

Riverside Arts Center

Executive Director / CEO

EIN 363921894

IL · NTEE A400

FY ending 2023-12-31

June 9, 2026

This analysis benchmarks the total compensation of **Elizabeth Chilsen, Executive Director / CEO** (\$31,706) against **every comparable organization** that fit the selection criteria — **42** in total — drawn systematically from IRS Form 990 filings, not a hand-picked subset.

Compensation sits at approximately the **40th** percentile of comparable organizations within the typical range

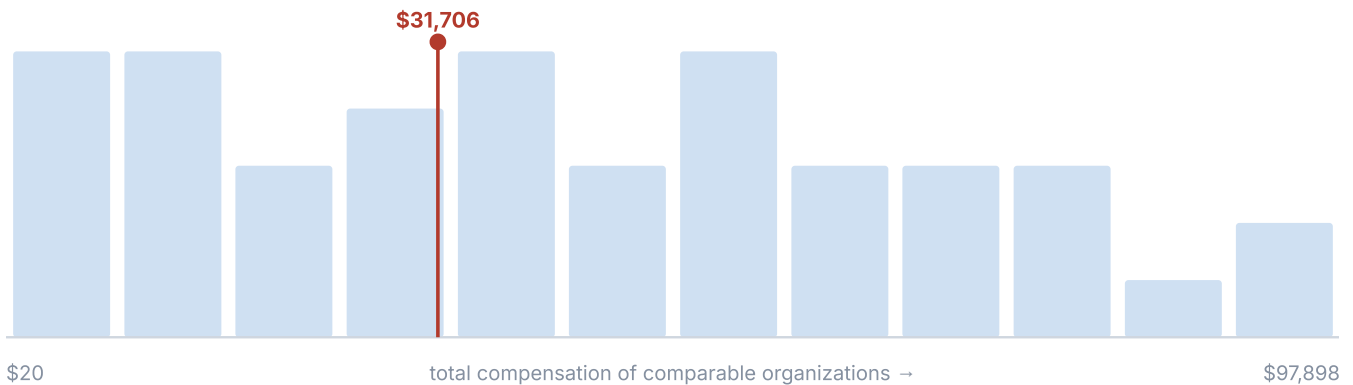
Benchmarked executive: Elizabeth Chilsen — reported title “Frmr Exec Dir”, a **direct title match** to the Executive Director / CEO role.

How comparable organizations were selected

SECTOR	Organizations sharing the subject's NTEE classification (A400).
BUDGET	Total revenue between \$125,019 and \$279,894 — 0.67x to 1.50x the subject's \$186,596 (the band tightens as size grows).
GEOGRAPHY	Same NTEE sector (A40), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5x revenue.

42 organizations qualified on sector, size, and geography → **42** within the band form the benchmarked peer set.

Distribution of comparable compensation



\$6,060	\$19,033	\$34,710	\$58,930	\$75,447	\$31,706
---------	----------	----------	----------	----------	-----------------



● Comparable organizations

Each figure is Form 990 Part VII columns D + F (reportable pay plus other compensation and benefits; column F may include amounts from related organizations), normalized to IL cost of living (BEA RPP, 2023) and to its filing year (CPI-U); the reported amount is on each linked 990.

ORGANIZATION	STATE	REVENUE	MATCHED TITLE	COMP (REPORTED)	COMP (ADJUSTED)	FY
Espanola Valley Fiber Arts Center	NM	\$186,150	Retail Manag	\$44,386	\$47,167	2024
Indy Convergence Inc	IN	\$187,607	Managing Director	\$12,445	\$13,349	2023
Wartists Inc	VA	\$189,850	President	\$29,000	\$27,665	2024
Village Art Club Inc	AR	\$182,528	Director, Gallery Facilita	\$2,106	\$2,339	2024
Seattle Architectural Foundation	WA	\$176,098	Executive Director	\$78,875	\$69,769	2024
Studio Gallery Association Inc	DC	\$174,671	Executive Director	\$33,666	\$29,188	2024
Yeiser Art Center Inc	KY	\$198,758	Exec Director	\$42,921	\$46,905	2023
Hutchinson Art Association Inc	KS	\$173,110	Executive Director	\$31,431	\$32,683	2025
Japanese Embroidery Center Inc	GA	\$201,901	Bd Of Directors	\$59,629	\$59,236	2024
Public Trust	PA	\$169,980	Executive Director And Ex Officio	\$25,000	\$24,632	2024
Project Snap	MI	\$205,925	Ceo	\$95,784	\$97,678	2024
Carmel Gallery Alliance	CA	\$165,024	Chief Executive Officer	\$15,932	\$13,592	2024
The Society Of Arts And Crafts	MA	\$163,371	Executive Di	\$95,762	\$82,828	2025
Nature's Best Photography Fund Inc	VA	\$213,600	Director / President	\$10,984	\$10,478	2024

ORGANIZATION	STATE	REVENUE	MATCHED TITLE	COMP (REPORTED)	COMP (ADJUSTED)	FY
Photo Art & Science Foundation	MO	\$158,544	Executive Director	\$52,500	\$56,560	2023
Ten Thousand Villages	NE	\$215,115	Executive Di	\$52,000	\$56,889	2023
Frontline Arts	NJ	\$218,346	Fmr Ex Director	\$62,423	\$55,064	2024
Artlink Inc	IN	\$219,091	Executive Dir.	\$61,908	\$64,502	2024
Waterworks Art Museum	MT	\$152,803	Executive Di	\$31,091	\$34,090	2023
The Heidelberg Project	MI	\$151,440	Executive Di	\$96,000	\$97,898	2024
Filter Photo Nfp	IL	\$224,054	Executive Director	\$35,338	\$34,324	2024
Gallery Route One	CA	\$224,306	Executive Dir.	\$40,174	\$34,273	2024
Martha's Vineyard Art Association	MA	\$225,167	Gallery Dire	\$15,335	\$14,017	2023
The Sculpture Center	OH	\$226,726	Executive Di	\$66,626	\$71,779	2023
Dane Arts Mural Arts Inc	WI	\$143,946	Executive Director	\$61,526	\$65,359	2023

Comp (reported) is the figure on each organization's Form 990 (columns D + F); **Comp (adjusted)** normalizes it to IL cost of living and 2023 dollars. Click any organization to verify the figure on ProPublica.

Methodology

Comparable organizations were drawn from electronically filed IRS Form 990 returns and matched on sector (NTEE code), budget (a size-adaptive revenue band that tightens as the organization grows), and geography (same-state first, broadening only when too few peers qualify); every organization within the band forms the peer set. To compare fairly across regions and years, peer compensation is normalized to IL cost of living (BEA Regional Price Parities, 2023) and to the subject's filing year (CPI-U). The figure benchmarked is Form 990 Part VII, Section A, columns D + F — reportable pay plus other compensation, benefits, and deferred amounts (column F may include amounts from related organizations) — with the chief executive matched by role. Related-organization amounts (column E) and institutional trustees are excluded. Full methodology: peerbasis.org/methodology.

Sample, role match & sensitivity

PEER COUNT	42 organizations. Compensation range \$20–\$97,898; filing years 2023–2025.
SIZE BASIS	Matched on total revenue (\$186,596); for reference, expenses \$161,122 and assets \$441,001.
ROLE MATCH	Elizabeth Chilsen, reported title <i>"Fmr Exec Dir"</i> , benchmarked as Executive Director / CEO. The title maps directly to this role.

RELATED-ORG PAY 1 peer report related-organization compensation (column E), which the D + F benchmark does not fully capture; review where material.

Sensitivity — the subject's percentile under alternative compensation definitions:

BASIS	SUBJECT PERCENTILE
Total compensation (D + F), cost-of-living + inflation adjusted — the PeerBasis default	40 th
Total compensation (D + F), as reported (no adjustments)	43 rd
Reportable pay only (column D), adjusted	40 th
All sources (D + E + F), adjusted	38 th

If the percentile moves materially across these definitions, the result is sensitive to methodology choices, and the board should weigh which basis best fits its facts.

● Rebuttable presumption of reasonableness • 26 CFR 53.4958-6

Compensation paid by a tax-exempt organization is presumed reasonable — shifting the burden to the IRS — when three requirements are met. This report supplies the comparability data for the second. The board should record the following in its minutes *concurrently* with its decision:

Draft board minutes – executive compensation

1. The compensation of the Executive Director / CEO (Elizabeth Chilsen) was approved in advance by [the Board / Compensation Committee], composed of members with no conflict of interest with respect to the arrangement.
2. Prior to its determination, the authorized body obtained and relied upon appropriate comparability data, namely the PeerBasis Compensation Comparability Determination dated June 9, 2026, comparing compensation against 42 similarly situated organizations (Same NTEE sector (A40), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5× revenue).
3. The authorized body determined that total compensation of \$31,706 is reasonable (approximately the 40th percentile of comparable organizations) and documented the basis for this determination concurrently, on [date], by a vote of [__ for / __ against].

Sources: IRS Form 990 e-file data (apps.irs.gov); IRS Business Master File (NTEE classification). Every figure traces to an original public filing — click any organization above to verify it on ProPublica. PeerBasis is a service of Prismind Analytics; its [methodology is published](#), was commissioned for independent adversarial review, and discloses its own limitations. This report is comparability data to support a board's good-faith determination under IRC 4958; it is not legal or tax advice. Generated by PeerBasis on June 9, 2026.