SLC Arts is a nonprofit organization that strives to provide Local Art for Everyone. The organization started in 1972 as the Arts and Humanities Council of the St. Lawrence Valley, reincorporated in 1989 as the Tri-County Arts Council and amended in 1999 to the St. Lawrence County Arts Council. Over our nearly 50 year history, we have continued to strive to make the arts a pillar of our North Country community.

SLC Arts’ mission is to enrich the vibrancy of the North Country by cultivating art appreciation and inspiring creative expression. In an effort to enrich the lives of the people who live here while encouraging economic development and tourism, SLC Arts brings the arts to the community and supports entrepreneurs in the arts field. Our multifaceted programs bring our region together, attract new people to the area, and assist local artists working across all arts disciplines.

Our office is located in Potsdam, NY, and we primarily serve St. Lawrence County by offering exhibits, classes, performances, and publications, and organizing community festivals and cultural events. SLC Arts is the chosen NYSCA State & Local Partnerships Decentralization Regrant Partner for St. Lawrence, Jefferson and Lewis Counties, distributing over $60,000 in state funds for public art projects, and teaching or community arts programming and offering consulting support to artists and community organizers.

SLC Arts is governed by an Executive Director and a Board of Directors who bring their diverse perspectives together each month to analyze finances, strategize about programs, and provide overall accountability for the organization. SLC Arts is funded by public and private contributions and supported by in-kind donations and volunteers from our community. We have one full-time director and five part-time employees, and we hope to increase our staffing levels in the coming year to improve our capacity to create engaging programs and effective outreach.

Our vision is to grow SLC Arts as a community arts resource, bringing the arts to the community to enjoy and appreciate. We know that all forms of art can become a community engagement and economic development catalyst, having the full potential to transform the North Country region into a collection of vibrant and attractive communities. We will do this by creating an arts center, fall arts festival across the entire county, and engage in advocacy work across the county.