

National Endowment for the Arts—FY 2022 Support of Arts Research

The National Endowment for the Arts is the federal agency of record for arts-related research. The agency's [Office of Research & Analysis](#) (ORA) conducts and supports studies about the arts sector and the value and impact of the arts in our lives. ORA supports research undertaken by other organizations through two funding programs, [Research Grants in the Arts](#) and [NEA Research Labs](#). This grant announcement includes new awards made through both of those programs.

Research Grants in the Arts

This program supports research that examines the impact of the arts as components of, or through interactions with, other domains of American life. In this funding round, the Arts Endowment will award **\$815,000 through 18 grants**.

A theme that emerged in this round of research awards is the **resilience of artists**. Examples are:

- At Ohio State University, researchers will seek to better understand how different challenges and opportunities were addressed by artists, including those of color, who were at risk of ending their careers because of COVID-19.
- Researchers at Providence College in Rhode Island will partner with creative incubator AS220 and the city's Department of Arts, Culture + Tourism to explore the shifting roles of artists and community leaders during the pandemic using photography and stories.

Other projects delve into the arts' ability to improve the **resilience of communities** through social and civic connectedness.

- Researchers at Tufts University, School of Medicine in Boston will partner with the Asian Community Development Corporation to determine how public art may influence the levels of cultural identity and social cohesion experienced by residents.
- Salt Lake City-based organization Spy Hop will evaluate whether storytelling through self-produced podcasts can benefit incarcerated youth and improve attitudes and perceptions among staff who work with these youth in juvenile justice settings.

NEA Research Labs

This program funds transdisciplinary research partnerships, grounded in the social and behavioral sciences, that examine and report on the benefit of the arts in non-arts sectors such as healthcare, education, and business or management. Recipients are institutions of higher education or nonprofit research and policy organizations that constitute an informal network of arts researchers across the country. This announcement includes **\$648,784 awarded for five labs**.

Two of the labs focus on **community engagement** throughout the research process.

- Working with teenagers from underserved backgrounds, University of Minnesota scientists, artists, and designers will track neurocognitive and learning-related outcomes from an arts education program seeking to foster student creativity.

- Researchers at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor will work with community partner organizations in Detroit to learn whether co-created public arts projects can reduce firearm violence among youth in these neighborhoods.

More information about the FY 2022 Research Grants in the Arts and NEA Research Labs can be found [here](#) or by using the NEA's [Recent Grant Search tool](#).