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# CITY OF BIDDEFORD, MAINE

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Biddeford Cultural Coalition Launches Cultural Plan Public Opinion Survey**

BIDDEFORD (May 28, 2021) — The Biddeford Cultural Coalition (BCC) and City of Biddeford have embarked on the exciting process of developing a Cultural Plan for the city aimed at cultivating a resilient and thriving creative economy.

Residents and visitors who enjoy Biddeford’s arts, cultural, and heritage activities are asked to respond to a 5-10 minute Public Opinion Survey, which can be found online at <http://reinholtconsulting.com/projects/biddeford/>. There is also a survey for artists & makers, as well as a survey for organizations in cultural and creative industries. You may fill out as many of the surveys as apply to you.

“Your feedback is essential to ensure the plan accurately reflects the values, priorities, and concerns of the community,” said Mayor Alan Casavant. “Your input will help build an inclusive, data-driven plan that will better connect our community to arts, cultural, and heritage assets. This work also nicely complements and will inform the city’s upcoming comprehensive plan.”

In April 2020, the Planning and Development Department applied for a grant from the Maine Arts Commission on behalf of the BCC to produce a cultural plan for the city. A grant in the amount of \$10,000 was awarded for this purpose. The group held three community forum meetings in early 2021 to assess interests in the development of arts and cultural activities. The results of these meetings helped shape the cultural plan surveys.

With help from Reinholt Consulting, the Biddeford Cultural Coalition and City of Biddeford are committed to creating a community-designed plan that will enhance the quality of life for residents as well as the creative economy. Input from citizens, artists, and organizations throughout this process is critical to the success of this effort. The data that will be collected through the surveys will be used to identify goals for the Biddeford Cultural Plan.

For more information or to request a paper copy of the survey, please contact [saskia@reinholtconsulting.com](mailto:saskia@reinholtconsulting.com) or call 207-218-2072.

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