



Analysis: World absorbs historic wartime oil disruptions

BUSINESS, 3A



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Program gives struggling artists \$1,000 a month



A few commissions, contracts, sales or cancellations can dramatically change what artists earn in a given year.

GETTY IMAGES

The result: freedom and time to focus on their art

Joanna Woronkowicz
Indiana University
and Doug Noonan
Indiana University Indianapolis
THE CONVERSATION

Though artificial intelligence is making it easier than ever to produce images, music and text, the technology is also making it harder for the people who have traditionally produced this work to earn a living.

A photographer who once was commissioned to make art for an advertising campaign is now competing with graphics produced by the AI image generator Midjourney. A novelist who used to make money on the side as a technical writer is seeing that work be replaced by a series of prompts in ChatGPT.

The extent to which AI will upend creative work remains unsettled. But that uncertainty has made guaranteeing income for creatives a more viable policy idea.

In fact, creatives in New York recently participated in the largest basic income program for artists in U.S. history,

The program selected artists through a weighted lottery. It adopted an expansive definition of “artist.” Anyone engaged in artistic, cultural or community-centered creative practices – such as musicians, storytellers or muralists – was eligible to apply.

the Guaranteed Income for Artists initiative.

Spearheaded by Creatives Rebuild New York and primarily funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the program gave 2,400 artists across New York state \$1,000 a month beginning in June 2022. There were no work requirements and no restrictions on how the money could be spent. The program sought to improve the financial stability of artists and encourage the public to

see them as workers who deserve a stable income and social support.

As researchers who study artists, cultural work and public policy, we evaluated this program to see whether it achieved its stated goals. Our main finding was simple: Artists did not stop working. Instead, they changed the kind of work they did.

Cash buys time

Artists often make choices that look strange in standard economic models, which typically assume workers will prioritize higher wages while balancing work against leisure time.

Artists, on the other hand, may stay in poorly paid, unstable arts work, even when other work pays more. Economists have long described this as a “work-preference” model. Put plainly, they argue that artists get value from the work itself, not just from the paycheck.

The guaranteed-income program, which was geared toward low-income artists, offered a rare chance to see how a financial cushion would influence the kind of work they focused on,

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High court: Law allows marijuana use while on probation

Arpan Lobo
Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

State trial courts in Michigan can no longer ban marijuana use as a condition of probation, under a unanimous opinion released by the Michigan Supreme Court on Monday, July 6.

In *People v. Hess*, the court’s seven justices found that lower courts erroneously cited federal marijuana laws when deciding whether it was legal to ban marijuana use while on probation. Recreational marijuana has been legal in Michigan for those 21 and older since 2018. The state also allows medical marijuana for qualifying patients.

In a unanimous opinion for the court, Justice Elizabeth Welch cited the 2014 case *Ter Beek v. City of Wyoming*, when the high court ruled the state’s medical marijuana laws at the time preempted a federal ban on marijuana use. (In that case Wyoming, a suburb of Grand Rapids, had argued John Ter Beek, a resident, shouldn’t have been able to grow marijuana plants for medical use on his property in the city because federal law banned marijuana use. When the case made its way to the Michigan Supreme Court, justices ruled the state’s medical marijuana law preempted the federal Controlled Substances Act, and the city could not cite it as a reason to ban Ter Beek from growing the plants.)

Because the Supreme Court already ruled Michigan’s medical marijuana

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War Memorial project meets campaign goal

Jillian Fellows
Sault Ste. Marie News
USA TODAY NETWORK

A fundraising campaign to revitalize the outdoor War Memorial at MyMichigan Medical Center Sault has been completed.

According to the MyMichigan Health Foundation, donors, community supporters and the Auxiliary of MyMichi-

gan Medical Center Sault have successfully raised more than \$15,000 for the reconstruction of the memorial gazebo and landscaping enhancements. Officials said the project is intended to preserve “an important piece of local history while creating a renewed space for reflection and remembrance.”

The memorial was originally dedicated to soldiers who served during the Civil War, Spanish-American War and

World War I. The gazebo also houses a monument to local soldiers who served in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Gulf War.

“This memorial represents far more than a physical structure — it is a tribute to the courage, sacrifice and service of the men and women who defended our country,” said Kevin Kalchik, presi-

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