



Just how old *are* you?

This chart shows the age of buildings that house cultural organizations. While there are spikes that mirror major local building cycles (early '60s boom for the World's Fair, 2000's boom for skyrocketing urban property values), what we really see is an incredibly dense concentration of cultural organizations in buildings constructed between 1900 and 1929. It suggests that on average, the buildings arts & culture inhabit are coming to the end of their projected lifespans. It also suggests that occupancy and maintenance costs could rise significantly for these organizations. Finally, it seems to be confirmation of the anecdotal belief that the arts are drawn to these older, funkier, structures with more character, more history, more culture. (Also, they tend to be cheaper.)