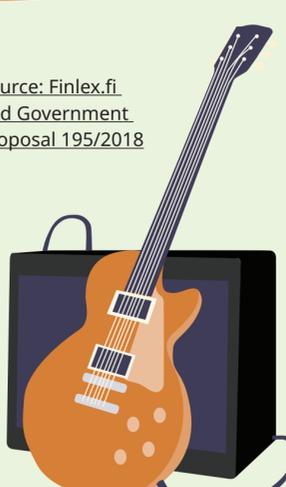


7 Promote **cultural interaction and international activities**, and carry out **other artistic and cultural activities**.

Cultural interaction and internationality, such as town-twinning, broadens and creates cooperation relations.

Art and culture bring different population groups together. Cultural diversity is built on experiences of community engagement. Culture is a resource for the integration of new residents.

Source: Finlex.fi and Government Proposal 195/2018



Finnish municipalities are different. You can follow the evaluation of your municipality's culture in the TEAvisari tool. www.teavisari.fi/en

In municipal cultural services, the most important thing is to identify how the Act on Cultural Activities in Local Government is implemented in your municipality.