

# YOUR FEDERAL ARTS AGENCY

The National Endowment for the Arts is an independent federal agency that is the largest funder of the arts and arts education in communities nationwide and a catalyst of public and private support for the arts. By advancing equitable opportunities for arts participation and practice, the NEA fosters and sustains an environment in which the arts benefit everyone in the United States.

## THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF THE ARTS

The arts can transform the lives of individuals and communities while also having a significant economic impact.

In 2020:

**> 4.6 MILLION PEOPLE**  
worked in the arts and cultural industries in the U.S.

**\$446 BILLION**  
total compensation of arts and culture workers

In 2020, the arts contributed

**\$876.7 BILLION**

to the U.S. economy

**4.2%**  
of the nation's GDP

The Arts Endowment's 2022 budget is

**\$180 MILLION**

**▶ 0.003%**  
of the federal budget

**▶ 54 CENTS**  
the Arts Endowment's annual cost to each American

Arts Endowment grant awards require a dollar-to-dollar match, ensuring that NEA funds help to leverage many more public and private investments in the arts.

## HOW THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS FUNDS THE ARTS

The Arts Endowment awards grants for projects to nonprofit organizations nationwide, as well as supports fellowships for American writers and translators of world literature.

The grant review process is rigorous

1

Peer-review by citizen experts and laypersons from around the country

2

Review by National Council on the Arts, the agency's advisory body

3

Final review and award decisions by Arts Endowment chair

National Endowment for the Arts confers lifetime honors on jazz masters and folk and traditional artists.

National Endowment for the Arts sponsors national programs such as Poetry Out Loud, Blue Star Museums, and the NEA Big Read that provide diverse opportunities for thousands of Americans to experience quality arts programming.

**> \$5.6 BILLION AWARDED**

SINCE THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS' INCEPTION IN 1965

~ 4,000 COMMUNITIES SERVED EACH YEAR THROUGH THESE GRANTS

## EXTENDING THE REACH OF THE ARTS

40% OF THE ARTS ENDOWMENT'S GRANTMAKING FUNDS SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE NATION'S STATE AND REGIONAL ARTS ORGANIZATIONS.

Partnerships bring the arts to more tables in new and innovative ways to advance work in areas from education to healthcare to community development

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS PARTNERS INCLUDE:

- National Institutes of Health
- Blue Star Families
- Poetry Foundation
- Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Conference of Mayors
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Department of Defense
- Department of Justice
- Department of Education
- National Park Service
- Library of Congress
- Sundance Institute

THE ARTS ENDOWMENT ANNUALLY SUPPORTS ~ 2,300 GRANTS IN ALL 50 STATES, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND U.S. TERRITORIES.

**~ 41 MILLION PEOPLE**

ATTEND A LIVE ARTS EVENT SUPPORTED BY THE ARTS ENDOWMENT

THESE EVENTS INCLUDE

**▶ 36,000**  
concerts, readings, and performances

**▶ 6,000**  
exhibitions

Together, the NEA's activities support bringing meaningful arts experiences to all Americans, helping to ensure that everyone in the country has the opportunity to live artful lives.

**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS**

arts.gov