

[HB 6119, AAC Arts, Culture, and Tourism Funding.](#)

FEBRUARY 10, 2021

I am the President of the Connecticut River Artisans Co-op in Essex, CT.

We are a group of Connecticut artists who work together and run a brick and mortar shop. We focus on bringing locally-made art to the community and to raise awareness of the art and culture sector in the state of Connecticut.

The Covid pandemic has seriously impacted our ability promote the arts. We were closed for three months and business is still affected adversely by the current situation. As soon as it is safe to do so, we will resume our "Artisan of the Month" events, at which a particular member is featured. These events are advertised via print and electronic media and, in normal times, attract an excellent attendance.

We are a registered "not for profit" business and operate on a shoestring budget. Arts funding from the State of Connecticut would certainly be welcome and would help us to continue to bring art and culture to the community.

Barb Richard, President

Connecticut River Artisans Co-op