

Finland

The artist's place in society

"An essential feature distinguishing the artists from other employees is double or multiple job-holding. Consequently, in the eyes of the authorities, artists are often only 'potential' artists, and in official employment statistics or census data they are often registered according to their second job, i. e. as secretaries, taxi drivers etc. Also according to the register of the National Board of Taxation, a considerable number of artists receive most of their income from a profession other than their artistic profession. Some of the most common secondary occupations are teacher, journalist and critic. There are also many, especially young, artists in an occupation having nothing to do with artistic work. These persons can be defined as artists in terms of training, membership of artist organizations, and/or production. "

In 2000, 37% of Finnish artists worked only in their artistic occupation. Same year 10% of artists did not work at all in the arts. (Heikkinen & Karhunen 28/1997)

53 % of artists need to resort to another forms of gainful employment, mostly in the fields criticism, teaching, journalism etc.

INSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

International instruments in the field of culture ratified by Finland

Finland has ratified several international instruments concerning directly or indirectly the field of culture. The following list is not exhaustive one, containing mainly such instruments that can be considered to have a direct link to the field of culture.

1. European Cultural Convention
2. Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property
3. Unidroit Convention on Stolen or Illegally Expored Cultural Objects
4. The World Heritage Convention
5. The Hague Convention
6. Convention concerning the International Exchange of Publications
7. Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization
8. Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works
9. The European Convention on Cinematographic Co-production
10. Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks and Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks
11. Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks
12. International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations
13. Locarno Agreement Establishing an International Classification for Industrial Designs
14. Patent Cooperation Treaty

15. Strasbourg Agreement Concerning the International Patent Classification
16. Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of Their Phonograms
17. Agreement of the Nordic cultural, educational and research cooperation
18. Agreement of the Nordic Cultural Fund
19. Agreement between Finland, Norway and Sweden concerning a joint exhibition building at Venice Biennial.

In addition, Finland has contracted bilateral Cultural Agreements with 33 countries, including bilateral Programme for Cultural Exchange and Co-operation, based on the Agreement. A mere Programme for Cultural Exchange and Cooperation or Memorandum of Understanding exists with six countries. A Cultural Fund exists between Finland and the four Nordic countries, as well as between Finland and the United States of America.

Governmental units in charge of:

a) Cultural affairs

Ministry of Education, Arts Council of Finland, (incl. National art-form councils and Regional Arts Councils)

b) Cultural policy-making

Ministry of Education, Arts Council of Finland, (incl. National art-form councils and Regional Arts Councils)

c) Working conditions of artists including disabled artists

Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Labour unions

d) Continuing training of artists and cultural workers

Vocational Schools, Polytechnics, Universities, retraining courses of Ministry of Labour, summer courses, open university courses

e) Cultural research

Universities, Research Institutes & networks

f) Tax policies and taxation in the field of culture

Ministry of Finance, National board of taxation

Cultural policies

Percentage (average) of the national budget allocated to culture

Average: 0,20% of Gross National Income (GNI).

The share of arts and culture from the total state expenditure (€40,5 mrd in 2007) is 1 %.

In regard to statistics (1990: 0, 30 % of GNI, 1995: 0, 25 % of GNI), this percentage reflects a falling trend.

The share of arts and culture from the total state expenditure. Trend is slightly growing.

	%
2001	0,82
2002	0,86
2003	0,88
2004	0,90
2005	0,92
2006	0,91
2007	0,97

Source: Facts and Figures – publications (2000 – 2008)

www.artscouncil.fi

Policies aimed at promoting the arts

The main body concerning the promotion of the arts is the Arts Council of Finland (ACF). ACF carries out the arts promotion by distributing the appropriations for art and artists according to the law and statute and the state budget. Moreover, the ACF follows and carries out the art policy programmes of the government (Ministry of Education). The Central Arts Council and the National Art Councils together constitute the Arts Council of Finland. The Central Arts Council is an expert body subordinate to the Ministry of Education. It is composed of the chairpersons of the nine National Art Councils and six other members appointed by the Government.

The Government appoints the members of the Central Arts Council for three-year terms.

The Central Arts Council:

- allocates annually grants and prizes,
 - nominates artist professors,
 - makes proposals for the bestowal of the honorary title of academician in the arts field,
 - makes proposals on supplementary artist pensions,
 - makes proposals on financial support of cultural events,
 - takes initiatives, makes proposals and devises plans for art promotion issues
- statements in matters concerning the arts to the Ministry of Education and other state authorities,
- develops the cooperation between different art sectors and acts as liaison between the Central Arts Council, the Regional Arts Councils and the Ministry of Education,
 - annually prepares a proposal for art promotion appropriations to be included in the state budget based on the proposals of the National Art Councils,
 - promotes awareness of Finnish art abroad and international interaction in the field,
 - furthers research and publication in the arts

Support schemes for artists

• Grants/subsidies/aid for promoting the arts

- Working grants for 6 months up to 5 years
- Public lending right grants for writers & translators
- Public lending right grants for illustrators and comic artists
- Public display grants for visual artists
- Public lending right grants for musicians & composers
- Posts of Artist professors (eight posts for five year period)
- State Prizes

• Support for projects carried out by individuals and/or collective bodies

- Artists-in-Residence Grants for individuals and collective bodies
- Project grants for individuals and collective bodies
- Special and operational subsidies for projects of collective bodies
- Quality support for film productions
- Project grants and special subsidies for children's culture
- Support for drama literature
- Travel grants for individuals

Academicians of Art (honorary title, granted by the President of the Republic according to the proposal of the Central Arts Council)

Promotion of creativity and the status of the artist

The Research Unit of the ACF publishes research and statistics on culture and art policy in order to produce information and indicators to be used by decision makers. Research and statistics include development, trends and scope of grants/subsidies/aid for the arts and social position of artist. For more information see "Publications" section in: www.artscouncil.fi

Existing structures enabling artists to be involved in cultural policy-making at local and national levels

Participation of artists in cultural policy-making at local and national levels is ensured by the Arts Council of Finland and the Regional Arts Councils.

Cultural policies provide for the allocation of a portion of public funds for art work.

Allocation of public funds for artwork

Certain artistic institutions (educational institutions, libraries, theatres, orchestras) get part of their funding from the state. Funding is based on Act on Central Government Transfers to Local Government 1147/1996; Act on financing of Education and culture (63511998); Act on basic Education of the Arts (63311998); Act on Libraries (23511986); Act on Cultural Activity in communities (72811992); Act on Theatres and Orchestras (73011992).

Cultural policies contemplate also the organization of art events locally, regionally or nationally and the establishment of funds for the arts.

Measures to improve cultural infrastructures (museums, concert or theatre halls, libraries, etc.)

The Act on Central Government Transfers to Local Government 1147/1996 includes governmental transfers to local/regional cultural institutions.

Measures promoting the integration of disabled artists

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and the Ministry of Labour are responsible for integrating disabled persons to working life. There are no special aims concerning specifically disabled artists.

Legal framework

Laws and regulations governing the work of artists

a) Employment and working conditions:

The same regulations as govern the work of other citizens:

- Employment Contracts Act (55/2001),
- Act on Confirmation of the General Applicability of Collective Agreements (56/2001)
- Working Hours Act (605/1996)
- Annual Holidays Act (272/1973 Posted Workers Act (1146/1999)
- Act on the Protection of Privacy in Working Life (477/2001)
- Young Workers' Act (998/1993)
- Study Leave Act (273/1979)

- Act on Job Alternation Leave (1305/2002)
- Act on the Continuation of the Employment and Civil Service, Contracts of Persons liable for Military Service called to Service (570/1961)
- Act on the Employment of Household Workers (951/1977)
- Pay Security Act (866/1998)
- Collective Agreements Act (436/1946)
- Act on Mediation in Labour Disputes (420/1962)
- Act on The Labour Court (646/1974)
- Occupational Health Care Act (1383/2001)
- Act on the Supervision of Occupational Safety and Health and Appeal in Occupational Safety and Health Matters (131/1973)

b) Social welfare (health insurance, occupational accidents, disability, unemployment and pensions)

The same regulations as govern the work of other citizens.

- Occupational Health Care Act (1383/2001)
- Act on the Supervision of Occupational Safety and Health and Appeal in Occupational Safety and Health Matters (131/1973)
- Unemployment security act (1290/2002)
- Primary Health Care Act (1972/66)
- Health Insurance Act (1963/364)
- Act on Special Health Care (1989/1062)
- Mental Health Act (1990/1116)
- Social Welfare Act (1982/710) and the Social Welfare decree (1983/607)
- Act (1992/734) and decree (1992/912) on Fees in Social And Health Care
- Decree on Support for Informal Care (1993/3?18)
- Family Care Act (1992/312)
- Act (1987/380) and decree (1987/759) on Services and Assistance for the Disabled
- Act on Planning and State Grants of Social and Health Care (1992/733)
- Act (1996/603) and decree (1996/1208) on Monitoring the Private Social Services
- Act on Private Health Care (1990/152)
- Act on Professionals in Health Care (1994/559).
- Act on the Status and Rights of Patients (1992/785)
- Act on pensions of artists and special groups (TaEL)
- Government decision on State Pensions for Artists

A special legislation concerning artists (and academics) who have received a grant for at least a four months work is expected to come into effect from 1.1.2009. After that, a grant which meets the above mentioned criterion includes statutory insurance charges (employment pension, health insurance) which the insured person is obliged to pay. The new legislation gives entitlement to a pension, benefits in case of accident at work and benefits under Health Insurance Act (sickness allowance, maternity and paternity allowance based on income).

c) Training

- Higher Education Development Act (1052/86)
- Act on University for Arts and Design (52/73)
- Act on Sibelius Academy (1068/79)
- Act on Academy of Fine Arts (175/85)
- Act on Theatre Academy (87/79)

- Act on Basic Education in the Arts (424/92, amend. 732/92)
- Decree on Schools for Craft and Design Studies (495/87, amend. 155/91)
- Decree on Schools for Visual Arts and Media Studies (147/89, amend. 154/91)
- Act on Music Schools and Conservatoires (732/92)
- Universities Act

WORKING CONDITIONS

Work permit or “professional” status

In Finland, the work permit does not exist, nor professional status for artists in general. Being artist is based on personal own announcement and working/earning income from an artistic profession.

Health care system

There is a public health care system based on residence in Finland. In addition, the Health Insurance Act provides compensations for the cost of private health services and for the cost of medicines prescribed by a doctor.

Private healthcare systems

There are private health insurances and artists have access to them.

Administrative inspections

Administrative inspections of working conditions are established in the Act on the Protection of Privacy in Working Life (477/2001); the Occupational Health Care Act (1383/2001); the Act on the Supervision of Occupational Safety and Health; and the Appeal in Occupational Safety and Health Matters (131/1973); Cooperation on Occupational Safety and Health at Workplaces (44/2006).

Inspections are made to control that employers and other parties concerned comply with the obligations imposed on them in legislation, e.g. as regards occupational safety. The regular inspection looks into:

- working time accounting and overtime, annual leave accounting
- matters relating to occupational health care
- accidents at work, sick leaves and occupational diseases
- statutory administrative duties (survey of risks, industrial safety action programme)
- administrative procedures relating to safety
- matters specifically relating to the workplace inspected, such as staff facilities, structures in the work environment, physical and other harm factors, safety of tools and equipment, first aid, work loads and ventilation)
- other matters raised by the workplace representatives.

Governmental bodies in charge of labour inspections

The Occupational Safety and Health Inspectorates are responsible for administrative inspections.

Penalties

If the provisions of occupational legislation or the criminal code are violated and the matter comes before a court, the common penalty is a fine.

If the occupational protection authorities find shortcomings, the employer is instructed or cautioned to rectify the situation. Where necessary, the authorities may issue a decision obligating the employer to take action.

Dangerous work can also be suspended or terminated.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Insurance schemes

In regard to insurance schemes, artists are treated as other wage earners/entrepreneurs. The state social security system (administered by the Social Insurance Institution of Finland) covers cases of illness, maternity, disability and retirement.

If an artist have a status of a wage-earner or an entrepreneur he/she is covered under the Earnings-Related Pension Scheme, Unemployment Insurance Scheme and the Insurance Scheme covering Accidents at work and Occupational diseases.

The artists' supplementary pension system is directed to artists over 60 years. The pension is awarded by application and it is a taxable income. The full pension is €1 199 (in 2008) and it can be granted also as a half pension depending on applicants' other income.

The pension is granted by the Ministry of Education by the proposition of Central Arts Council. The total number of artists receiving supplementary pension is well over 1 000 (in 2007).

The social coverage is compulsory, except the Insurance Scheme for Accidents at work for entrepreneurs.

Complementary insurance schemes

In addition to insurance offered by the social security system, artists, like other wage earners/entrepreneurs, can have private personal insurances. There is also a system of artist pensions of state. 35 artist pensions are awarded annually by application. For artists in theatres, there is a Stage people's Aging Security Foundation (Näyttämöväen vanhuudenturvasäätiö).

From 1 January 2009, artists who have received working grants are entitled to social security based on their income.

Administration of contributions

Social Insurance Institution of Finland administers the payment of benefits provided by the residence-based social security system. Private pension institutions administer the payment of the earnings-related pensions and benefits paid for work accidents and occupational diseases.

Private insurance companies administer payments of private insurance benefits.

REMUNERATION

The minimum level of payment

In relation to payments, artists are treated as other wage earners. In Finland there is no law for minimum wage but minimum wage exists in practice based on minimum wage recommendations given by labour unions and unemployment compensations.

From 1 January 2008 onwards, a calculated minimum wage is €980,40 per month, €45,60 per day or €5,70 per hour.

Artists are paid directly by employer in cases they work as employees.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment insurance scheme

Concerning unemployment benefits, artists have the same rights as other citizens. The artist has right to unemployment benefits when he/she has the status of a wage-earner, as e. g. in the case of performing artists who have a permanent engagement, or designers who work as employees in the field of industry. There are different kinds of payments depending on whether a person is entitled for an earnings-related benefit or not. Self-employed artists cannot always register for unemployment benefits. When a freelancer or a self-employed artist is classified by the authorities as an entrepreneur, he/she does not have the right to unemployment benefits.

Since this has caused problems during the years, new guidelines on the artists' right to unemployment benefits have recently been adopted (April 2008).

Benefits paid in respect of unemployment include:

- training subsidy for persons whose employment office has directed them to a labour market retraining course
- training allowance
- unemployment allowance (basic or earnings-related) for persons who on becoming unemployed meet the condition regarding previous employment (see below)
- labour market subsidy for persons who do not qualify for unemployment allowance
- unemployment pension for the long-term unemployed aged 60 or over
- pension assistance for long-term unemployed born in 1941-1947

In order to qualify for unemployment allowance, unemployed persons must satisfy a condition relating to the length of their previous employment. After a specified waiting period, unemployed persons who meet this condition can get unemployment allowance in the form of either a basic allowance (from Social Insurance Institution) or an earnings-related allowance (from an unemployment fund). Unemployed persons who do not satisfy the employment condition or have received unemployment allowance for the maximum period can get labour market subsidy from Social Insurance Institution.

Administration of the unemployment insurance scheme

Unemployment security is usually administered by the trade unions and/or by public authorities. The Federation of Special Service and Clerical Employees ERTO and the Performing Artists Unemployment Fund administer majority of unemployment funds for Finnish artists.

Unemployment benefits are paid by the Social Insurance Institution or by an unemployment insurance fund.

ILLEGAL WORK

Scale of illegal work

It is impossible to make estimations on work that is not documented.

Control and sanctions

Penalties are provided for illegal work by law are additional tax and fines.
Taxable income and working places can be checked.

TAX STATUS AND TAX ADVANTAGES

Tax status

Artists do not enjoy a particular tax status, they are treated as other wage-earners/entrepreneurs. Exceptions to this are tax-free grants offered by foundations, municipalities and the state.

A grant allocated by a public corporate is tax-free. Grants allocated by private bodies are tax-free up to the sum of €15 850 which is the amount of state working grant for one year.

Royalties and tax system

To the artist himself/herself and to a person who has received the copyright as a present/donation, the income based on copyright is considered as earned income. If the copyright has been received as a legacy or bought/exchanged, it is considered as capital income.

Exemptions for temporary import duties on cultural products

Finnish and international copyright laws are applied.

Regional and interregional customs duties agreements for cultural products

The Value added tax (VAT) for cultural products sold for financial profit and services is 8%. Non-profit organizations do not pay VAT. An annual turnover less than €8500 is outside of VAT.

Provisions on inheritance tax

Copyright law is about inheritance of copyright, there is not a law on inheritance of materials objects.

INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY OF ARTISTS

Measures to promote the mobility of artists:

a) Recognition of foreign diplomas

Foreign diplomas are generally accepted as artistic profession in Finland is "free", i.e. diplomas are not demanded in order to be an artist.

b) Fellowships and financial aid to promote the mobility of artists

In Finland, there are the following financial aid and bodies aimed to promote de mobility of artists:

- Grants for mobility of Artists (ACF),

- Residence Grants (ACF),
- Art awards (ACF) Finnish Literature Information Center,
- FRAME - Finnish Fund for Art Exchange,
- Finnish Music Information Centre, Finnish Dance Information Centre,
- Finnish Theatre Information Centre.

c) Fellowships and financial aid to promote the mobility of works

- Grants for Art Exhibitions
- FRAME - Finnish Fund for Art Exchange.

COLLECTIVE REPRESENTATION

Trade union freedom

- Act on Confirmation of the General Applicability of Collective Agreements (56/2001)
- Collective Agreements Act (436/1946)
- Act on Mediation in Labour Disputes (420/1962)
- Act on The Labour Court (646/1974)

Main trade union prerogatives

Unions are consulted by the state before it adopts reforms that affect the working practices of artists.

CONTINUING TRAINING AND FINANCIAL AID

Vocational training for artists

In Finland, there are four art universities and five other (without architecture, two) universities, 23 polytechnics and 56 vocational schools giving vocational training in the arts.

This training is available to enable artists to update their skills.

Art universities:

- Sibelius-Academy
- Theatre Academy of Finland
- Academy of Fine Arts
- University of Art and Design Helsinki

Other universities:

- University of Lapland (faculty of arts)
- University of Tampere (department of actor education)
- Technical University (architecture)
- Technical University of Lappeenranta (architecture)
- Technical University of Tampere (architecture)

Schools and institutions providing continuing training

(a) visual arts:

- Universities:
- Academy of Fine Arts

University of Art and Design Helsinki
University of Lapland (faculty of arts)
- Polytechnics:
South Carelia Polytechnic
Lahti Polytechnic
North Carelia Polytechnic
Satakunta Polytechnic
Swedish Polytechnic
Tampere Polytechnic
Turku Polytechnic
- Vocational Colleges:
Education Centre of Western Uusimaa
Forssa Vocational College
Haapavesi Folk High School
Hyvinkää Art School
Ikaalinen College of Crafts and Design
Ingman College of Crafts and Design
Jyväskylä Vocational College
Kainuu Vocational College
Keuda Vocational College
Lappia Vocational College
Loimaa Vocational and Adult College
Luovi Vocational Institute
Lybecker Institute of Craft and Design
North Karelia Municipal Education and Training Consortium
Omnia - Vocational College
Oulu Vocational College
Piippola College of Crafts and Design
Pirkanmaa Vocational College
Porvoo Vocational School for Handicraft and Industrial Art
Practicum Vocational College
Riihimäki Vocational Institute
Salpaus Further Education Center
Satakunta Institute of Craft and Design
Savo Consortium for Education
Seinäjoki Education and Training Consortium
South Carelia Vocational College
South Savo Vocational College
Suupohja Vocational Institute
Swedish Vocational Institute
Tampere College
Vaasa Vocational Institute
Vantaa Vocational College
Ylä-Savo Vocational College
Ylivieska vocational Institute

(b) performing arts:

- Universities:
University of Tampere (department of acting)
Theatre Academy of Finland

- Polytechnics:
Central Ostrobothnia University of Applied Sciences
Metropolia University of Applied Sciences
Novia University of Applied Sciences
Turku University of Applied Sciences
- Vocational Colleges:
Salpaus Further Education Center

(c) film and audio-visual media;

- Universities:
University of Art and Design Helsinki
Arcada University of Applied Sciences
Diaconia University of Applied Sciences
Kemi-Tornio University of Applied Sciences
Kymenlaakso University of Applied Sciences
Lahti University of Applied Sciences
Metropolia University of Applied Sciences
North Carelia University of Applied Sciences
Novia University of Applied Sciences
Oulu University of Applied Sciences
Pirkanmaa University of Applied Sciences
Satakunta University of Applied Sciences
Savonia University of Applied Sciences
Tampere University of Applied Sciences
Turku University of Applied Sciences

- Vocational Colleges:
Forssa Vocational College
Haapavesi Folk High School
Ingman College of Crafts and Design
Jyväskylä Vocational College
Kainuu Vocational College
Keuda Vocational College
Lappia Vocational College
Loimaa Vocational and Adult College
Luovi Vocational Institute
Lybecker Institute of Craft and Design
North Karelia Municipal Education and Training Consortium
Omnia - Vocational College
Oulu Vocational College
Piippola College of Crafts and Design
Practicum Vocational College
Riihimäki Vocational Institute
Salpaus Further Education Center
Savo Consortium for Education
Seinäjäoki Education and Training Consortium
Suupohja Vocational Institute
Swedish Vocational Institute
Tampere College
Vaasa Vocational Institute

Ylivieska vocational Institute

(d) dance and choreography;

- Universities:

Theatre Academy of Finland

- Polytechnics:

Oulu Region Polytechnic

North Savonia Polytechnic

Oulu Conservatoire

Outokumpu Learning Center

Finnish National Opera Ballet School

Tampere Conservatoire

Turku Conservatoire

- Vocational Colleges:

Finnish National Opera Ballet School

North Karelia Municipal Education and Training Consortium

Oulu Conservatoire

Tampere Conservatoire

Turku Conservatoire

(e) literature:

Training has been organised mainly in separate courses (called e.g. creative writing). A Master's degree in writing is available at the University of Jyväskylä. Recently (2008) the University of Helsinki and one publishing house have established a common "school for authors".

(f) music:

- Universities:

Sibelius Academy

- Polytechnics:

Jyväskylä Polytechnic

Lahti Polytechnic

Oulu Region Polytechnic

Pirkanmaa Polytechnic

North Carelia Polytechnic

North Savonia Polytechnic

Stadia/Helsinki Polytechnic

Swedish Polytechnic

- Vocational Colleges:

Turku Polytechnic

Helsinki Conservatoire

Joensuu Conservatoire

Keski-Pohjanmaa Conservatoire

Kotka Vocational Education Center

Kuopio Conservatoire

West Lapland Vocational Institute

Orimattila Institute

Oulu Conservatoire

Palmgren Conservatoire

Pop & Jazz Conservatoire
Pâijât-Hâme Conservatoire
Finnish Conservatoire
Swedish Vocational Institute
Tampere Conservatoire
Turku Conservatoire

Training for artists in administration

Producer/manager training and arts management are included in universities and polytechnics, art management courses are also included in curricula of art education. Educational institutions and schools in arts have courses where professional of arts, representatives of artists' unions and administrative & business professionals give information on taxation, scholarships, starting an own enterprise etc.

Retraining

The Ministry of Labour is responsible for organizing the retraining policies for artists and other working force. Continuation studies are offered by several institutions in arts as well as in other professions. Especially in case of dancers suggestions have been made for a more effective system of retraining.

The Ministry of Labour arranges retraining courses for special groups that are in need of retraining. Continuation studies are offered by several institutions in arts, as well as in other professions.

Fellowships for training

State grants and financial aids for artistic training are the same as in other fields of training and education: State study grants; Adult Study Aid; grants for continuation studies administered by foundations.

Research aid schemes

Research aid schemes are available in Academy of Finland, Foundations and Universities.

Promotion of copyright and neighbouring rights

Courses, lectures, publications by artists' organizations and government administration are usually implemented to promote copyright and related rights.

ORGANIZATIONS

(a) Governmental organizations working in the cultural sector:

- National Board of Antiquities
- Finnish Film Archive
- Finnish National Gallery
- Finnish Board of Film Classification

(b) Ministries, councils and other government bodies in charge of culture:

- Ministry of Education, Arts Council of Finland

- Government authorities responsible for the social integration of disabled artists within the cultural sector
- Ministry of Social and Health Affairs

REGISTER OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL PROFESSIONALS

- The Arts Council of Finland has a register including all artists who have applied scholarship administered by Arts Council. This register is for official use only.
- Artists' unions have their own registers of their members. Majority of the unions have a web site.

- The following organizations can give further information on artists in Finland :
 - Artists´ Association of Finland (<http://www.artists.fi/>)
 - Association of Finnish Sculptors (<http://www.artists.fi/sculptors/>)
 - The Society of Finnish Graphic Artists (http://www.artists.fi/english/liitot_frame.html)
 - Finnish Painters´ Union (<http://www.artists.fi/painters/>)
 - Union of Artist Photographers (<http://www.artists.fi/vtl/photo.html>)
 - Artist Association MUU (<http://www.muu.fi/>)
 - Finnish Musicians´ Union (<http://www.musicfinland.com/sml/>)
 - Finnish Actors´ Union (<http://www.nayttelijaliitto.fi/>)
 - Union of Finnish Dance Artists (<http://www.teme.fi/sttl/>)
 - Finnish Association of Designers Ornamo (<http://www.ornamo.fi/>)
 - Association of Finnish Film Directors (SELO) (<http://www.selo.fi/english>)
 - The Union of Finnish Writers (http://www.suomenkirjailijaliitto.fi/index_eng.asp)
 - Finnish Association of Architects, SAFA (<http://www.safa.fi/>)
 - Theatre and Media Employees in Finland (TeMe) (<http://www.teme.fi/summary.htm>)
 - Association of Finnish Theatres (http://www.teatteriliitto.fi/index_eng.htm)

Source: Ministry of Education of Finland, 2008.