



Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Performance Report

February 2023

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INTRODUCTION

In March 2022, the National Endowment for the Arts published its Strategic Plan for FY 2022-2026. Because of the timing of this release—which coincided with the President’s FY 2023 budget submission to Congress—the NEA was obliged to wait until FY 2023 to revise its grant guidelines so that they would align with performance measures established under the new plan. Accordingly, the agency’s grant programs and associated data-collection forms remained in place through FY 2022.

For this reason, the present document—namely, the NEA’s FY 2022 Annual Performance Report (APR)—supports only the agency’s previous Strategic Plan, covering FY 2018-2022. Over the past few months, meanwhile, the NEA has released new grant guidelines and data-collection forms, corresponding with the agency’s new Strategic Plan and Annual Performance Plan (APP). Pursuant to these changes, the FY 2023 APR will represent the first year of reporting under both new plans. Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Strategic Plan for 2018-2022. Although the NEA Strategic Plan for FY 2022-2026 superseded the older plan during the past year, the agency’s grant guidelines could not be realigned to the new strategic plan until FY 2023. That is, grant programs and associated data collection forms administered under the older strategic plan remained in place through FY 2022. New grant guidelines were released early in FY 2023, accompanied by application and report forms aligned with the new grant guidelines and the FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. The FY 2023 APR will represent the first year of reporting under the new strategic plan.

AGENCY AND MISSION INFORMATION

“The arts . . . belong to all the people of the United States.”¹

As the premier arts agency of the U.S. government, the National Endowment for the Arts has established itself as a vital and sustaining force in American culture, committed to serving all Americans by bringing the arts into their lives, schools, and communities.

Since its establishment by Congress in 1965, the Arts Endowment has become the largest funder of the arts and arts education nationwide and, as a catalyst of public and private support for the arts, an essential institution. The agency annually awards an average of over 2,300 grants and cooperative agreements exceeding \$117 million, funding the arts in all 50 states and six U.S. jurisdictions, including rural and urban areas, and reaching civilian and military populations. The Arts Endowment also exercises leadership through targeted support of key initiatives, research and evaluation, and domestic and international partnerships. An organizational chart detailing the structure of the agency is presented following this section.

Arts Endowment grantees include nonprofit organizations; units of state and local government; federally recognized tribal communities or tribes; and, where permitted, individuals. The agency awards dollar-for-dollar matching grants to support exemplary projects in the following areas:

Accessibility	Museums
Artist Communities	Music
Arts Education	Musical Theater
Dance	Opera
Design & Creative Placemaking	Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works
Folk and Traditional Arts	Research
International	State & Regional Arts Organizations
Literary Arts	Theater
Local Arts Agencies	Visual Arts
Media Arts	

All grant applications to the Arts Endowment are reviewed on the basis of artistic excellence and artistic merit. Applications generally receive three levels of review. First, they are evaluated by advisory panels composed of a diverse group of disciplinary experts and other individuals,

¹ National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended

including at least one knowledgeable layperson. Panels make recommendations that are forwarded to the National Council on the Arts.

The National Council on the Arts, the agency's standing advisory body, is comprised of nationally and internationally renowned artists, distinguished scholars, and arts patrons appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The Council also includes non-voting Congressional members that are appointed by Senate and House leadership from both sides of the aisle. The Council reviews and votes to approve or reject the applications. Its recommendations for funding are sent to the Arts Endowment chairman, who reviews those applications and makes the final decision on all grant awards.

By law, 40% of the Arts Endowment's grant-making dollars are awarded to the nation's 56 state and jurisdictional arts agencies (SAAs) and the six regional arts organizations (RAOs). These funds are administered through Partnership Agreements with the SAAs and RAOs—an investment that catalyzes arts projects in thousands of communities across the country. Partnership Agreements allow the Arts Endowment to build and sustain local capacity for planning, programming, evaluation, and communications.

Through these agreements, moreover, the Arts Endowment supports creation and implementation of statewide and region-wide plans for strengthening arts education and fostering the arts in underserved communities. Each plan reflects the priorities of the state's or region's citizens, whose views are solicited by each SAA/RAO through public hearings.

Taken together, the work of the NEA, SAAs, and RAOs align national leadership with local impact. These partners are critical to the NEA's ability to fulfill its mission.

Mission: To strengthen the creative capacity of our communities by providing all Americans with diverse opportunities for arts participation.

The mission of the National Endowment for the Arts is based on an abiding conviction that the arts play an integral role in national life and public discourse. The first half of the statement refers to the agency's deep-rooted investment in the artistic and creative assets of diverse places and people throughout the country. The Arts Endowment is committed to helping organizations that seek to leverage these assets more effectively as part of a comprehensive strategy to integrate the arts into the fabric of community life.

The second half identifies the need to reach every individual with multiple channels for engaging with artistic excellence, thus improving the likelihood that Americans from all backgrounds will benefit directly from the Arts Endowment's activities.

The inspirational values of artistic excellence and creativity that define the agency's role within the federal government and the nation are articulated by the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, as amended. These “Declarations of Findings and Purposes” include:

- “An advanced civilization must not limit its efforts to science and technology alone, but must give full value and support to the other branches of scholarly and cultural activity in

order to achieve a better understanding of the past, a better analysis of the present, and a better view of the future.”

- “Democracy demands wisdom and vision in its citizens. It must therefore foster and support a form of education, and access to the arts...designed to make people of all backgrounds and wherever located masters of their technology and not its unthinking servants.”
- "While no government can call a great artist or scholar into existence, it is necessary and appropriate for the federal government to help create and sustain not only a climate encouraging freedom of thought, imagination, and inquiry but also the material conditions facilitating the release of this creative talent."
- “To fulfill its educational mission, achieve an orderly continuation of free society, and provide models of excellence to the American people, the federal government must transmit the achievement and values of civilization from the past via the present to the future, and make widely available the greatest achievements of art.”

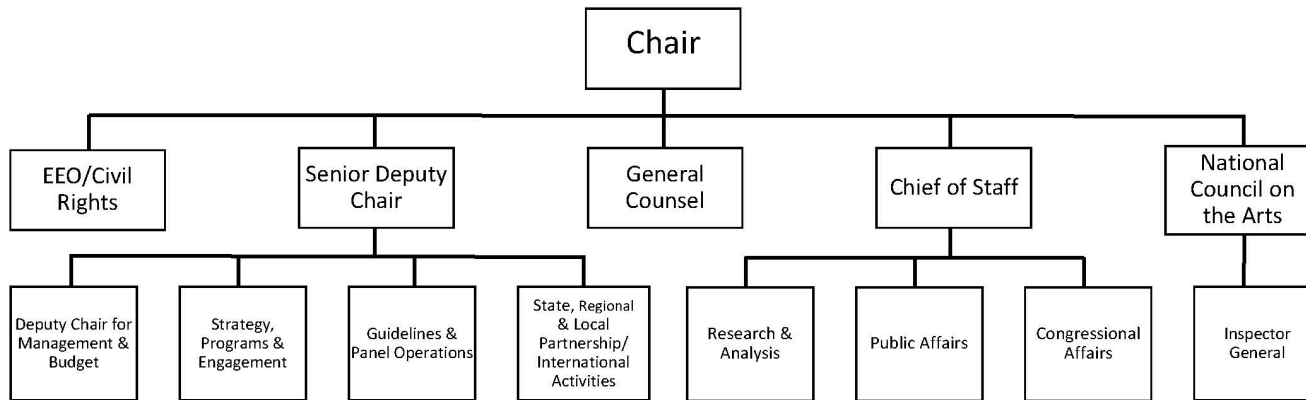
The Arts Endowment's vision statement rests on those enduring claims. The arts allow Americans to dream of fresh possibilities and to expand their horizons as thinkers and citizens in a world of complex ideas and technologies, as well as to contribute to the cultural legacy of the nation. Access to imagination and artistic creativity is an inherent good; it also can awaken the potential for a better quality of life. Engagement with the arts will allow Americans to fully realize their creative and imaginative potential as individuals and as communities.

Vision Statement: A nation in which every American benefits from arts engagement, and every community recognizes and celebrates its aspirations and achievements through the arts.

The agency’s goals, and the objectives and strategies to achieve them, including cross-agency collaborations, were detailed in The National Endowment for the Arts Strategic Plan, Fiscal Years 2018-2022, which was issued in February 2018 and published [online](#). The FY 2022 Annual Performance Plan (APP), which can be found on the agency’s [website](#) as part of the Appropriations Request for Fiscal Year 2022, was based on the 2018-2022 Strategic Plan and described the performance goals and indicators necessary to assess the agency’s progress in accomplishing its strategic objectives. The plan also described planned actions and milestones to address the agency’s management priority, research and evaluation activities that supported the development of the annual performance plan and strategic plan, and information on data validation and verification.

The FY 2022 APR reports on the progress of the National Endowment for the Arts’ FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan outlines the agency’s strategic goals and objectives and the means and strategies to accomplish them. The APR reports on the performance goals and indicators in support of the strategic objectives. Performance and other indicators, prior year data across the 5-year term of the Strategic Plan, and current status have been provided for each strategic objective.

Fig. 1. National Endowment for the Arts Organizational Structure



DATA SOURCES, VALIDATION & VERIFICATION

This section provides more detail on data sources used for performance reporting and associated validation and verification methods.

Data Sources

Data sources for performance reporting include both external data collections and internal administrative data. These data are tracked and maintained in separate systems, including spreadsheets. Following review by the providing office, data are collected, reviewed, integrated, and maintained by the Arts Endowment's Office of Research & Analysis (ORA). The sources of data (and corresponding acronyms) used most frequently in this document are as follows:

FDR – **Final Descriptive Report**. At the completion of each grant, each grantee submits a Final Descriptive Report to the agency, which includes data pertaining to many of the agency's strategic objectives. FDR data are reported as filed by grantees and have not been subject to independent verification.

eGMS – **Grants Management System**. This is the agency's internal Grants Management System, which tracks basic administrative data on the agency's grant-making activities, including counts of applications received and grants awarded. In FY 2018, the agency transitioned its grant records from an older GMS system to an online platform developed in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Humanities.

SPPA – **Survey of Public Participation in the Arts**. The SPPA is a comprehensive and detailed survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau every five years (as part of that agency's household surveys) and provides insight into the nature and extent of Americans' participation in the arts. The most recent survey took place in 2017.

ABS – **Arts Basic Survey**. The ABS, previously known as the Annual Arts Basic Survey, is also conducted by the Census Bureau as a supplement to their Current Population Survey and features selected summary questions drawn from the SPPA. Although less detailed than the larger survey, the ABS has provided estimates of Americans' participation in the arts during years in which the SPPA is not administered.

Throughout this document, data are reported through FY 2022 unless otherwise noted. A significant exception is FDR data. The most recent data available from grantees' FDRs are from FY 2021, due to a lag occurring from the time of the agency's award of a grant to the conclusion of the grant and extending to the grantee's submission of the FDR. For example, if a grant award is made in FY 2018 and the performance period is one year, then the FDR from that grant may not have been submitted for up to 90 days into FY 2019. Accounting for this delay, FDR data are reported here by the fiscal year in which the respective grants were awarded, not by the date of FDR receipt. With reference to the example above, the FDR data are captured in FY 2018 because that is the year in which the grant was awarded.

Because of the delay in receipt of FDR data, it is important to identify the overall percentage of FDRs received to date in order to establish the context for these indicators. The following table provides this information for the performance period reported throughout this document. Given that only 48% of FDRs have been received for grants awarded in FY 2021 and 4% of FDRs have been received for grants awarded in FY 2022, counts for all indicators that rely on FDR data throughout this report for FY 2021 and 2022 may be low in comparison to FY 2018 through FY 2020. Also of note is that a small portion of FDRs from FY 2018 and 2019 were unable to be uploaded into the agency’s databases likely due to formatting errors in the documents received from grantees. Grants management staff were establishing a resolution for these upload errors at the time data were extracted for this report.

Number and Percentage of FDRs Received – 2018-2022					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of FDRs Received	2,131	2,136	2,826	1146	141
Percentage of FDRs Received	98%	96%	89%	48%	4%

Data Validation and Verification

The Arts Endowment ensures the accuracy and reliability of the performance data in its APR in accordance with the five data quality specifications in the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010 for:

- **Means used to verify and validate measured values:** All performance data reported in the APR are subject to internal data verification and validation by the agency’s ORA. A key component of data validation is agency staff consultation. Agency staff are consulted during indicator development to assess whether data collected and measures are a true reflection of the performance being measured and have a clear relationship to the mission and strategic objectives of the agency. Data verification procedures are in place to assess data accuracy, completeness, consistency, and availability. The Arts Endowment creates an internal guidance document for performance measure reporting, including in a detailed matrix its indicators, data sources, analytical methods (including formulas), and, when appropriate, verification procedures specific to individual indicators. Prior to indicator analysis and reporting, ORA reviews datasets for completeness; missing data are identified and reported in the APR. Methods for handling anomalous data are established and used. In some cases, data are re-checked against source information (e.g., FDR). Confirmatory analyses are then undertaken.
- **Level of accuracy required for the intended use of data:** Performance data reported in the APR are used for management purposes, as a representative indicator of progress in relation to an established target or goal. Accuracy of data is verified to the extent considered necessary, to provide a reasonable representation of progress made relative to a target or goal, enabling the Arts Endowment senior management to determine if progress is adequate.
- **Limitations to the data at the required level of accuracy:** Arts Endowment performance data are subject to potential errors from: the use of estimations and extrapolations, especially where direct measurement is impractical and/or considered too

costly; incomplete data; or incorrect coding of grant awards to strategic objectives. The most significant limitation related to grant report data is the self-reported nature of data. As noted above, grant data are reported as submitted by grantees and are not independently verified. In addition, since grantee report data from FY 2019 and earlier must be extracted from PDF forms and converted into a dataset, data inaccuracies due to programming errors are possible. There are also possible upload errors that prevent the PDF data from entering agency databases. Possible resolutions to these errors are being considered as this report is written. Grantee report data from FY 2020 and later are collected via webform. In early iterations of the webform software, grantees were able to submit more than one webform. In the case that a grantee submitted more than one form, the form data submitted last chronologically was utilized for analysis under the assumption that the final submission was the final version of the grantee's report data. Historically, approximately 5% of final reports submitted via webform required use of the chronological assumption. See the discussion of the Management Priority later in this report for more information on efforts to improve the quality of grants data reporting.

- **How the agency has compensated for such limitations if needed to reach the required level of accuracy:** The measurement procedures for each performance measure used in the APR will be described in accompanying documentation. Submitted data are reviewed according to the scope and nature of the activity and in the context of other information to gauge accuracy. Following review and verification by the submitting office, the data are reviewed within their corresponding trends and programmatic contexts by the ORA to determine if further review is needed to adjust or correct the reported data before publication. Senior management and leadership consider this level of accuracy sufficient for their use of the data. Prior experience with using the data, and with assessing historical trends and programmatic contexts, suggest that any limitations are minor and that compensating measures are unnecessary.

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

STRATEGIC GOAL 1

Support Art that Meets the Highest Standards of Excellence

Throughout its history, the United States of America has exemplified ingenuity and inventiveness in such diverse fields as science, engineering, agriculture, medicine, commerce, and information technology. But our nation’s advances in artistic excellence and innovation have been no less profound or transformative.

American artworks are recognized and celebrated worldwide. American artists have made indelible contributions such as original plays and literature; music and dance compositions; paintings, sculpture, and craft arts; films, video, and photography; and architecture and design. The National Endowment for the Arts exists to support art that meets the highest standards of excellence—whether such projects involve celebrating artistic and cultural traditions, creating original artworks, or strengthening the nation’s cultural infrastructure.

The following table shows the percentage of direct grants that the Arts Endowment has awarded with the intent of supporting art that meets the highest standards of excellence.

Strategic Goal 1: Support Art that Meets the Highest Standards of Excellence.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1.a	Percentage of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of supporting Goal 1.	14.44%	22.86%	46.32%	32.11%	43.89%

Source: eGMS

As seen from the table above, a range of 14.44% to 46.32% of direct grants per year are awarded by the Arts Endowment with the primary intent of supporting art that meets the highest standards of excellence from FY 2018 to FY 2022. In FY 2019, internal guidelines for coding and reviewing grant goals and primary outcomes were improved, which accounts in part for the change in percentage detected in that year and subsequent years. The large increases in FY 2020 and 2022 are attributable to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act grants² and the American Rescue Plan Act grants.³ Because of their focus on preserving jobs and supporting arts organizations forced to close operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the

² With \$75 million appropriated to the National Endowment for the Arts through the CARES Act, the Arts Endowment awarded 40% of the funds directly to state and regional arts agencies by April 30 to distribute through their funding programs. Sixty percent of the funds were designated for direct grants to nonprofit arts organizations to preserve jobs and help support organizations forced to close operations due to the spread of COVID-19; these grants were awarded by July 1, 2020.

³ The American Rescue plan allocated \$135 million to the National Endowment for the Arts to support organizations and jobs in the arts sector that have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Arts Endowment awarded 40% of the allocation to state art agencies and regional arts organizations by April 29, 2021 for distribution through their funding programs. The remaining 60% of funds were awarded directly to 635 arts nonprofit organizations by January 27, 2022.

CARES Act and American Rescue Plan grants were coded to Strategic Goal 1, which includes support for cultural infrastructure under Objective 1.3.

The direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the primary intent to support art that meets the highest standards of excellence were awarded across a variety of artistic disciplines with the funds provided. Only disciplines with award activity associated with Goal 1 during the span of the 2018-2022 Strategic Plan are presented in the table that follows.

Strategic Goal 1: Support Art that Meets the Highest Standards of Excellence.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1.b	The percentage of direct grants awarded by artistic discipline by the Arts Endowment with the intent of supporting Goal 1.					
	<i>American Rescue Plan</i>					100.00%
	<i>Artist Communities</i>	97.50%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	<i>Arts Engagement in American Communities</i>	0.00%	0.00%	7.58%	40.26%	15.38%
	<i>Challenge America*</i>	11.76%	6.52%	19.86%		23.03%
	<i>Creativity Connects**</i>	25.71%				
	<i>Dance</i>	24.54%	37.36%	41.57%	43.84%	40.68%
	<i>Design</i>	5.45%	7.92%	34.17%	19.33%	12.39%
	<i>Folk & Traditional Arts</i>	0.88%	0.84%	37.65%	23.44%	7.69%
	<i>Literary Arts</i>	0.00%	0.97%	5.22%	9.23%	0.00%
	<i>Local Arts Agencies</i>	20.45%	33.33%	71.54%	57.69%	61.46%
	<i>Media Arts</i>	32.39%	50.77%	52.27%	39.19%	44.49%
	<i>Museums</i>	0.00%	0.00%	45.02%	6.72%	6.48%
	<i>Music</i>	3.10%	10.04%	43.39%	22.41%	26.38%
	<i>Musical Theater</i>	7.32%	47.06%	61.22%	38.89%	35.19%
	<i>Opera</i>	14.29%	12.86%	51.33%	37.65%	78.41%
	<i>Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works</i>	19.53%	37.50%	53.28%	42.08%	28.65%
	<i>Theater</i>	28.33%	45.30%	63.28%	54.45%	55.84%
	<i>Visual Arts</i>	23.73%	40.88%	47.31%	43.48%	34.36%
1.c	Obligated funds for direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of supporting Goal 1.	\$8,123,603	\$13,040,202	\$60,481,774	\$17,427,456	\$96,970,500

Source: eGMS

*Challenge America was suspended during FY 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Creativity Connects was a short-term grant initiative offered during FY 2017 and FY 2018.

The table above shows, over the span of five years, the percentage of direct grants awarded by various artistic discipline offices at the Arts Endowment with the primary intent of supporting art that meets the highest standards of excellence. Of the 18 artistic disciplines listed, the discipline of Artist Communities funded the highest percentage of awards with the intent of supporting

Goal 1, ranging from 97.50% in FY 2018 to 100% in all other FYs. Opera had the next highest rate of funding such grants with percentages ranging from 12.86% to 78.41% over this five-year period. By contrast, the Literary Arts discipline funded one of the lowest percentages of such awards with a range of 0% to 9.23% over this same period.

Overall, the Arts Endowment has funded a total of almost \$200 million over the span of five years with the intent to support art that meets the highest standards of excellence. The significant increase in obligated funds for direct grants in FY 2020 and FY 2022 was largely due to CARES Act and ARP funding, respectively.

The ARP grant program provided general operating support to arts organizations and did not include a matching requirement to help support jobs in the arts sector, keep the doors open to arts organizations nationwide, and assist the field in its response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Forty percent of funds were awarded to SAAs and RAOs for distribution through their funding programs. The remaining 60% of funds were awarded by the NEA to 635 arts nonprofit organizations.

The NEA encouraged applications to the ARP grant program from a variety of organizations and provided numerous resources for navigating the application process. The Arts Endowment hosted 34 virtual sessions about the ARP grant program that were attended by more than 3,000 people, translated application guidelines into Spanish and Chinese for the first time, offered robust technical assistance virtual sessions with American Sign Language and live Spanish translation. As a result, the Arts Endowment received over 7,500 grant applications from arts nonprofit organizations, 41% of which were from organizations that had not previously applied to the NEA. This was an unprecedented number of applications for a single NEA grant program.

A total of 569 grant awards totaling over \$77 million were made to arts nonprofit organizations—66 grant awards were made to LAAs for subgranting, and 569 grant awards were made to arts nonprofits organizations. About one-fourth (27%) of ARP grantees had not received NEA funding in the past 10 years. Seventy-one percent of grantees were small or medium-sized organizations with budgets of less than \$2 million, and about one-fifth of funds were awarded to organizations with budgets of less than \$250,000. Almost half (49%) of grantees were located in a high-poverty census tract or a non-metropolitan area. There were 53 states and jurisdictions, like Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, that received at least one ARP direct grant award.

The Arts Endowment is partnering with the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies in FY2023 to survey SAAs and RAOs to examine the impact of ARP grant funds on state and regional subgrantee organizations.

Strategic Objective 1.1

Honor and Support Artistic Activities and Traditions across the Nation.

The Arts Endowment has continually lauded and preserved significant cultural contributions and traditions as part of the country's artistic legacy. For example, in 1982 the agency recognized the need to preserve the distinctly American art form of jazz as well as folk and traditional art forms in order that they may be practiced and enjoyed by new generations of Americans. This recognition spurred creation of two lifetime awards honoring artists in these fields: Jazz Masters Fellowships and National Heritage Fellowships.

The comprehensive scope and variety of artistic offerings supported by the Arts Endowment presents myriad opportunities to engage Americans with new and old artistic traditions. By funding these opportunities and also through national leadership initiatives and strategic partnerships, the agency promotes civic dialogue around vital and constantly reinvigorated artistic practices, shaped by values and standards of excellence that are passed from generation to generation.

Success for this objective will mean that artistic activities and traditions are preserved for the enjoyment and enlightenment of future generations. The Arts Endowment will support excellent projects covering a wide range of artistic and cultural traditions across the country, including those in rural and historically underserved areas. Additionally, master artists will be honored for their exceptional achievements and for their tangible contributions to the nation's artistic heritage.

Performance Goal 1.1.1

FY 2022 Performance: Each year, the Arts Endowment supports archival, documentation, and preservation projects and mentorship and apprenticeships that sustain artistic traditions by supporting activities such as apprenticeships, conservation, repairs and restorations, or identification and documentation. Below is the percentage of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment by fiscal year with the intent of sustaining artistic traditions through these activities. These grants were identified through indicators selected by grant recipients to reflect the nature of proposed activities and are not limited to grants awarded with the intent to support art that meets the highest standards of excellence (Strategic Goal 1).

Strategic Objective 1.1. Honor and Support Artistic Activities and Traditions Across the Nation						
Performance Goal 1.1.1. Each year the NEA supports archival, documentation, and preservation projects and mentorship and apprenticeships that sustain artistic traditions.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1.1.1.1	The % of direct grants awarded by the NEA with the intent of sustaining artistic traditions.	1.79%	1.66%	1.57%	1.59%	1.70%

Source: eGMS

Other Indicators

These direct grants have supported sustaining artistic traditions in a variety of disciplines and engaged a number of individuals with the amount of funding provided. Only disciplines with award activity are presented in the table that follows.

Strategic Objective 1.1. Honor and Support Artistic Activities and Traditions Across the Nation						
Performance Goal 1.1.1. Each year the NEA supports archival, documentation, and preservation projects and mentorship and apprenticeships that sustain artistic traditions.						
1.1.1.2	The % of Arts Endowment direct grants by artistic discipline with the intent of sustaining artistic traditions.	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	<i>Artist Communities</i>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	2.78%	2.44%
	<i>Arts Education</i>	2.27%	0.00%	1.84%	0.58%	0.00%
	<i>Challenge America*</i>	0.74%	0.00%	2.84%		1.21%
	<i>Dance</i>	2.45%	2.87%	2.81%	2.96%	2.97%
	<i>Design</i>	2.73%	2.97%	4.17%	3.36%	4.42%
	<i>Folk & Traditional Arts</i>	11.40%	14.29%	8.24%	8.59%	11.54%
	<i>Local Arts Agencies</i>	0.00%	5.26%	1.63%	1.28%	2.08%
	<i>Media Arts</i>	2.84%	1.54%	3.79%	1.80%	3.15%
	<i>Museums</i>	3.88%	3.54%	1.42%	0.75%	1.85%
	<i>Music</i>	0.00%	0.39%	0.00%	0.33%	0.65%
	<i>Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works</i>	1.18%	0.54%	1.46%	0.99%	2.08%
	<i>Research</i>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4.35%
	<i>Theater</i>	0.43%	0.00%	0.00%	1.42%	0.97%
	<i>Visual Arts</i>	2.54%	0.73%	0.54%	1.86%	3.07%
1.1.1.3	Obligated funds for direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of sustaining artistic traditions.	\$1,060,047	\$1,008,686	\$1,237,000	\$1,021,971	\$1,840,987
1.1.1.4	The number of individuals who participated in Arts Endowment-supported activities that sustained artistic traditions.	109,826	45,902	43,219	756,523	N/A

Source: eGMS, FDR

*Challenge America was suspended during FY 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Of the 14 disciplines listed, Folk & Traditional Arts funded the highest percentages (over 14% in FY 2019) of direct grants with the intent of sustaining artistic traditions over the span of five years. Design and Research funded the next highest percentages with a range of 2.73% to 4.42% and 0.00% to 4.35% respectively. By contrast, Music funded the smallest percentages of such grants, remaining below 1.0% over these five years.

The Arts Endowment has funded over \$6.1 million in direct grants with the intent of sustaining artistic traditions over the span of these five years.

Strategic Objective 1.2
Expand the portfolio of American Art.

American art affirms the creative genius of the nation’s spirit, assesses the full range of individual and societal experiences composing the nation’s identity and that of its peoples, meditates on its struggles and conflicts, and envisions new prospects for the future. The Arts Endowment is committed to enriching the nation’s artistic output. It does so by funding projects that commission original artistic pieces, and by providing direct support to creative writers of distinction.

Success for this objective would mean that an incremental but substantial number of new original artworks would flourish within the United States, representing all artistic disciplines.

Performance Goal 1.2.1

FY 2022 Performance: Annually, the Arts Endowment supports projects with the intent of creating or commissioning original works of art. Original works of art do not include student works, adaptations, re-creations, or restaging of existing works. In accordance with the Strategic Plan, successful performance would be illustrated by the creation of new artworks. The percentage of direct grants that the Arts Endowment has awarded to expand the portfolio of American art is below. These grants were identified through indicators selected by grant recipients to reflect the nature of proposed activities and are not limited to grants awarded with the intent to support art that meets the highest standards of excellence (Strategic Goal 1).

Strategic Objective 1.2. Expand the Portfolio of American Art.						
Performance Goal 1.2.1. Annually, the Arts Endowment supports projects with the intent of creating or commissioning original works of art. Original works of art do not include student works, adaptations, re-creations, or restaging of existing works.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1.2.1.1	The percentage of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of creating or commissioning original works of art.	12.34%	13.09%	9.15%	14.59%	11.05%

Source: eGMS

The percentage of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of creating or commissioning original works of art ranged from 9.15% to over 14% from FY 2018-FY 2022. A grantee’s intent to create or commission an original work of art was identified through their selection of the tag, “Artwork Creation,” to describe their project activities on their grant application. The percentage of funding in support of this performance goal declined during FY 2020 and 2022 due to CARES Act and American Rescue Act funding, both of which increased the percentage of grants supporting jobs and infrastructure expenses.

Other Indicators

These direct grants have supported the creation of a number of original artworks in a variety of disciplines with the funds provided. Only disciplines with award activity are presented in the table that follows.

Strategic Objective 1.2. Expand the Portfolio of American Art.						
Performance Goal 1.2.1. Annually, the Arts Endowment supports projects with the intent of creating or commissioning original works of art. Original works of art do not include student works, adaptations, re-creations, or restaging of existing works.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1.2.1.2	The % of Arts Endowment direct grants awarded by artistic discipline with the intent of creating or commissioning original works of art.					
	<i>Artist Communities</i>	17.50%	22.50%	20.45%	19.44%	14.63%
	<i>Arts Education</i>	1.14%	0.58%	1.23%	1.16%	2.11%
	<i>Challenge America*</i>	14.71%	8.70%	9.22%		12.73%
	<i>Creativity Connects**</i>	17.14%				
	<i>Dance</i>	23.31%	20.11%	18.54%	18.23%	21.61%
	<i>Design</i>	28.18%	34.65%	24.17%	34.45%	27.43%
	<i>Folk & Traditional Arts</i>	3.51%	0.84%	1.18%	6.25%	5.38%
	<i>Literary Arts</i>	4.63%	7.77%	5.22%	4.62%	9.56%
	<i>Local Arts Agencies</i>	25.00%	15.79%	8.94%	21.79%	18.75%
	<i>Media Arts</i>	17.61%	14.36%	12.88%	18.02%	13.39%
	<i>Museum</i>	2.91%	9.73%	3.32%	8.96%	0.93%
	<i>Music</i>	6.64%	8.11%	5.29%	11.71%	11.07%
	<i>Musical Theater</i>	21.95%	26.47%	14.29%	18.52%	14.81%
	<i>Opera</i>	7.94%	12.86%	6.19%	10.59%	13.64%
	<i>Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works</i>	12.43%	16.85%	8.76%	18.81%	16.67%
	<i>Theater</i>	21.46%	21.37%	16.95%	19.22%	19.81%
	<i>Visual Arts</i>	15.25%	22.63%	17.74%	26.71%	23.31%
1.2.1.3	Obligated funds for direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of creating or commissioning original works of art.	\$7,603,312	\$8,305,760	\$7,930,712	\$8,941,980	\$8,761,000
1.2.1.4	The number of professional original works of art created as a result of Arts Endowment direct grant awards.	4,283	3,353	5,605	1,164	N/A

Source: eGMS, FDR

*Challenge America was suspended during FY 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Creativity Connects was a short-term grant initiative offered during fiscal years 2017 and 2018.

Of the 17 disciplines listed, Design awarded the highest percentages of direct grants with the intent of creating or commissioning original works of art with a range of 24.17% to 34.65% across five years. Artist Communities and Dance also had high percentages of such grants, with

ranges of 14.63% to 22.50% and 18.23% to 23.31%, respectively, from FY 2018 to FY 2022. By contrast, Arts Education funded only a range of 0.58% to 2.11% of such grants over these years.

Overall, the Arts Endowment obligated almost \$42 million in direct grants with the intent of creating or commissioning original works of art over the FY 2018-FY 2022 period.

A total of 14,505 and an average of 3,626 professional original works of art were created as a result of these direct grants in FY 2018-2021 (the four years for which the Arts Endowment has reported data). The number of artworks is reported as lower in FY 2021, since fewer than half of grantees had submitted their FDRs by the time of this report.

Strategic Objective 1.3

Strengthen the cultural infrastructure of the nation.

The Arts Endowment’s founding legislation states: “It is necessary and appropriate for the federal government to help create and sustain not only a climate encouraging freedom of thought, imagination, and inquiry, but also the material conditions facilitating the release of this creative talent.” These “material conditions” include the financial and human resources needed for designing, planning, and executing projects showcasing artistic excellence. Although it is unreasonable to suppose that any single federal agency can fully support this vast cultural enterprise, the Arts Endowment is positioned to shape key components of it—through direct grant-making and State/Regional Partnerships, and also through research, publications, and convenings.

Success for this objective would mean an incremental but substantial number of services provided to the field through professional development or other opportunities supported by the Arts Endowment.

Performance Goal 1.3.1

FY 2022 Performance: Each year, the Arts Endowment supports professional development opportunities and other services with the intent of strengthening the U.S. cultural infrastructure. Direct grants are awarded for activities ranging from professional development and training to research and technical assistance. The percentage of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment in support of strengthening the nation’s cultural infrastructure are shown below. These grants were identified through indicators selected by grant recipients to reflect the nature of proposed activities and are not limited to grants awarded with the intent to support art that meets the highest standards of excellence (Strategic Goal 1).

Strategic Objective 1.3. Strengthen the cultural infrastructure of the nation.						
Performance Goal 1.3.1 Each year the Arts Endowment supports professional development opportunities and other services with the intent of strengthening the U.S. cultural infrastructure.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1.3.1.1	1.3.1.1. The % of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of strengthening the U.S. cultural infrastructure through professional development and other services.	6.62%	6.68%	4.53%	6.99%	5.36%

Source: eGMS

Across a five-year span, a range of 4.53% to 6.99% of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment supported professional development opportunities and other services with the intent of strengthening the U.S. cultural infrastructure. The percentage of funding supporting this performance goal declined during FY 2020 and FY 2022 due to CARES Act funding and ARP funding, respectively, which increased the percentage of general-operating-support grants.

Other Indicators

These direct grants engage a number of individuals in activities that strengthen the cultural infrastructure across a variety of disciplines with the funds awarded, as shown below. Only disciplines with direct grants awarded over these five years are presented.

Strategic Objective 1.3. Strengthen the cultural infrastructure of the nation.						
Performance Goal 1.3.1 Each year the Arts Endowment supports professional development opportunities and other services with the intent of strengthening the U.S. cultural infrastructure.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1.3.1.2	1.3.1.2. The % of Arts Endowment direct grants awarded by artistic discipline with the intent of strengthening the U.S. cultural infrastructure.					
	<i>Artist Communities</i>	2.50%	5.00%	2.27%	2.78%	0.00%
	<i>Arts Education</i>	14.20%	13.95%	11.04%	9.25%	11.05%
	<i>Challenge America*</i>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%		1.82%
	<i>Creativity Connects**</i>	5.71%				
	<i>Dance</i>	4.29%	1.72%	2.81%	4.43%	3.39%
	<i>Design</i>	16.36%	17.82%	8.33%	16.81%	15.04%
	<i>Folk & Traditional Arts</i>	2.63%	5.88%	0.59%	7.03%	2.31%
	<i>Literary Arts</i>	6.48%	3.88%	4.35%	4.62%	4.41%
	<i>Local Arts Agencies</i>	18.18%	24.56%	14.63%	16.67%	15.63%
	<i>Media Arts</i>	10.80%	12.31%	12.12%	15.77%	14.17%
	<i>Museums</i>	0.97%	0.88%	1.90%	5.22%	0.93%
	<i>Music</i>	4.87%	5.02%	3.44%	4.01%	5.54%
	<i>Musical Theater</i>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.85%	0.00%
	<i>Opera</i>	11.11%	5.71%	4.42%	7.06%	5.68%
	<i>Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works</i>	9.47%	8.70%	5.84%	7.43%	8.85%
	<i>Research</i>	47.06%	38.89%	22.73%	21.43%	43.48%
	<i>State & Regional</i>	1.59%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	<i>Theater</i>	4.72%	5.13%	3.39%	4.98%	4.55%
	<i>Visual Arts</i>	2.54%	2.92%	1.08%	3.11%	4.29%
1.3.1.3	1.3.1.3. Obligated funds for direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of strengthening the U.S. cultural infrastructure.	\$5,599,872	\$5,783,575	\$5,008,922	\$5,937,100	\$5,923,500
1.3.1.4	1.3.1.4. The # of individuals who participated in Arts Endowment-supported activities that strengthened the U.S. cultural infrastructure.	951,958	896,059	549,778	166,178	N/A

Source: eGMS, FDR

*Challenge America was suspended during FY 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Creativity Connects was a short-term grant initiative offered during fiscal years 2017 and 2018.

The percentages of NEA direct grants with the intent of strengthening the U.S. cultural infrastructure through professional development and other services varied across artistic disciplines, ranging from zero to 47.06%. From FY 2018 to FY 2022, the Arts Endowment obligated a total of over \$28 million in direct grants with the intent of strengthening the U.S. cultural infrastructure.

Arts Endowment grant recipients reported over 2 million individuals participating in NEA-supported activities that strengthened the U.S. cultural infrastructure from FY 2018 to FY 2021.

This number is lower for FY 2021 because the data are collected from FDR forms, and fewer than half of these reports had been submitted by grantees at the time of this report.

Performance Goal 1.3.2

FY 2022 Performance: Each year, the Arts Endowment holds convenings and produces reports on the needs and opportunities affecting the U.S. cultural infrastructure. The number of convenings and reports produced by fiscal year can be seen below.

Strategic Objective 1.3. Strengthen the cultural infrastructure of the nation.						
Performance Goal 1.3.2. Each year, the Arts Endowment holds convenings and/or produces reports on needs and opportunities affecting the U.S. cultural infrastructure.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1.3.2.1	1.3.2.1. The # of reports and/or convenings produced annually by the Arts Endowment on needs and opportunities affecting the U.S. cultural infrastructure.	16	18	16	36	34

Source: Arts Endowment administrative documentation

In FY 2022, there were 10 reports and 24 convenings (including webinars) produced by the Arts Endowment on needs and opportunities affecting the U.S. cultural infrastructure. During FY 2022, the number of convenings substantially increased as a result of the agency’s increased outreach efforts during the rollout of the American Rescue Plan program. Other convenings included a series of town halls and roundtables associated with the agency’s Theater & Musical Theater program and the national launch of the [Tech as Art](#) report. Reports in FY 2022 included [Artists in the Workforce: National and State Estimates for 2015-2019](#) and [Growing Through COVID: Lessons Learned](#).

STRATEGIC GOAL 2

Cultivate Public Engagement with, and Access to, Various Forms of Excellent Art across the Nation

Artworks and audiences come together to create an experience that is unique, memorable, and life-affirming. Americans connect with art by attending music, dance, and theater performances; by touring architectural sites and art exhibits; by reading works of literature; and by enjoying artworks through electronic and digital media. Americans also participate in the arts through a variety of learning opportunities. Arts and cultural assets and activities contribute to the flourishing of communities—whether urban or rural, or small, mid-sized, or large—across the nation. Creative arts therapies and arts-in-health programs contribute to the health and healing of individuals.

The arts spur job creation, productivity, and economic growth. Artists, arts workers, and arts industries improve the aesthetic appeal of a community—and they play key roles in increasing civic pride and well-being, and in drawing local investments. The arts allow spaces and opportunities for community members of different backgrounds to converge on a shared aesthetic experience, one that summons their collective creativity and allows them to re-imagine their surroundings.

This strategic goal recognizes the importance of supporting numerous and diverse opportunities for the American people to engage directly with excellent artworks and to acquire knowledge and skills in the arts throughout their lives. It also champions the integration of arts and cultural practices with community life and it elevates the healing role of the arts.

The following table shows the percentage of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment primarily to cultivate public engagement with, and access to, various forms of excellent art across the nation.

Strategic Goal 2: Cultivate Public Engagement with, and Access to, Various Forms of Excellent Art Across the Nation.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.a	The % of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of supporting Goal 2.	81.45%	73.04%	50.79%	64.72%	53.49%

Source: eGMS

A range of 50.79% to 81.45% of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment supported cultivating public engagement with, and access to, various forms of excellent art across the nation. The percentage of direct grants attributed to Strategic Goal 2 decreased in FY 2020 and 2022 due to an increase in the total number of grants due to CARES Act and ARP Act funding and the attribution of all CARES and ARP grants to Goal 1. The general reduction in the number of grant awards attributed to Goal 2 also may be due to protocol changes that allow the agency to more accurately code grant awards.

These direct grants provided funding across a variety of 18 artistic disciplines, as seen in the table that follows.

Strategic Goal 2: Cultivate Public Engagement with, and Access to, Various Forms of Excellent Art across the Nation.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.b	The % of Arts Endowment direct grants by artistic discipline with the intent of supporting Goal 2.					
	<i>Artist Communities</i>	2.50%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	<i>Arts Education</i>	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	<i>Arts Engagement in American Communities</i>	100.00%	100.00%	92.42%	59.74%	84.62%
	<i>Challenge America*</i>	88.24%	93.48%	80.14%		76.97%
	<i>Creativity Connects**</i>	74.29%				
	<i>Dance</i>	75.46%	62.64%	58.43%	56.16%	59.32%
	<i>Design</i>	94.55%	92.08%	65.83%	80.67%	87.61%
	<i>Folk & Traditional Arts</i>	88.60%	92.44%	57.65%	76.56%	92.31%
	<i>Literary Arts</i>	100.00%	99.03%	94.78%	90.77%	100.00%
	<i>Local Arts Agencies</i>	79.55%	66.67%	28.46%	42.31%	38.54%
	<i>Media Arts</i>	67.61%	49.23%	47.73%	60.81%	55.51%
	<i>Museums</i>	100.00%	100.00%	54.98%	93.28%	93.52%
	<i>Music</i>	96.90%	89.96%	56.61%	77.59%	73.62%
	<i>Musical Theater</i>	92.68%	52.94%	38.78%	61.11%	64.81%
	<i>Opera</i>	85.71%	87.14%	48.67%	62.35%	21.59%
	<i>Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works</i>	80.47%	62.50%	46.72%	57.92%	71.35%
	<i>Theater</i>	71.67%	54.70%	36.72%	45.55%	44.16%
	<i>Visual Arts</i>	76.27%	59.12%	52.69%	56.52%	65.64%
2.c	Obligated funds for direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of supporting Goal 2.	\$48,168,728	\$41,350,364	\$40,593,378	\$39,759,829	\$42,621,910

Source: eGMS

*Challenge America was suspended during FY 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Creativity Connects was a short-term grant initiative offered during fiscal years 2017 and 2018.

A high percentage of direct grants awarded across varying disciplines have supported cultivating public engagement with, and access to, various forms of excellent art across the nation over the five-year period. As an example, 100% of Arts Education grants supported this strategic goal across the five-year period, while Literary Arts and Arts Engagement in American Communities also had high percentages of grants coded to this goal, with respective ranges of 90.77% to 100% and 59.74% to 100% over the five-year period. By contrast, the Artist Communities discipline funded 2.5% of these grants in FY 2018 and has made no awards under this strategic goal for the past four years.

From FY2018 to FY2022, the Arts Endowment obligated over \$212 million in grants with the primary intent of supporting Strategic Goal 2.

Strategic Objective 2.1

Provide opportunities for the American people to engage with the Arts.

Arts experiences open new vistas of possibility, they challenge our aesthetic, emotional, and intellectual constructs, and they enlarge our understanding of what it means to be human.

Americans connect with art by attending music, dance, and theater performances; by touring architectural sites and art exhibits; and by reading works of literature. They participate through electronic media—including TV, radio, handheld or mobile devices, and the internet—whether sampling a video clip, curating a playlist, or downloading a blog entry about graphic art. Furthermore, American audiences and artists are constantly discovering the potential for immersive storytelling technologies such as virtual and augmented reality.

The Arts Endowment's grant-making programs are responsive to the changing landscape of arts participation. The agency rewards innovative strategies and models for engaging the public directly with arts experiences and for making them accessible to all.

Similarly, just as the Arts Endowment is charged with helping to preserve America's great artistic traditions in all their variety, it also has a responsibility to bring those works and artistic practices into diverse populations and thereby stimulate new discoveries for all people. This emphasis on art "delivery" systems is in keeping with a new generation of arts audiences who, faced with many competing options for spending discretionary time, nevertheless appear to prefer personal participation in the arts over passive spectatorship.

Success for this objective would mean incremental but substantial numbers of people from various demographic and geographic backgrounds engaging in Arts Endowment-funded projects across all artistic disciplines.

Performance Goal 2.1.1

FY 2022 Performance: Each year, the Arts Endowment supports opportunities for the American people to engage with the arts. Below is the percentage of direct grants awarded by the NEA for this purpose.

Strategic Objective 2.1. Provide Opportunities for the American People to Engage with the Arts.						
Performance Goal 2.1.1 Each year the Arts Endowment supports opportunities for the American people to engage with the Arts.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.1.1.1	The % of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of providing opportunities for the American people to engage with the arts.	64.64%	56.54%	39.82%	47.72%	38.65%

Source: eGMS

From FY 2018-FY 2022, more than half (range from 39.92% to 64.67%) of the direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment provided opportunities for the American people to engage with

the arts. The percentage of funding supporting this performance goal declined during FY 2020 and FY 2022 due to CARES and ARP funding, respectively, which increased the percentage of grants supporting jobs and infrastructure expenses. The decreased percentage of grants supporting this objective in FY 2021 is likely the result of grant-coding protocol changes discussed elsewhere in this report.

Other Indicators

Grant awards in a variety of artistic disciplines provided direct support of opportunities for the American people to engage with the arts. Only disciplines with award activity are presented in the table that follows.

Strategic Objective 2.1. Provide Opportunities for the American People to Engage with the Arts.						
Performance Goal 2.1.1 Each year the Arts Endowment supports opportunities for the American people to engage with the Arts.						
Indicat or Numbe r	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.1.1.2	The % of Arts Endowment direct grants awarded by artistic discipline with the intent of providing opportunities for the American people to engage with the arts.					
	<i>Artist Communities</i>	2.50%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	<i>Arts Engagement in American Communities</i>	100.00%	100.00%	92.42%	54.55%	84.62%
	<i>Challenge America*</i>	88.24%	84.78%	80.14%		60.61%
	<i>Creativity Connects**</i>	51.43%				
	<i>Dance</i>	66.26%	55.17%	49.44%	49.75%	52.54%
	<i>Design</i>	25.45%	25.74%	13.33%	24.37%	27.43%
	<i>Folk & Traditional Arts</i>	77.19%	74.79%	41.76%	43.75%	57.69%
	<i>Literary Arts</i>	100.00%	90.29%	84.35%	80.00%	80.88%
	<i>Local Arts Agencies</i>	79.55%	47.37%	22.76%	34.62%	35.42%
	<i>Media Arts</i>	59.09%	47.69%	45.45%	56.31%	51.57%
	<i>Museum</i>	93.20%	99.12%	54.03%	86.57%	89.81%
	<i>Music</i>	90.71%	86.49%	54.76%	70.57%	62.87%
	<i>Musical Theater</i>	87.80%	52.94%	36.73%	59.26%	59.26%
	<i>Opera</i>	73.02%	82.86%	43.36%	56.47%	15.91%
	<i>Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works</i>	69.82%	44.02%	37.23%	50.00%	55.73%
	<i>Theater</i>	67.81%	52.99%	33.90%	41.28%	38.64%
	<i>Visual Arts</i>	63.56%	45.26%	47.31%	40.99%	52.76%
2.1.1.3	Obligated funds for direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of providing opportunities for the American people to engage with the arts.	\$35,234,290	\$28,645,428	\$28,154,586	\$26,120,516	\$27,431,810

Source: eGMS

*Challenge America was suspended during FY 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

*Creativity Connects was a short-term grant initiative offered during FY 2017 and FY 2018.

Of the 17 artistic disciplines listed above, Arts Engagement in American Communities and Literary Arts had the highest percentages, during the past five years, of direct grants with the primary intent of providing opportunities for the American people to engage with the arts. The remainder of the artistic disciplines averaged about 54% of such grants.

From FY 2018 to FY 2022, the Arts Endowment obligated a total of over \$145 million in direct grants with the intent of providing opportunities for the American people to engage with the arts.

Performance Goal 2.1.2

FY 2022 Performance: Direct grants awarded annually by the Arts Endowment produce in-person arts events that result in significant public engagement. Below is the percentage of direct grants awarded by fiscal year that produced in-person arts events with 500 or more people in attendance.

Strategic Objective 2.1. Provide Opportunities for the American People to Engage with the Arts.						
Performance Goal 2.1.2 Grants awarded annually by the Arts Endowment produce in-person arts events resulting in significant public engagement.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.1.2.1	The % of Arts Endowment direct grant awards that produced in-person arts events resulting in a cumulative attendance of 500 people or more.	78.55%	73.05%	36.64%	51.18%	N/A

Source: FDR

From FY 2018 to FY 2021, a range of 36.64% to 78.55% of Arts Endowment direct grant awards produced in-person arts events resulting in a cumulative attendance of 500 people or more. The numbers of grants that supported in-person attendance of 500 people or more substantially decreased in FY 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on a return to approximately normal conditions, the NEA expects an upward trend in in-person attendance for awards made in FY 2022.

Other Indicators

These events were produced across a variety of disciplines. Below are also the numbers of individuals engaged by in-person arts events supported by Arts Endowment direct grant awards, along with the disciplines funded.

Strategic Objective 2.1. Provide opportunities for the American People to engage with the Arts.						
Performance Goal 2.1.2 Grants awarded annually by the Arts Endowment produce in-person arts events resulting in significant public engagement.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.1.2.2	The % of Arts Endowment direct grants award by artistic discipline that produced in-person arts events resulting cumulative attendance of 500 people or more.					
	<i>American Rescue Plan*</i>					N/A
	<i>Artist Communities</i>	70.00%	52.63%	32.56%	37.93%	N/A
	<i>Arts Education</i>	72.09%	73.58%	26.92%	44.78%	N/A
	<i>Arts Engagement in American Communities</i>	78.95%	71.19%	54.00%	70.83%	N/A
	<i>Challenge America**</i>	68.22%	71.20%	45.97%	.	N/A
	<i>Creativity Connects***</i>	73.33%	.	.	.	N/A
	<i>Dance</i>	85.90%	77.36%	31.36%	46.03%	N/A
	<i>Design</i>	42.53%	36.00%	28.77%	48.28%	N/A
	<i>Folk & Traditional Arts</i>	82.52%	68.00%	29.63%	46.55%	N/A
	<i>Literary Arts</i>	76.53%	68.09%	21.24%	47.69%	N/A
	<i>Local Arts Agencies</i>	61.11%	58.14%	27.59%	50.00%	N/A
	<i>Media Arts</i>	72.06%	57.40%	25.26%	41.28%	N/A
	<i>Museums</i>	94.85%	84.04%	80.22%	83.02%	N/A
	<i>Music</i>	88.69%	85.60%	42.34%	54.17%	N/A
	<i>Musical Theater</i>	92.31%	70.97%	38.71%	50.00%	N/A
	<i>Opera</i>	93.22%	79.41%	37.84%	58.70%	N/A
	<i>Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works</i>	83.33%	80.72%	36.59%	55.67%	N/A
	<i>Research</i>	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	N/A
	<i>Theater</i>	81.70%	76.04%	32.00%	49.65%	N/A
	<i>Visual Arts</i>	75.73%	75.68%	53.91%	50.67%	N/A
2.1.2.3	The # of individuals engaged in-person through arts events supported by Arts Endowment direct grant awards.	31,289,945	27,298,049	20,412,004	10,527,113	N/A

Source: FDR

*American Rescue Plan was a one-time grant in 2022.

**Challenge America was suspended during FY 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

***Creativity Connects was a short-term grant initiative offered during FY 2017 and FY 2018.

Of the 20 artistic disciplines listed, Museums had the highest range (80.22% to 94.85%) of direct grants that produced, from FY 2018 through FY 2021, in-person arts events with at least 500 people cumulatively in attendance. Music and Opera had the second highest ranges of such grants— at 42.34% to 8.69%, and 37.84 to 93.22%, respectively. By contrast, although in 2018 a quarter of NEA awards supported Research projects with a large number of in-person attendees, no such projects were supported in the most recent four years.

Over these four years, an average of more than 22 million individuals per year engaged in in-person arts events, based on NEA grants data. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, in FY 2020 a fewer portion of awards supported events with 500 or more in-person attendees. As FDRs come in from grantees who received awards in FY 2021 and FY 2022, the Arts Endowment expects this trend to improve.

Along with the numbers reported in grant awardees' FDRs, the agency periodically monitors through the nationally representative Survey of Public Participation in the Arts (SPPA) and the Arts Basic Survey (ABS) the percentage of adults that attend a live performing arts or visual arts events (excluding movies).

Some background on these surveys is necessary. The SPPA is administered every five years, in years ending with 2 and 7 (e.g., 2017 and 2022). The most recent SPPA was administered in FY22, but data are unavailable until early 2023. The ABS is fielded between SPPA administrations and is a shorter set of surveys; the FY20 ABS covered arts attendance and learning along with arts creation and performance, whereas the FY18 ABS covered only arts creation and performance. Therefore, only data for FY 20 are presented below. In future years, the NEA will be able to report data from the 2022 SPPA and from a planned 2025 ABS.

The percentage, by fiscal year, is detailed below.

Performance Goal 2.1.2 Grants awarded annually by the Arts Endowment produce in-person arts events resulting in significant public engagement.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020 ⁺	2021	2022 [*]
2.1.2.4	The % of adults that attended a live performing arts or visual arts event, excluding movies, during the Arts Endowment's most recent general population survey period (as measured by the SPPA & ABS).	N/A	N/A	46.9%	N/A	N/A

Source: ^{*}SPPA, ⁺ABS

Performance Goal 2.1.3

FY 2022 Performance: Each year, grant projects supported by the Arts Endowment facilitate virtual arts experiences resulting in significant public engagement. The percentage of NEA direct grant awards resulting in virtual arts experiences that engaged at least 5,000 people are shown by fiscal year below.

Strategic Objective 2.1. Provide Opportunities for the American People to Engage with the Arts.						
Performance Goal 2.1.3 Each year, grant projects supported by the Arts Endowment facilitate virtual arts experiences resulting in significant public engagement.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.1.3.1	The % of Arts Endowment direct grant awards that supported virtual arts experiences that engaged at least 5,000 people.	8.47%	8.57%	14.19%	16.43%	N/A

Source: FDR

From FY 2018 to FY 2022, a range of 8.47% to 16.43% of Arts Endowment direct grants resulted in virtual arts experiences that engaged at least 5,000 people or more. The percentage of grants that supported virtual arts experiences engaging at least 5,000 people increased in FY 2020 and FY 2021, likely as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Though there are few FDRs received from FY 2022 grantees, the Arts Endowment expects that the trend of increased virtual engagement will continue in FY 2022.

Other Indicators

In the table that follows, the percentage of Arts Endowment direct grant awards resulting in virtual arts experiences that engage at least 5,000 people is presented by artistic discipline. Only disciplines with direct grants awarded over these five years are presented in the table below. The number of individuals who engaged in virtual arts experiences supported by agency grants is also presented across time.

Strategic Objective 2.1. Provide Opportunities for the American People to Engage with the Arts.						
Performance Goal 2.1.3 Each year, grant projects supported by the Arts Endowment facilitate virtual arts experiences resulting in significant public engagement.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.1.3.2	The % of Arts Endowment direct grants awarded by artistic discipline that supported virtual arts experiences that engaged at least 5,000 people.					
	<i>American Rescue Plan*</i>					N/A
	<i>Artist Communities</i>	2.70%	2.56%	23.08%	8.00%	N/A
	<i>Arts Education</i>	3.55%	9.64%	20.71%	14.52%	N/A
	<i>Arts Engagement in American Communities</i>	3.26%	5.33%	12.50%	8.70%	N/A
	<i>Challenge America**</i>	1.56%	0.76%	9.73%		N/A
	<i>Creativity Connects***</i>	6.90%				N/A
	<i>Dance</i>	7.14%	7.78%	13.75%	11.21%	N/A
	<i>Design</i>	5.15%	11.27%	8.33%	16.67%	N/A
	<i>Folk & Traditional Arts</i>	9.28%	8.82%	22.58%	21.43%	N/A
	<i>Literary Arts</i>	22.11%	24.18%	38.46%	30.61%	N/A
	<i>Local Arts Agencies</i>	2.63%	7.84%	7.14%	4.00%	N/A
	<i>Media Arts</i>	15.97%	12.80%	25.91%	27.38%	N/A
	<i>Museums</i>	20.93%	12.77%	13.64%	20.00%	N/A
	<i>Music</i>	10.19%	9.13%	16.89%	25.35%	N/A
	<i>Musical Theater</i>	5.00%	6.06%	11.11%	8.70%	N/A
	<i>Opera</i>	12.28%	6.06%	7.14%	12.50%	N/A
	<i>Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works</i>	6.76%	3.55%	9.96%	5.81%	N/A
	<i>Research</i>	0.00%	0.00%	20.00%	0.00%	N/A
	<i>Theater</i>	4.85%	3.93%	8.55%	15.56%	N/A
	<i>Visual Arts</i>	12.04%	15.83%	17.53%	9.23%	N/A
2.1.3.3	The # of individuals engaged in virtual arts experiences supported by Arts Endowment grant awards.	161,397,364	169,098,067	134,347,224	52,577,196	N/A

Source: FDR

*American Rescue Plan was a one-time grant in 2022.

**Challenge America was suspended during FY 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

***Creativity Connects was a short-term grant initiative offered during FY 2017 and FY 2018.

Of the 20 artistic disciplines listed, Literary Arts had the highest percentage (ranging from 22.11% to 38.46% per year, FY 2018–FY 2021) of direct grants that facilitated virtual arts experiences resulting in significant public engagement. By contrast, a range of only 0.76% to 1.56% of Challenge America grantees reported virtual arts engagement over this four-year period. Note the general increase in percentage of direct grants that facilitated virtual arts experiences from FY 2019 to FY 2020. This can be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.

From FY 2018 to FY 2021, a total of over 517 million individuals engaged in virtual arts experiences supported by Arts Endowment grant awards.

The total number of individuals participating in virtual arts experiences in FY 2021 is low due to the low number of FDRs submitted by grantees at the time of this report.

Strategic Objective 2.2

Provide opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills in the arts at all stages of life.

By helping to foster public appreciation and understanding of various art forms, genres, and artistic traditions, the Arts Endowment will build public capacity for lifelong participation in the arts. For audiences, the result will be a richer and more complex and meaningful arts experience. For artists and teachers, the Arts Endowment will facilitate the transfer of critical knowledge and skills that will enable them to refine their abilities and improve their work.

Beyond enriching the quality of personal arts experiences, arts education is a hallmark of civilization. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), enacted in 2015, recognizes the arts as core to a well-rounded education. ESSA discusses the provision of well-rounded educational experiences to all students, including female students, minority students, English learners, children with disabilities, and low-income students who often go underrepresented in critical and enriching subjects. These well-rounded experiences include increasing student access to the arts and improving student engagement and achievement in arts activities and programs.

The benefits of an arts education throughout life have been reported by numerous research studies and publications. For example, socioeconomically disadvantaged children and teenagers who participate in arts-intensive learning have shown greater academic, social, and civic engagement compared with peers who did not participate in such opportunities. Similarly, research and evaluation have demonstrated the potential benefits of arts education when integrated with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) disciplines in formal learning environments.

Success for this objective means that incremental but substantial numbers of people of all ages and from various demographic and geographic backgrounds engage in arts learning through Arts Endowment-funded projects across a spectrum of artistic disciplines.

Performance Goal 2.2.1

FY 2022 Performance: Annually, the Arts Endowment provides opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life. The Arts Endowment awards a percentage of direct grants to applicants with the primary intent of providing these opportunities to the American people. The percentage, by fiscal year, is seen below.

Strategic Objective 2.2. Provide opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills in the arts at all stages of life.						
Performance Goal 2.2.1 Annually, the NEA provides opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.2.1.1	The % of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of providing opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life.	14.13%	12.48%	9.09%	13.66%	12.63%

Source: eGMS

From FY 2018 to FY 2022, the Arts Endowment awarded a range of 9.09% to 14.13% of direct grants per year to applicants, with the primary intent of providing opportunities for Americans to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life.

Other Indicators

Learning opportunities are provided across a variety of artistic disciplines with the funds provided. More detail on the distribution of these activities across disciplines, and total obligated funds by year, are presented in the following table, which includes only disciplines with direct grants awarded over the five-year period.

Strategic Objective 2.2. Provide opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills in the arts at all stages of life.						
Performance Goal 2.2.1 Annually, the NEA provides opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.2.1.2	The % of Arts Endowment direct grants awarded by artistic discipline with the intent of providing opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life.					
	<i>Arts Education</i>	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	<i>Arts Engagement in American Communities</i>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	5.19%	0.00%
	<i>Challenge America*</i>	0.00%	1.45%	0.00%		13.94%
	<i>Creativity Connects**</i>	22.86%				
	<i>Dance</i>	9.20%	7.47%	8.43%	6.40%	6.78%
	<i>Design</i>	14.55%	9.90%	10.83%	4.20%	14.16%
	<i>Folk & Traditional Arts</i>	11.40%	17.65%	15.88%	29.69%	30.77%
	<i>Literary Arts</i>	0.00%	8.74%	10.43%	10.77%	19.12%
	<i>Local Arts Agencies</i>	0.00%	0.00%	0.81%	1.28%	0.00%
	<i>Media Arts</i>	8.52%	1.54%	2.27%	4.50%	3.15%
	<i>Museums</i>	6.80%	0.88%	0.95%	6.72%	3.70%
	<i>Music</i>	6.19%	3.47%	1.85%	7.02%	10.75%
	<i>Musical Theater</i>	4.88%	0.00%	2.04%	1.85%	5.56%
	<i>Opera</i>	12.70%	4.29%	5.31%	3.53%	5.68%
	<i>Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works</i>	10.65%	14.13%	8.39%	7.43%	13.54%
	<i>Theater</i>	3.86%	1.28%	2.82%	4.27%	5.52%
	<i>Visual Arts</i>	12.71%	10.22%	4.84%	10.56%	10.43%
2.2.1.3	Obligated funds for direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of providing opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life.	\$8,911,906	\$7,926,572	\$8,595,792	\$9,044,106	\$10,795,100

Source: eGMS, FDR

*Challenge America was suspended during FY 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Creativity Connects was a short-term grant initiative offered during FY 2017 and FY 2018.

Of the 17 artistic disciplines listed, Arts Education was the only discipline where, over the five-year period, 100% of grants funded had the intent of providing opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills in the arts. Of the disciplines that awarded grants with this intent in FY 2021, Folk & Traditional Arts had the next highest five-year range, at 11.40% to 30.77%. By contrast, Challenge America funded only 1.45% of grants in FY 2019 with this intent, zero such grants in FY 2018 and FY 2020, and 13.84% in FY 2022.

From FY 2018 to FY 2022, the Arts Endowment funded a total of over \$45 million in direct grants with the primary intent of providing opportunities for Americans to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life.

These opportunities exist in both urban and rural areas. The percentage of opportunities provided in the nation’s tracts that are both rural and high-poverty can be seen in the following table.

Performance Goal 2.2.1 Annually, the NEA provides opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.2.1.4	The % of the nation's rural and high-poverty tracts that hosted activities supported by the Arts Endowment that enabled the American people to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life.	2.43%	1.16%	5.28%	0.59%	1.01%

Source: FDR, GEO

Finally, the number of adults and children who participate in these opportunities is seen below.

Performance Goal 2.2.1 Annually, the NEA provides opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.2.1.5	The # by age category of individual who participated in Arts Endowment-supported activities that provided opportunities to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life.					
	<i>Age Category: Adult</i>	1,029,354	710,508	378,132	95,293	N/A
	<i>Age Category: Child/Youth</i>	1,171,370	845,897	529,032	141,328	N/A

Source: FDR

From FY 2018 to FY 2021, 2.2 million adults and 2.7 million children/youth participated in Arts Endowment-supported activities that provided opportunities to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life. The numbers of adults and children participating in these events were low for FY 2021 because only 48% of FDRs have been received at the time of this report.

Beyond participation in learning activities supported by the Arts Endowment, the agency also uses the nationally representative Survey of Public Participation in the Arts (SPPA) and the Arts Basic Survey (ABS) to monitor the percentage of U.S. adults participating in at least one arts learning activity. *(For more information on the availability of SPPA and ABS data, see the section referencing Indicator 2.1.2.4.)*

Performance Goal 2.2.1 Annually, the NEA provides opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills across a spectrum of artistic disciplines at all stages of life.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020⁺	2021	2022[*]
2.2.1.6	The % of adults participating in at least one arts learning activity (e.g., class, lesson) during the Arts Endowment's most recent general population survey period (SPPA/ABS).	N/A	N/A	9.8%	N/A	N/A

Source: ^{*}SPPA, ⁺ABS

The percentage of adults participating in at least one arts learning activity during the Arts Endowment's most recent general population survey period was 9.8 % in FY 2020. Note that data for this indicator are collected every two to three years. The survey was run in FY22, but data are unavailable until early 2023.

Performance Goal 2.2.2

FY 2022 Performance: Annually, arts education activities supported by Arts Endowment direct grants enable K-12 students to acquire knowledge and skills in the arts across a spectrum of geographic locations. The percentage of direct grants that list learning as a primary outcome and report K-12 students' acquisition of knowledge and/or skills in the arts, as well as the number of K-12 students who acquired knowledge and/or skills in the arts as a result of participation in these activities, is seen below. Grants counted under this performance goal are awarded by the agency's Arts Education office.

Strategic Objective 2.2. Provide opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills in the arts at all stages of life.						
Performance Goal 2.2.2. Annually, arts education activities supported by Arts Endowment direct grants enable K-12 students to acquire knowledge and skills in the arts across a spectrum of geographic locations.						
Indicat or Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.2.2.1	The % of Arts Endowment direct grants with Learning as a primary outcome that report K-12 students' acquisition of knowledge and/or skills in the arts.	76.14%	69.41%	74.52%	66.18%	N/A

Source: FDR

From FY 2018 to FY 2021, the percentage of Arts Endowment direct grants with Learning as a primary outcome, and which reported K-12 students' acquisition of knowledge and/or skills in the arts, ranged from 66.18% to 76.14%.

Other Indicators

Strategic Objective 2.2. Provide opportunities for the American people to acquire knowledge and skills in the arts at all stages of life.						
Performance Goal 2.2.2. Annually, arts education activities supported by Arts Endowment direct grants enable K-12 students to acquire knowledge and skills in the arts across a spectrum of geographic locations.						
Indica tor Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.2.2.2	The # of K-12 students who have acquired knowledge and/or skills in the arts as a result of participation in activities supported by the Arts Endowment.	101,119	144,679	181,082	15,625	N/A

Source: FDR

From FY 2018 to FY 2021, a total of over 442,000 K-12 students acquired knowledge and/or skills in the arts as a result of participation in activities supported by the Arts Endowment. Note that data reported for FY 2021 are low, since fewer than half of FDRs had been received from grantees at the time of this report.

Strategic Objective 2.3

Provide opportunities for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life.

Artists, arts workers, and arts industries play a critical role in helping communities flourish as lively, beautiful, and resilient places. Through the arts, communities can imagine new possibilities—a new future or a new approach to problem-solving. The arts also provide a means for bringing together communities, people, places, and economic opportunity via physical spaces or new relationships.

In service of this objective, the Arts Endowment supports grants to organizations across a diverse spectrum of artistic disciplines and geographic areas. For instance, the Arts Endowment has supported festivals of traditional American music and dance that amplify a region’s cultural heritage. It has also supported arts activities that engage local residents in art-making in public spaces. Other Arts Endowment funded projects serving this objective have expanded local creative industries.

The most prominent Arts Endowment activity that provides opportunities for the arts to be integrated with community life is creative placemaking. The benefits of creative placemaking are visible in both rural and urban communities when artists, arts organizations, and community development practitioners deliberately integrate arts and culture into community revitalization work—placing the arts at the table with land use, transportation, economic development, education, housing, infrastructure, and public safety strategies. Our Town grants, awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts, help to advance and sustain the increased utilization of art, culture, and design activities in community development through diverse, cross-sector partners.

During the term of this Strategic Plan, the Arts Endowment will assess FDRs submitted for all grant projects, including those that had the primary purpose of integrating the arts into the fabric of community life. The Arts Endowment aims to award a majority of such grants to projects that support cross-sector opportunities for the arts to be integrated with local economic and community development through arts engagement, cultural planning, design, and artist and creative industry support.

Indicators of progress toward this goal include increases in the number of awards made to projects with community focused goals, partners from non-arts sectors, and that incorporate arts engagement, cultural planning, design, and artist and/or creative industry support activities in the project design.

Performance Goal 2.3.1

FY 2022 Performance: Each year, the Arts Endowment supports across a broad geographic spectrum opportunity for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life. The

percentage of direct grants that are awarded with the primary intent of providing opportunities for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life is seen below. The number of grants with a direct objective of livability is presented as a percentage of all direct grants awarded by the NEA.

Strategic Objective 2.3. Provide opportunities for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life.						
Performance Goal 2.3.1. Each year, the NEA supports across a broad geographic spectrum opportunity for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.3.1.1	The % of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of providing opportunities for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life.	2.68%	3.97%	1.85%	3.21%	2.12%

Source: eGMS

From FY 2018 to FY 2022, a range of 1.85% to 3.97% of direct grants per year were awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of providing opportunities for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life. The percentage of funding in support of this performance goal declined during FY 2020 due to CARES funding, and to a lesser extent during FY 2022 due to ARP funding, both of which increased the percentage of grants supporting jobs and infrastructure expenses.

Other Indicators

These direct awards were awarded primarily within the Design discipline across the past five-year period as demonstrated by the table that follows. Only disciplines with direct grants awarded over these five years are presented in the table below.

Strategic Objective 2.3. Provide opportunities for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life.						
Performance Goal 2.3.1. Each year, the NEA supports across a broad geographic spectrum opportunity for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.3.1.2	The % of Arts Endowment direct grants awarded by artistic discipline with the intent of providing opportunities for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life.					
	<i>Challenge America*</i>	0.00%	7.25%	0.00%		1.21%
	<i>Design</i>	54.55%	56.44%	41.67%	52.10%	46.02%
	<i>Folk & Traditional Arts</i>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.56%	3.85%
	<i>Local Arts Agencies</i>	0.00%	19.30%	4.88%	6.41%	3.13%
	<i>Media Arts</i>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.79%
	<i>Music</i>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.18%	0.00%
	<i>Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works</i>	0.00%	4.35%	1.09%	0.50%	2.08%
	<i>Theater</i>	0.00%	0.43%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	<i>Visual Arts</i>	0.00%	2.92%	0.54%	4.97%	1.84%
2.3.1.3.	Obligated funds for direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of providing opportunities for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life.	\$4,022,532	\$4,738,364	\$3,823,000	\$4,523,206	\$4,355,000

Source: eGMS

*Challenge America was suspended during FY 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The number of individuals these projects engaged varies by fiscal year. The numbers for FY 2020 were unusually high. This is a result of two awards that supported public arts displays that engaged hundreds of thousands of people—leading to outlier data points.

Strategic Objective 2.3. Provide opportunities for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life.						
Performance Goal 2.3.1. Each year, the NEA supports across a broad geographic spectrum opportunity for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.3.1.4	The # of individuals who participated in NEA-supported activities that integrated the arts into the fabric of community life.	205,361	186,617	945,293	12,487	N/A

Source: FDR

Performance Goal 2.3.2

FY 2022 Performance: As reported in the Strategic Plan, an evaluation study to validate the Our Town theory of change, logic model, and measurement model took place during FY 2018. This study found that outcomes associated with Our Town projects could be categorized into four types: economic, social, physical, or systems change. This indicator reports on the percentage of projects that report economic, social, or physical changes in communities and/or a sustained change in how the arts are integrated with local economic and community development.

Strategic Objective 2.3. Provide opportunities for the arts to be integrated into the fabric of community life.						
Performance Goal 2.3.2. Each year, Arts Endowment grant awards support projects that result in economic, social, or physical changes in communities and/or result in a sustained change in how the arts are integrated with local economic and community development.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
2.3.2.1	The % of Arts Endowment direct grants with Strengthening Communities as a primary outcome that provide evidence of economic, social, or physical changes in communities and/or a sustained change in how the arts are integrated with local economic and community development.	19%	27%	36%	36%	N/A

Source: Our Town FDR

FDRs for Our Town grants awarded between FY 2018 and FY 2019 were assessed using qualitative methods for evidence of economic, social, or physical changes in communities and/or a sustained change in how the arts are integrated with local economic and community development. The strongest evidence was found in the FY 2019 grant projects; 36% of projects reported some evidence of economic, social, or physical changes in communities and/or sustained change in how the arts are integrated with local economic and community development. Across all reported fiscal years, few projects presented evidence supporting their claim based on systematic data collection, such as data collected from surveys where the same questions were asked of each person and from quantitative data sources such as ticket sales or business revenues.

Strategic Objective 2.4

Support access to creative arts therapies and evidence-based programs in arts and health.

Creative arts therapies refer collectively to music therapy, visual art therapy, dance/movement therapy, drama therapy, and several other arts-based forms of therapy. Arts-in-medicine and arts-in-healing programs contribute further to the arts' delivery in clinical settings. Application of the arts to promote health and well-being has also arisen in non-clinical contexts, including arts programs in correctional institutions, in after-school programs for at-risk youth, and in community programs for older adults or military veterans.

The Arts Endowment supports projects that deliver creative arts therapies in clinical and non-clinical settings alike. Similarly, the agency supports arts programming that is integrated in healthcare settings or in health interventions. For example, Arts Endowment grants have supported poetry and storytelling in community settings for older adults with dementia, as well as artist residencies in healthcare settings.

In addition, the Arts Endowment chairs the Interagency Task Force on the Arts and Human Development, which encourages more and better research across federal government on how the arts can help people reach their full potential at all stages of life. This foundational work has contributed in part to recent initiatives such as Sound Health, an ongoing collaboration between the Kennedy Center and the National Institutes of Health, in association with the National

Endowment for the Arts, which seeks to explore the intersections of music, the brain, and wellness.

An Arts Endowment leadership initiative that supports access to creative arts therapies and evidence-based programs in the arts and health is Creative Forces: NEA Military Healing Arts Network. More than 500,000 U.S. service members and veterans are living with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), including 10% to 20% of all service members who have been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. TBI and PTSD are known to contribute to depression and to the estimated 20 suicides committed by veterans each day. Creative Forces was established to serve the unique and special needs of military patients and veterans who have been diagnosed with TBI and psychological health conditions, and to serve the needs of their families and caregivers.

Performance Goal 2.4.1

FY 2022 Performance: As a result of the Strategic Plan, direct grants awarded were monitored for Arts & Health primary outcomes. This primary outcome supports access to creative arts therapies and evidence-based programs in the arts and health. This is a new primary outcome for this Strategic Plan; no data existed for this performance goal until FY 2019, when this primary outcome was systemically identified at the grant award stage. Grant awards are coded to this primary outcome only if they meet a rigorous set of criteria, including the use of evidence-based programs and/or the utilization of licensed creative arts therapists.

Strategic Objective 2.4. Support access to creative arts therapies and evidence-based programs in arts and health.						
Performance Goal 2.4.1 Annually, the Arts Endowment supports access to creative arts therapies and evidence-based programs in the arts and health.						
Indicat or Numbe r	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.4.1.1	The % of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of providing access to creative arts therapies and evidence-based programs in the arts and health	0.00%	0.04%	0.03%	0.12%	0.09%

Source: eGMS

From FY 2019 to FY 2022, a range of 0% to 0.12% of direct grants per year were awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of providing access to creative arts therapies and evidence-based programs in the arts and health. The negligible number of awards meeting this performance goal is due to the rigorous selection criteria for this primary outcome. Due to the very small percentage of direct grant awards, contextual indicators were not analyzed for this performance goal.

Performance Goal 2.4.2

FY 2022 Performance: The Creative Forces clinical creative arts therapies program serves new patients and facilitates multiple encounters per therapist each year. The clinical performance goal is to serve at least 200 new patients and facilitate at least 1,000 encounters per creative arts therapist (CAT) per year across the program. An initial community goal is to establish community networks around clinical sites that will extend support for current and former creative arts therapies patients and their families as they transition from treatment in clinical settings to arts programming in their community.

Strategic Objective 2.4. Support access to creative arts therapies and evidence-based programs in arts and health.						
Performance Goal 2.4.2 The Creative Forces clinical creative arts therapies program serves new patients and facilitates multiple encounters per therapist each year.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
2.4.2.1	The count of service members served by Creative Forces clinical creative arts therapists	2,694	3,143	2,373	2,553	2,982
2.4.2.2	The count of therapeutic encounters facilitated by Creative Forces clinical creative arts therapists	14,652	17,081	12,147	14,122	13,198

Source: Creative Forces Administrative Records

The table above provides the number of service members/veterans served by the Creative Forces CATs, and the number of therapeutic encounters facilitated by Creative Forces CATs. Similar to FY 2020 and FY 2021, FY 2022 was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which substantially reduced both the number of service members/veterans served and the number of therapeutic encounters—to below pre-pandemic levels.

STRATEGIC GOAL 3

Promote Public Knowledge and Understanding about the Contributions of the Arts

Apart from supporting arts activities throughout the country, the Arts Endowment fosters greater appreciation and understanding of the arts among Americans. Knowing about the arts, and especially about activities in one’s community, offers people a chance to connect with each other through a shared arts experience, or to find a different way of perceiving and interpreting their surroundings. By promoting knowledge and understanding about arts activities and artists in U.S. communities, the Arts Endowment helps people better appreciate the arts’ value and makes them more inclined to engage with the arts, thereby expanding creativity and innovation within the nation as a whole.

The Arts Endowment is also a leading national source for data and analyses about the U.S. arts sector. It provides credible, evidence-based information about the value and impact of the arts. By making these data and analyses publicly available, the agency plays a crucial role in assisting arts-related organizations and government policymakers in understanding the place of arts and culture in their programs and communities. This service can result in authoritative evidence of the arts’ contributions to social, economic, and civic conditions.

To further promote the arts’ importance, the Arts Endowment provides opportunities for U.S. artists and artworks to reach global audiences through international residencies and through participation in foreign arts events. Similarly, U.S. audiences, artists, and communities benefit from opportunities to appreciate and understand international artists and artworks. Such efforts, across national boundaries, can significantly extend the reach, understanding, and impact of the arts—broadening the American people’s perspectives, encouraging empathy, and familiarizing the unfamiliar.

FY 2022 Performance: The percentage of grants with the primary purpose of promoting public knowledge and understanding about the contributions of the arts or partnerships can be found below.

Strategic Goal 3: Promote Public Knowledge and Understanding about the Contributions of the Arts						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
3.a	The % of direct grants awarded by the Arts Endowment with the intent of supporting Goal 3.	4.11%	4.10%	2.90%	3.17%	2.62%

Source: eGMS

From FY 2018 to FY 2022, a range of 2.62% to 4.11% of direct grants per year, including Partnership Agreements for states and regions, were awarded by the Arts Endowment with the primary intent of promoting public knowledge and understanding about the contributions of the arts. The percentage of direct grants attributed to Strategic Goal 3 primarily decreased in FY 2020 and 2022 due to the increase in the total number of CARES and ARP grant awards and the attribution of these grants to Goal 1. The decrease in percentage of direct grants attributed to

Goal 3 in FY 2021 relative to FY 2019 and earlier is a result of more accurate grant coding procedures.

These direct grants were mainly funded across three disciplines, as illustrated in the table that follows. Note that Partnership Agreements, which are coded under Goal 3 for budgetary reasons, are discussed separately later in this section.

Strategic Goal 3: Promote Public Knowledge and Understanding about the Contributions of the Arts						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
3.b	The % of Arts Endowment direct grants by artistic discipline with the intent of supporting Goal 3.					
	<i>Folk & Traditional Arts</i>	10.53%	6.72%	4.71%	0.00%	0.00%
	<i>International</i>	0.0%	100.00%	0.0%	0.0%	100.00%
	<i>Research</i>	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
3.c	<i>Obligated funds for direct grants awarded by the NEA with the intent of supporting Goal 3.</i>	\$2,149,479	\$2,612,876	\$1,916,576	\$833,000	\$1,663,784

Source: eGMS

The funds awarded for these grants with the primary intent of supporting Goal 3 vary across fiscal years, but the average from FY 2018 through FY 2022 was approximately \$1.8 million per year. During this time period, more than \$9 million were obligated in direct grants with the intent of promoting public knowledge and understanding about the contributions of the arts.

Strategic Objective 3.1

Inform and engage with the American people about arts activities and artists in communities across the country and their important to the vitality of the nation.

All Americans can benefit from knowing about the presence and contributions of artists, artistic practices, and arts organizations in their communities, and about opportunities to participate. Experiencing the arts can make people’s lives better, richer, and fuller, and can foster connections among individuals and communities. By sharing information about successful, meaningful arts events, the National Endowment for the Arts can create a positive impression of the arts. In addition, the American people will become more knowledgeable about the arts in general, and about local arts activities in particular, thus raising the likelihood of robust participation in the arts.

The Arts Endowment sees its position as the national arts agency as a vehicle for promoting the importance of the arts on a national scale. The agency has a national voice and is well placed to use the various tools it possesses—traditional and social media, website, publications, research—to display the arts’ perpetual contributions to the welfare and prosperity of America.

Performance Goal 3.1.1

The Office of Public Affairs (OPA) is responsible for disseminating and promoting Arts Endowment-related events, programs, and research, and for promoting the general importance of the arts to the United States.

The desired outcome of this performance goal is a more positive understanding of how the arts affect people’s lives and communities, and a more positive view of the work that the Arts Endowment does. A related outcome would be that people interact and engage with the arts more often in their communities. For these outcomes to be possible, the Arts Endowment must reach as many American people as possible through traditional media, social media, the website, and publications.

To determine the Arts Endowment’s reach to the American people, OPA reviews the number of newspapers and magazines in which Arts Endowment--related articles appear. OPA can also review the number of followers on social media channels, and how often people engage with specific material featured on them. OPA looks at how many people visit the Arts Endowment website, in what states they are located, what pages they go to, and how much time they spend on them. OPA examines the number of publications ordered as well as how many times publication pages are accessed on the website. Together, these numbers give a general idea of the reach the Arts Endowment has into American communities to promote the knowledge and understanding of arts.

FY 2022 Performance: Data collected by OPA demonstrates the extent to which the Arts Endowment informs and engages with the American people about arts activities and artists in the communities across the country and their importance to the vitality of the nation.

Strategic Objective 3.1 Inform and engage with the American people about arts activities and artists in communities across the country and their importance to the vitality of the nation.						
Performance Goal 3.1.1. Inform and engage with the American people about arts activities and artists in communities across the country and their importance to the vitality of the nation.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
3.1.1.1	The % of states and U.S. jurisdictions, including the District of Columbia, in which Arts Endowment-related articles appeared in news outlets and interact with the Arts Endowment through the website and social media.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: Office of Public Affairs social media and website data, News Clips

In FY 2018 through FY 2022, Arts Endowment-related articles appeared in news outlets in all U.S. states and jurisdictions, including the District of Columbia. Likewise, 100% of U.S. states and jurisdictions interacted with the Arts Endowment through our website and social media.

Other Indicators

Performance Goal 3.1.1. Inform and engage with the American people about arts activities and artists in communities across the country and their importance to the vitality of the nation.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
3.1.1.2	The # of Arts Endowment-related articles appearing in news outlets throughout the country	5,145	3,430	2,575	2,600	2,556
3.1.1.3	The # of visitors to the Arts Endowment website from locations within the U.S.	1,217,035	1,163,419	1,348,430	1,020,868	1,422,354
3.1.1.4	The # of followers on the various Arts Endowment social media channels	247,818	258,664	267,600	314,300	324,072

Source: Office of Public Affairs social media and website data, News Clips

Strategic Objective 3.2

Expand and promote evidence of the value and impact of the arts for the benefit of the American people.

Research and evaluation are essential to the Arts Endowment’s ability to monitor and improve its overall performance, but this capacity also benefits the public more directly. Arts workers and arts industries depend on timely information and analyses to track patterns of employment, fiscal health, and public demand for their goods and services. Outside the arts sector, individuals and communities require statistically reliable data on the relationship of arts and culture to other aspects of everyday life. The general public needs to know whether and how the arts should factor into decisions about where to live, how to spend one’s discretionary time, and what kind of education to provide for one’s children. The Arts Endowment thus helps the American people to achieve—in the words of its founding legislation—“a better understanding of the past, a better analysis of the present, and a better view of the future.”

Based on agency-wide and external feedback, the Office of Research & Analysis (ORA) has developed its own five-year Strategic Plan and [research agenda](#). The office aims to complete 75% of targeted projects by the end of the five-year term of the research agenda. The office has identified criteria that have been used to set annual milestones for two tiers of research projects. For example, ORA aims to complete 80% of Tier One projects and 50% of Tier Two projects by FY 2022. In addition, ORA will review Arts Endowment-originated research articles and citations in academic journals specializing in non-arts disciplines, and it will also review articles about Arts Endowment-originated research in non-academic news outlets across the nation.

Performance Goal 3.2.1

FY 2022 Performance: ORA strives for an annual project completion rate of 15% for the research projects on the research agenda. However, given the long timeframes for some studies, it is anticipated that the completion rate will be lower during the initial years of a five-year research agenda and accelerated during the latter years. The below tables show the percentage of research projects completed by fiscal year and the percentage of research projects launched by fiscal year.

Strategic Objective 3.2. Expand and promote evidence of the value and impact of the arts for the benefit of the American people.						
Performance Goal 3.2.1 The Arts Endowment's Office of Research & Analysis annually completes 15% of research projects on the agency's five-year research agenda.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
3.2.1.1	The % of Arts Endowment Research Agenda projects completed	18%	45%	68%	88%	88%

Source: Office of Research & Analysis Research Agenda documentation

ORA completed its performance goal by 2021, exceeding its original target of 75% by completing 88% of research projects on the agency's five-year research agenda. It also had launched 100% of research projects on its agenda by the end of September 2021, exceeding its 75% launch target in FY 2021. There was no change in projects launched or projects completed from FY 2021 to FY 2022.

The agency's [new research agenda](#) was published in December 2021. Progress on the new research agenda will be measured beginning in FY 2023.

Other Indicators

Strategic Objective 3.2. Expand and promote evidence of the value and impact of the arts for the benefit of the American people.						
Performance Goal 3.2.1 The Arts Endowment's Office of Research & Analysis annually launches 15% of research projects on the agency's five-year research agenda.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
3.2.1.2	The % of Arts Endowment Research Agenda projects launched (cumulative)	77%	90%	94%	100%	100%

Source: Office of Research & Analysis Research Agenda documentation

Performance Goal 3.2.2

FY 2022 Performance: Past research supported by the Arts Endowment is mentioned in news articles and academic journals every year. Each year, Arts Endowment research-related articles or citations are counted as a way to measure the reach of the agency's research activities. Note that indicator 3.2.2.1 is a new indicator; therefore, no historical data exist prior to FY 2018.

Strategic Objective 3.2. Expand and promote evidence of the value and impact of the arts for the benefit of the American people.						
Performance Goal 3.2.2. Annually, Arts Endowment research-related articles and/or citations appear in academic journals specializing in disciplines other than the arts and in non-academic news outlets.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
3.2.2.1	The # of Arts Endowment research-related articles and/or citations in academic journals specializing in disciplines other than the arts	204	163	160	229	200
3.2.2.2	The # of Arts Endowment research-related articles and/or citations in non-academic news outlets	135	117	129	159	228

Source: Academic Literature, News

The FY 2018 calculation of 3.2.2.1 was done internally. In FY 2019 and later, the calculation of this indicator was done by a contractor. The methodology used to search citations varied between the two sources—a factor that may explain variation from FY 2018 to FY 2019. In FY 2021, there was a substantial increase in the number of times Arts Endowment publications were cited in academic journals specializing in disciplines other than the arts, which accounts for the substantial increase in 3.2.2.1.

In FY 2022, the internal calculation for 3.2.2.2. varied from previous years with a new sampling method. The difference in approach— in addition to an increase in the number of citations over the year—account for the variation in the number of research related articles and/or citations in non-academic news outlets.

**Strategic Objective 3.3
Provide opportunities for the international exchange of artists, artworks, and arts activities.**

U.S. artists and artworks already attract global recognition, so the National Endowment for the Arts provides opportunities for them to be showcased for other audiences through participation in global arts events. Similarly, U.S. audiences, artists, and communities can benefit from opportunities to appreciate and understand international artists and artworks.

The Arts Endowment, as the lead federal agency in supporting the arts, is constantly examining opportunities with other federal agencies, nonprofit arts organizations, state arts agencies and regional arts organizations, and international collaborators to partner on activities to raise awareness of the arts for domestic and foreign audiences. The agency is also a key point of contact for international cultural visitors and those interested in the infrastructure for arts support in the United States, hosting an average of 50 international delegations annually.

The desired outcome is to create a more positive understanding of the United States through creative interactions with other countries, and to expose the American people to new arts and culture to build connections among people through the arts and promote a better understanding of our world. The Arts Endowment's international activities increase recognition of the excellence of U.S. arts around the world and broaden the scope of experience for American

artists, thereby enriching the art they create. Through partnerships with other government agencies and the private sector, the Arts Endowment fosters international creative collaboration by strengthening residency programs of foreign artists in communities across the country. Through the Arts Endowment Literature Fellowships in Translation program, the agency makes available literary works from around the world, enriching the American people’s horizons as creative, innovative thinkers and citizens of the world. And through the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Program, the Arts Endowment helps bring to U.S. museums art from around the world that might otherwise be too costly to insure.

Performance Goal 3.3.1

FY 2022 Performance: The Arts Endowment builds and maintains partnerships that promote American arts and artists internationally each year. Below are the number of American artists who have visited other countries with support from the Arts Endowment’s strategic partnerships with other funders, and the number of countries those American artists visited with support from the Arts Endowment’s strategic partnerships with other funders. FY 2020, FY 2021, and FY 2022 numbers were lower than previous years as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Strategic Objective 3.3. Provide opportunities for the international exchange of artists, artworks, and arts activities.						
Performance Goal 3.3.1. The Arts Endowment builds and maintains partnerships that promote American art and artists internationally each year.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
3.3.1.1	The # of American artists who visit another country with support from the Arts Endowment’s strategic partnerships with other funders	1240	1240	996	346	582
3.3.1.2	The # of countries visited by American artists with support from the Arts Endowment’s strategic partnerships with other funders	31	43	40	32	34

Source: International Records Program

Performance Goal 3.3.2

FY 2022 Performance: Each year, the Arts Endowment builds and maintains partnerships that bring art and artists from other countries to U.S. audiences. This performance indicator focuses on the number of international artists in residences across the nation with support from the Arts Endowment’s strategic partnerships with other funders.

Strategic Objective 3.3. Provide opportunities for the international exchange of artists, artworks, and arts activities.						
Performance Goal 3.3.2. Each year, the Arts Endowment builds and maintains partnerships that bring art and artists from other countries to U.S. audiences.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
3.3.2.1	The number of international artists in residencies across the nation with support from the Arts Endowment’s strategic partnerships with other funders	35	36	85	0	0

Source: International Records Program

From FY 2018 to FY 2022, a total of 156 international artist residencies across the nation have been supported by the Arts Endowment’s strategic partnerships with other funders. The increase

in FY 2020 reflects the addition of Performing Arts Global Exchange. The COVID-19 pandemic also limited the ability for the Arts Endowment to support international artist residencies in FY 2021 and FY 2022.

Performance Goal 3.3.3

FY 2022 Performance: When providing opportunities for the international exchange of artists, artworks, and arts activities, the Arts Endowment aims for a demonstrable benefit for the careers of participating American artists. As part of its ongoing effort to build an evidence base to inform its programs and policies, the agency is planning a survey of U.S. artists participating in international activities with the goal of developing a richer understanding of the short- and long-term impacts of these activities on their careers. A contract was concluded in FY 2020 to produce a survey instrument, plan for administration, prepare related Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) clearance package, and conduct pilot-testing of the instrument. Focus group discussions were facilitated with participating U.S. artists as part of the survey development process; expanded professional networks and opportunities, enhanced reputation, acquisition of new professional skills were among the benefits reported by artists.

Paperwork Reduction Act clearance for the survey instrument was received in December 2020; due to reduced international activities in the wake of COVID-19, the survey instrument was not deployed until FY 2022. Every artist that responded to the survey reported benefits of participating in the Arts Endowment-supported international exchanges.

Strategic Objective 3.3. Provide opportunities for the international exchange of artists, artworks, and arts activities.						
Performance Goal 3.3.3. During the five-year term of this Strategic Plan, Arts Endowment-supported international exchanges have a demonstrable benefit on the careers of participating American artists.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
3.3.3.1	The % of American artists that report benefits of their participation in Arts Endowment-supported international exchanges	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%

Source: International Experiences survey data

Partnership Agreements

The National Endowment for the Arts’ State & Regional Partnership Agreement grants are awarded to the nation’s [56 state and jurisdictional arts agencies \(SAAs\)](#), and the [six regional arts organizations \(RAOs\)](#) whose members comprise SAAs. Partnership support is also available to the national service organization for the state arts agencies.

Partnership Agreement support enables these agencies and organizations to respond to needs identified through public planning undertaken with their constituents, partners, and stakeholders. This investment in locally-determined priorities extends federal reach and impact, translating national leadership into local benefit.

All SAAs, RAOs, and their national service organization must apply annually for this support. Approximately one third of all organizations submit a full application (“on-year”) while the remaining organizations (“off-year”) submit abbreviated applications.

State Partnership Agreements include general funding for the execution of all aspects of the SAA’s strategic plan and designated funding for folk & traditional arts, arts education, and reaching underserved communities. Participating SAAs also receive support to conduct the Poetry Out Loud program in their respective state.

Regional Partnership Agreements include general funding for the execution of all aspects of the RAO’s strategic plan and designated funding to support touring and presenting activities that promote live arts experiences for audiences, with an emphasis on serving underserved communities.

Partnership Agreement funding for the past five years is summarized below.

State & Regional Partnership Agreement Grants					
Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<i>Obligated funds for Partnership Agreements awarded by the Arts Endowment</i>	\$50,539,846	\$81,375,485	\$106,657,500	\$56,705,200	\$60,696,400

Partnership Agreements constitute 40% of the agency’s grant-making. The addition of CARES Act funds in FY 2020 to the FY 2019 Partnership Agreements was responsible for the increase in FY 2019 funding levels. Similarly, the addition of ARP funds in FY 2021 to the FY 2020 partnership agreements is responsible for the large increase in FY 2020 funding levels (see indicator 3.c).

STRATEGIC GOAL 4

Enable the Arts Endowment Mission through Organizational Excellence

The National Endowment for the Arts is a small, independent federal agency with a big impact, committed to effectively carrying out its mission. The Arts Endowment is a responsible steward of its resources, using technology strategically and building a workforce that is committed to its mission and service to the American people.

The Arts Endowment is the sole arts funding entity, public or private, whose funding reaches every Congressional District in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories, supporting activities such as performances, exhibitions, healing arts and arts education programs, festivals, and artist residencies. With such an ambitious mission and extensive roster of programmatic activities, the Arts Endowment can succeed only because of its commitment to organizational excellence. Creating and maintaining a highly functioning organization allows the agency to fulfill its considerable responsibilities to the American people.

Strategic Objective 4.1

Be an effective and vigilant steward of public funds.

Entrusted with public funds to pursue the Arts Endowment’s mission, the agency’s employees strive to build and sustain public confidence that the agency’s business processes and procedures reflect the highest standards of effective and vigilant stewardship.

Performance Goal 4.1.1

FY 2022 Performance: The agency has received an annual unmodified (“clean”) financial-statements audit opinion for the last 15 years, including for FY 2022. An audit opinion remains the primary measurement of success for this strategic objective.

Strategic Objective 4.1. Be an effective and vigilant steward of public funds						
Performance Goal 4.1.1. Each year, the Arts Endowment ensures that public funds are used and accounted for appropriately.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
4.1.1.1	Annual receipt of an unmodified audit opinion	unmodified	unmodified	unmodified	unmodified	unmodified

Source: Arts Endowment’s Annual Financial Reports (<https://www.arts.gov/sites/default/files/FY22-AFR-NEA.pdf>)

Strategic Objective 4.2

Be transparent and accountable to the public.

As with all government agencies, the Arts Endowment must be accountable to the public, providing readily available information and data about its operations and decision-making. The agency maintains and continually improves upon policies, processes, and systems that ensure optimal transparency and accountability.

Performance Goal 4.2.1

Agency activities are fully transparent to the public, and the agency is fully accountable to the public, as evidenced through multiple channels of communication and reporting, chief among them compliance with the requirements of the DATA Act and Federal Information Security Modernization Act. The Arts Endowment ensures transparency to the public by providing accurate reporting of grant data on a quarterly basis.

Strategic Objective 4.2. Be transparent and accountable to the public						
Performance Goal 4.2.1. The Arts Endowment ensures transparency to the public by providing accurate reporting of grant data on a quarterly basis.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
4.2.1.1	The % of data submitted to USASpending.gov that is accurate, complete, and in accordance with government-wide data standards as reported in Auditor's Report on the Arts Endowment's compliance with the DATA Act of 2014	N/A	99%	Certified*	Certified*	Certified*

Source: Internal Agency DATA Act Reports

* In FY 2020, 2021 and 2022, the agency stopped reporting the percentage accuracy of data submitted to USASpending.gov due to the CARES Act of 2020 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The previous measure had a narrower data scope and represented data comparison with source systems that do not contain all the data required by the CARES Act and the American Rescue Plan Act. CARES Act data reporting and the American Rescue Plan Act, which is implemented and incorporated into DATA Act reporting, includes comprehensive award data. The data are identified as either "certified" (or accurate) or not. Certification means the agency assures the accuracy of the data and compliance with DATA Act reporting rules with no technical errors.

Strategic Objective 4.3

Attract and maintain a diverse, creative, knowledgeable, productive, and motivated workforce.

The Arts Endowment's workforce is at the heart of its ability to provide the American people with the highest level of service. The Arts Endowment identifies critical workforce needs; it recruits strategically and in compliance with government hiring principles; it provides its

workforce with incentives such as training and advancement opportunities, as appropriate; and it develops and maintains policies and processes to ensure excellent performance and accountability.

Performance Goal 4.3.1

The Arts Endowment will maintain compliance with and exceed the requirements of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) 80-day hiring model, through which talented and skilled applicants are identified and on-boarded in a timely manner.

FY 2022 Performance: Annually, including in FY 2022, the Arts Endowment has met the requirements of the 80-day hiring model, through which talented and skilled applicants are identified and on-boarded in a minimal amount of time. The annual time by fiscal year is listed in the table below:

Strategic Objective 4.3. Attract and maintain a diverse, creative, knowledgeable, productive, and motivated workforce.						
Performance Goal 4.3.1. Annually, the Arts Endowment exceeds the requirements of the 80-day hiring model, through which talented and skilled applicants are identified and on-boarded in a minimal amount of time.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
4.3.1.1	The average time for the identification and on-boarding of new Arts Endowment hires will not exceed 80 days	80 days	80 days	80 days	80 days	80 days

Source: HR Office Records

Performance Goal 4.3.2

The Arts Endowment will continue to encourage maximum employee engagement and respond proactively to employee viewpoints in order to maintain a ranking as one of the best places to work in the federal government. A key strategy for collecting employee feedback is the OPM Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS), which identifies specific areas as needing improvement.

FY 2022 Performance: Using the FEVS data, the agency tracks the percent of Arts Endowment employees reporting responses to key questions on this survey. Information collected from the survey is used to improve recruitment and retention strategies for high-performing workers. The annual percentages of responses to key questions are listed in the table below.

Strategic Objective 4.3. Attract and maintain a diverse, creative, knowledgeable, productive, and motivated workforce.						
Performance Goal 4.3.2. Annually, Arts Endowment employees report a high degree of satisfaction working at the Arts Endowment.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
4.3.2.1	The % of Arts Endowment employees reporting positive responses to key questions on OPM’s annual Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey.					
	Reported a positive response to the statement "My agency is successful at accomplishing its mission."	87.90%	94.73%	98.44%	94.20%	92.3%
	Reported a positive response to the statement "I know how my work relates to the agency's goal and priorities."*	97.50%	96.49%	92.06%	92.20%	92.4%
	Reported a positive response to the statement "I am held accountable for achieving results."**	92.20%	89.67%	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Reported a positive response to the statement "I am constantly looking for ways to do my job better."***	89.10%	93.03%	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Employee satisfaction and commitment score	71.30%	79.45%	78.46%	73.20%	70.9%
	Average positive response score of leadership/supervision.	72.00%	73.36%	75.00%	76.86%	77.9%

Source: OPM Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey

*The 2022 FEVS item is “I know how my work relates to the agency’s goals”.

**This question was not a part of the 2020, 2021, and 2022 FEVS due to the addition of COVID-19 pandemic-related questions.

*** This question was not a part of the 2020, 2021, and 2022 FEVS due to the addition of COVID-19 pandemic-related questions.

As seen in the table above, a significant majority of the Arts Endowment’s employees have expressed positive responses to key questions on the FEVS over the past years, with a slight variation across categories in 2022.

Strategic Objective 4.4

Recruit and engage citizens as panelists who will make recommendations for Arts Endowment awards that meet the highest standards of excellence.

The democratic process is manifest in the Arts Endowment review of applications seeking agency funds. Representing the demographic and geographic characteristics of this nation, citizen panel members participate in the decision-making process for virtually all of the Arts Endowment’s awards. The Arts Endowment ensures that different points of view— those of experts and non-experts in the arts—are heard at panel meetings, thereby enhancing the value of Arts Endowment grant-making for all Americans.

Performance Goal 4.4.1

Arts Endowment awards are responsibly adjudicated and represent the broad interests of the American people and, where appropriate, the specific artistic disciplines and subdisciplines for which grant proposals are adjudicated. In aggregate, where possible, panelists represent the nation’s geographic and demographic diversity.

FY 2022 Performance: The Arts Endowment recruits and engages citizens as panelists from each state and the District of Columbia each year, including in FY 2022. The percentage of states, including the District of Columbia, who are represented by individuals serving on Arts Endowment panels each fiscal year is shown below.

Strategic Objective 4.4. Recruit and engage citizens as panelists who will make recommendations for Arts Endowment awards that meet the highest standards of excellence.						
Performance Goal 4.4.1. Annually, the Arts Endowment recruits and engages citizens as panelists from each state and the District of Columbia.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
4.4.1.1	The % of states, including the District of Columbia, represented by individuals serving on Arts Endowment panels	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Panelist Records/OGPO

CROSS-CUTTING OBJECTIVE (CCO)

Through strategic partnerships and award-making, ensure that Arts Endowment-funded activities reach a wide breadth of geographic locations and underserved populations across the country.

In its founding legislation, the Arts Endowment was charged with the responsibility of widening the availability of art, particularly to historically underserved populations—those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability. Since its creation, the Arts Endowment has dedicated considerable resources, developed several leadership initiatives, and strengthened its partnerships with SAAs and RAOs to realize the vision of a nation in which the arts enrich the lives of all Americans.

Of particular concern with regard to underserved groups is the connection between income and arts participation. National survey data show large disparities in arts participation rates by income and education level. Despite this challenge, an analysis of Arts Endowment grants awarded in FY 2017 shows that more than 40% of arts activities sponsored by Arts Endowment grants are held in Census tracts where 20% or more of the population live below the poverty line. In addition, a portion of each SAA partnership grant is designated for reaching underserved communities within the state, and a portion of each RAO grant is designated for touring arts activities to underserved populations within the region.

To assess performance on this cross-cutting agency objective, the Arts Endowment will monitor the distribution of awards across the spectrum of artistic disciplines and geographic areas to ensure that they reach Americans nationwide. Indicators of progress include equitable distribution of Arts Endowment-supported activities relative to population across states and to underserved populations.

CCO Performance Goal 1.1

FY 2022 Performance: Beyond the simple categorization of urban versus rural, geographic diversity is also shown by the relative population sizes of communities where Arts Endowment-funded arts events occurred. Within the designation of urban/metro areas, there are four subdivisions used by the U.S. Census to characterize metro areas of different sizes. This performance indicator tracks the percentage of Arts Endowment-funded grant activities in relation to the percentage of the population in those metro-area categories. Rows 1 and 2 of CCO 1.1.2 display the binary distinction of metro vs. non-metro, whereas rows 3-6 display gradations within the broader metro category, i.e., with rows 3-6 as a refined subset of row 2. Please note that all U.S. population figures shown below are estimates made by the U.S. Census Bureau as of July 1 in each respective year.

As seen in the table below, the distribution of Arts Endowment-funded project activities roughly mirrors the geographic distribution of the U.S. population. This proportional relationship is true in the broad sense as evidenced in rows 1 and 2 at the top of the CCO 1.1.2 table, which compare metro vs. non-metro areas, but it is also largely true even when accounting for the gradations in metro size and population density shown in rows 3-6.

Cross-Cutting Objective: Through strategic partnerships and award-making, ensure that Arts Endowment-funded activities reach a wide breadth of geographic locations and underserved populations across the country						
Performance Goal CCO 1.1. Annually, Arts Endowment-funded activities take place in a diverse spectrum of geographic locations.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
CCO 1.1.1	The geographic distribution of applications received, grants awarded, and project activity locations					
	<i>Applications Received</i>	3,933	3,890	6,936	4,164	12,045
	<i>Grants Awarded</i>	2,237	2,292	3,245	2,460	3,356
	<i>% of Applications from Urban Areas</i>	92.45%	92.80%	92.69%	92.94%	91.22%
	<i>% of Grants in Urban Areas</i>	92.58%	93.11%	92.23%	93.98%	92.82%
	<i>% of Applications in Rural Areas</i>	7.55%	7.20%	7.31%	7.06%	8.78%
	<i>% of Grants in Rural Areas</i>	7.42%	6.89%	7.77%	6.02%	7.18%
	<i>Project Activity Locations</i>	23,880	14,018	11,480	6,263	N/A
	<i>% of Project Activity Locations in Urban Areas</i>	88.35%	89.48%	88.09%	89.81%	N/A
	<i>% of Project Activity Locations in Rural Areas</i>	11.65%	10.52%	11.91%	10.19%	N/A

CCO 1.1.2 The % of Arts Endowment-funded activities occurring in each segment of the rural-urban continuum compared to the percentage of the population that lives in those respective locations.										
	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
Rural/Urban Continuum	NEA Activities	% Population in Location	NEA Activities	% Population in Location	NEA Activities	% Population in Location	NEA Activities	% Population in Location	NEA Activities	% Population in Location
	(n=23,880)	(329.9M)	(n=14,018)	(331.4M)	(n=11,480)	(334.7M)	(n=6,263)	(331.9M)	(n=N/A)	(N/A)
1. Non-metro, rural areas	11.65%	13.80%	10.52%	13.74%	11.91%	13.58%	10.21%	13.69%	N/A	N/A
2. Metro, urban areas	88.35%	86.20%	89.48%	86.26%	88.09%	86.42%	89.79%	86.31%	N/A	N/A
3. Metro pop < 250K	7.45%	8.83%	5.53%	8.82%	6.73%	8.86%	7.83%	8.66%	N/A	N/A
4. Metro pop >= 250 K but < 1M	13.06%	21.37%	13.97%	21.41%	18.48%	20.44%	12.41%	20.74%	N/A	N/A
5. Metro pop >= 1M but < 4.6M	25.34%	25.71%	24.18%	25.78%	26.15%	28.11%	29.97%	26.42%	N/A	N/A
6. Metro pop >= 4.6M	42.50%	30.29%	45.79%	30.26%	36.73%	29.01%	39.59%	30.49%	N/A	N/A

Source: FDR
2019 Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

The above CCO 1.1.1 table shows that each year, the percentage of grants awarded to organizations in rural versus urban settings is roughly proportional to the percentage of applications received from those organizations, although there is a pattern of applications from urban organizations having a slightly higher success rate each year. However, agency-funded projects produce arts events at locations other than just each grantee organization’s address. At the conclusion of each project, grantees report this assortment of project activity locations on their FDRs, and each year the data (presented in the final three rows of the CCO 1.1.1 table) demonstrate that these activities occur with more frequency in rural areas than would be expected based on the ratio of grant awards. In other words, Arts Endowment grants often support project activities in rural areas even when the organizations themselves are located in urban areas. In fact, in each year shown in the table, approximately 6%-7% of grants were awarded to rural organizations; however, an average of 11% of all Endowment agency-funded project activities occurred in rural areas in each of those years. The distribution of FY 2021 Arts Endowment-funded project activities is similar to the distribution of the U.S. population, in that approximately 13.5% of U.S. residents live in rural/nonmetropolitan areas.

CCO Performance Goal 1.2

FY 2022 Performance: Each year, the Arts Endowment strives to award direct grants in every congressional district. The percentages, by fiscal year, are listed below.

Cross-Cutting Objective: Through strategic partnerships and award-making, ensure that Arts Endowment-funded activities reach a wide breadth of geographic locations and underserved populations across the country						
Performance Goal CCO 1.2. Each year, Arts Endowment direct grants are awarded in every congressional district.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
CCO 1.2.1	The % of congressional districts receiving an Arts Endowment direct grant	98.39%	97.70%	98.85%	97.01%	97.24%

Source: eGMS

CCO Performance Goal 1.3

FY 2022 Performance: Arts Endowment direct grants engage underserved populations with the arts every year. The percentage of the direct grants awarded that engages underserved populations are shown below by fiscal year. The FY 2021 percentage reflects fewer than half of all grant projects and thus is an incomplete representation.

Cross-Cutting Objective: Through strategic partnerships and award-making, ensure that Arts Endowment-funded activities reach a wide breadth of geographic locations and underserved populations across the country						
Performance Goal CCO 1.3. Arts Endowment direct grants engages underserved populations with the arts every year.						
Indicator Number	Measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
CCO 1.3.1	The % of Arts Endowment direct grant awards that engage underserved populations	35.97%	33.53%	21.19%	14.02%	N/A

Source: FDR

MANAGEMENT PRIORITY

The Arts Endowment identified one major management priority for FY 2018-22 in addition to priorities shown in our strategic framework (see below). This work was completed in FY 2021.

1. Institutionalization of the processes surrounding the recently implemented eGMS (Electronic Grants Management System)

Planned actions and results for this management priority follow:

Management Priority 1. Institutionalization of the processes surrounding the recently implemented eGMS (Electronic Grants Management System).	
Planned Action	Arts Endowment will be working with our Shared Service provider to develop a way to obtain federal financial assistance awardees reporting data via web-based submission into the eGMS.
Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint steering committee completed its needs assessment and established requirements for final reports and other reports needing to use web-based submission by the end of Q3 FY 2018. • A joint agency work group concluded its work in Q4 FY 2019 supporting the development of a new agency-defined forms module for the eGMS. • A full-scale pilot test of the agency’s FY 2020 grant reports was launched in Q2 FY 2020. All FY 2021 grant reports were incorporated into the agency-defined forms module following the pilot period. • New work began in Q1 FY2020 to adapt an existing eGMS feature to collect geographic activity data at the final report stage. This new feature was fully deployed by FY 2021.

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

The Arts Endowment continuously used research and evaluation across the four strategic goals to inform strategies and identify opportunities to improve agency performance and increase effectiveness of its activities. The agency used internal and external resources and a variety of processes to develop separate research and learning agendas, to conduct research and evaluation studies, and apply findings to its programs and practices. The following narrative highlights research and evaluation efforts undertaken or completed by the Arts Endowment during FY 2022 that have informed the agency's planning and performance.

Goal 1

Through targeted research and evaluation studies, the Arts Endowment supports its goal to strengthen the cultural infrastructure of the nation. In the past, research studies have examined the nature of specific arts fields, including their challenges and opportunities, while evaluation studies have examined the agency's role in effecting changes to the nation's cultural infrastructure. This fiscal year, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act provided the agency with unique opportunities to study first-time grant applicants and local arts agencies, which were targeted during ARP outreach activities. Specific studies concluded during the past fiscal year include:

- In an ongoing effort to build an evidence base that can inform NEA programs and policies, the agency administered a survey of U.S. artists who have participated in international activities through USArtists International (USAI), a program coordinated by Mid Atlantic Arts that has benefited from long-term NEA support. The survey aimed for a richer understanding of the short- and longer-term impacts of these activities on artists' careers. The survey included questions on how the USAI program contributes to professional development and career benefits for artists across five domains: Professional Opportunities, Professional Networks, Professional Skills and Learning, Visibility as an Artist, and Creativity. The web-based survey of USAI awardees was administered in summer 2022 to those who had completed a USAI-sponsored activity between October 2020 and September 2021. Thirty-seven grantees were eligible to take the survey, and 27 artists associated with the grantee organization did, for a total response rate of 73%. Among the key results, the study found that just under half of respondents secured one or more new bookings abroad as a result of the USAI-supported experience, and the vast majority of respondents (96%) said they made new international professional contacts.
- In FY 2022, the NEA competitively awarded American Rescue Plan (ARP) grants to “help support jobs in the arts sector, keep the doors open to arts organizations nationwide, and assist the field in its response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.”⁴ Unlike the NEA's regular grant programs, ARP grants provided general operating support to arts organizations and did not include a matching requirement. Thanks to extensive public-engagement efforts, 41.0% of organizations that applied to the

⁴ National Endowment for the Arts. (n.d.). American Rescue Plan Grants. Retrieved July 22, 2022 from <https://www.arts.gov/grants/american-rescue-plan-grants>.

opportunities were first-time applicants to the NEA. As a result, the ARP grant programs extended a special opportunity to learn about first-time applicants' experience with the NEA. A survey was administered to all first-time applicants (3,164) to collect data on how new applicants experienced the ARP application process and what challenges they confronted along the way. The survey also inquired whether these first-time applicants would continue to interact with the NEA in the future. The survey response rate was 26.5%. Survey findings were complemented by interviews with a random sample of first-time applicants. Among the key results, the study found that the most common way first-time applicants reported learning about ARP grant programs was through SAAs. Among first-time applicants that were small organizations, moreover, a key challenge was to assess the desirability of applying to the ARP grant opportunity in the first place, given the formidable competition. The final report recommendations, which focused on how the NEA can improve the ability of first-time applicants to understand their chances of receiving an award, advocate getting applicants better connected to extant NEA technical-assistance resources, and improving the quality and usefulness of those resources for first-time applicants. The recommended actions already are becoming integrated with the NEA's regular grantmaking process.

- In FY 2022, the NEA conducted descriptive analysis with grant application form (GAF) data to investigate American Rescue Plan (ARP) local arts agency (LAA) applicants and grantees by organizational, activity-related, and place-based characteristics. The applicant and grantee pools were further defined through qualitative analyses of designation documents, grant application guidelines, interviews, and grantee materials. In addition to examining administrative data on applicants and awardees based on organization and subawardee characteristics, the agency interviewed a sample of ARP LAA applicants and grantees, with a focus on first-time applicants to the NEA at large. A report of these research activities is scheduled for completion during the first quarter of FY 2023. A supplemental technical report on LAA characteristics and lessons learned about the challenges and opportunities of studying these organizations informed the development of a scope of work to generate recommendations for updating LAA eligibility requirements for NEA awards. The NEA will follow up with ARP LAA grantees later in the post-award phase to learn more about the full implementation of ARP grant awards.

Goal 2

Through this goal, the Arts Endowment intends to positively affect people – to enrich and improve their lives and their communities. Research studies are intended to inform the agency's efforts (and those of its partners and stakeholders) in support of this goal, while evaluation studies directly support the improvement of national programs and initiatives or assess the effectiveness of current grant-making activities. Specific research and evaluation studies that have been done include:

- *Creative Forces Clinical Research*. The Arts Endowment through its Creative Forces program continues to invest in clinical research on the biological, psycho-social, and comparative cost effectiveness impacts and benefits of creative arts therapies on service members, veterans, and their families. The [Creative Forces Clinical Peer-Reviewed Publications Inventory](#) lists and links to all the completed research and clinical practice

papers associated with Creative Forces. [Four feasibility studies](#) were awarded in 2021. These studies address critical questions identified in the Creative Forces clinical research [Conceptual Framework report](#). The two research studies of art therapy aim to answer the question, “How and to what extent does art therapy affect emotional processing and self-regulation for service members and veterans?” The two research studies of music therapy aim to answer the question “How and to what extent does music therapy affect the perception of chronic pain in service members and/or veterans who experience chronic pain?” By the conclusion of FY 2022, three of these four studies are actively recruiting participants and the fourth study is awaiting full IRB approval. In addition to these studies, Creative Forces personnel are engaged in five other investigator-initiated studies of art therapy, dance/movement therapy and music therapy. Creative forces therapists and researchers have been productive during FY 2022, with several scientific or invited presentations completed and manuscripts submitted or in process.

- *Creative Forces Clinical Program Evaluation.* During FY 2022, the Arts Endowment is investing in evaluation of its Creative Forces clinical programs, including needs assessments and formative, process, and summative/impact evaluations. The goal is to evaluate all Creative Forces clinical programs and projects, including the clinic-to-community trajectory for program participants, and demonstration projects that will support the program’s growth into other sites and populations (e.g., art therapy family programs at Fort Belvoir and Joint Base Lewis-McChord). These evaluations will continue to identify outcomes associated with Creative Forces clinical programs/projects and determine overall effectiveness, and support ongoing improvement to ensure that the programs/projects are achieving their goals and objectives.

Clinical Program evaluation projects that have been initiated thus far include: formative evaluations of the dance/movement therapy program, the creative arts therapies component of the Rural Veterans TeleRehabilitation Initiative (RVTRI), and two art therapy family programs; and a summative evaluation of a music therapy program. Creative Forces leadership has hired a clinical program evaluator to serve on staff; this individual is conducting all the formative evaluations and is directing a consultant to perform the summative evaluation.

Over the past year, evaluation activities have assisted with programmatic decisions. For example, when developing the RVTRI logic model, the RVTRI Evaluation Workgroup identified gaps in the RVTRI CAT and RVTRI site onboarding process. Consequently, the clinical program evaluator, in collaboration with the RVTRI Evaluation Workgroup, developed two surveys (RVTRI CAT survey and RVTRI site supervisor survey) to gain more information about onboarding needs. Results from the survey are being used to create a RVTRI creative arts therapies onboarding toolkit. Additionally, the Dance/Movement Therapy Evaluation Workgroup and the Music Therapy Evaluation Workgroup are updating the clinical session templated notes because logic model development activities uncovered several issues with the existing notes (e.g., some goals, interventions, and outcomes did not align with the logic model).

- *Creative Forces Community Engagement Evaluation.* The Creative Forces Community Arts Engagement Subgranting Program was launched in late FY 2021. Open to nonprofit

organizations, units of state or local government, or federally recognized tribes or tribal communities, this [tiered subgrant program](#) supports the development and implementation of non-clinical arts engagement programs for military-connected populations. During FY 2021, the agency developed a performance data collection plan for the new subgrant program. Cognitive testing of data collection instruments, including a participant outcome survey, was conducted in FY 2021 and FY 2022, and feedback surveys were deployed to all subgrantees in FY 2022 following receipt of Paperwork Reduction Act clearance for all performance data collection instruments. A participant outcome survey will be piloted during quarters 2 and 3 of FY 2023 in preparation for a future comprehensive evaluation of this program.

- *Shakespeare in American Communities/Juvenile Justice Performance Measurement.* Shakespeare in American Communities (SiAC) is a national theater program of the NEA in partnership with Arts Midwest, bringing performances and related educational activities to audiences across the country, including middle and high school students in underserved schools. Since 2019, a smaller subset of subgrants has been awarded with the intent of expanding the SiAC program into the juvenile justice system. In FY 2020, the NEA commissioned a targeted review of the existing body of research literature on arts programs engaging juvenile offenders and a draft logic model for the SiAC/JJ program. An important product of this earlier work was understanding the challenges of evaluating arts-based interventions in juvenile justice settings. Through a collaborative effort with Arts Midwest in FY 2022, the NEA commissioned an evaluability assessment of SiAC subgrants and developed data collection tools and guidelines to improve the evaluation and measurement of this type of arts program. The NEA plans to release an online toolkit in FY 2023 to help other organizations leading arts programs in juvenile justice settings.
- *American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Survey of State Arts Agencies and Regional Arts Organizations.* During FY 2022, the Arts Endowment partnered with the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies to develop a survey of SAAs and RAOs about the distribution and impact of ARP Act funding. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 appropriated \$135 million to the Arts Endowment to support organizations and jobs in the arts sector that had been impacted by the pandemic. Forty percent of these funds were directed to state arts agencies and regional arts organizations for distribution through their funding programs. The survey, which will be administered during the second quarter of FY 2023, will collect data on how ARP funding from the Arts Endowment supported state and regional subgrantees.

Goal 3

The Arts Endowment supports its goal to promote public knowledge and understanding about the contributions of the arts primarily through its research program. Investments in arts research include the Sound Health Network, a partnership of the Arts Endowment with the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) in collaboration with the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and Renée Fleming, the center's artistic advisor, which was established to promote research and public awareness about the impact of music on health and wellness; and the National Archive of Data on Arts and Culture, a repository

hosted by the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan that facilitates research on arts and culture by acquiring and sharing data, particularly those funded by federal agencies and other organizations.

Beyond supporting these national resources for researchers,, the NEA invests through its research grants program in studies on the impacts of the arts on individuals and communities. Moreover, the NEA’s Research Labs program supports transdisciplinary research teams, grounded in the social and behavioral sciences. Through both programs, the Arts Endowment invites researchers and arts organizations to engage with the agency’s five-year research agenda.⁵

Studies pursuing this agenda are also undertaken directly by Arts Endowment staff and contractors. In FY 2022, completed research products by the Arts Endowment include:

- *U.S. Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account.* The National Endowment for the Arts partners with the Bureau of Economic Analysis (U.S. Department of Commerce) to report on the economic impact of arts and culture in the United States. These reports are based on supplementary statistics called the Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account, or ACPSA. A [summary research report](#) of the national findings was released during FY 2022, along with a set of “[creative economy state profiles](#)” developed in partnership with the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies and [state-level estimates of the arts’ economic value and employment \(2001-2020\)](#).
- *Artists in the Workforce: National and State Estimates for 2015-2019.* An [arts data profile](#) released during FY 2022 presented national and state-level estimates of artists in the workforce derived from American Community Survey data covering 2015-2019. Three research briefs were featured as part of a NEA’s Arts Data Profile, an online feature: : *Artists in the Workforce: Selected Demographic Characteristics Prior to COVID-19; State Locations of Artists, by Race and Ethnicity: 2015-2019;* and *Arts Managers by Race, Ethnicity, and Gender: 2015-2019.*

Goal 4

The Arts Endowment rigorously reviews its management functions. With respect to financial management, the Arts Endowment’s Office of Inspector General (OIG) oversees an annual audit, which encompasses an independent and thorough review to ensure the agency’s financial statements accurately and completely represent the agency’s financial position. The OIG also oversees the annual review of the agency’s compliance with the Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA). The financial statement audit and FISMA review typically result in recommendations for improvement that inform the agency’s Strategic Plan and efforts for improved programs and processes.

Human capital management reviews are essential for hiring, managing, training and retaining talented and high performing employees. To that end, the Arts Endowment regularly evaluates and acts on its human capital programs via Office of Personnel Management (OPM) audits and assessments and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) reviews. In addition,

⁵ A new [research agenda](#) was released by the NEA in December 2021.

results from OPM's Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey, provide important data on employee engagement, sense of inclusion, dedication to the Arts Endowment mission, and commitment to personal accountability. Surveys of panelists participating in reviews of funding applications provide information used to improve the peer review process.