

# YOUR FEDERAL ARTS AGENCY

The National Endowment for the Arts is the only arts funder in America—public or private—that provides access to the arts in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. Through its grantmaking to thousands of nonprofits each year, the Arts Endowment supports opportunities for people in communities across America to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities.

## THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF THE ARTS

Supporting the arts not only enriches the lives of all Americans—it keeps many Americans employed.

**5 MILLION AMERICANS**  
work in the arts and cultural industries

**\$386.2 BILLION**  
total compensation of arts and culture workers

The arts contribute  
**\$877.8 BILLION**  
to the U.S. economy

**4.5%**  
of the nation's GDP

The Arts Endowment's 2020 budget is

**\$162.3 MILLION**

▶ **0.003%**  
of the federal budget

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

Each dollar awarded by the Arts Endowment in direct grants to nonprofit organizations leverages up to \$9 in private and other public funds

**\$500 MILLION**

in direct grant-matching support each year

## 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 chairman

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.

**> \$5.5 BILLION AWARDED**

SINCE THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS' INCEPTION IN 1965

~ **4,500 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
- American Theatre Wing
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Department of Defense
- U.S. Conference of Mayors
- Department of Education
- National Park Service
- Library of Congress
- Department of Justice
- Sundance Institute

THE ARTS ENDOWMENT ANNUALLY SUPPORTS ~ 2,400 GRANTS IN ALL 50 STATES, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND U.S. TERRITORIES.

**~ 45 MILLION AMERICANS**

ATTEND A LIVE ARTS EVENT SUPPORTED BY THE ARTS ENDOWMENT

THESE EVENTS INCLUDE

▶ **>40,000**  
concerts, readings, and performances

▶ **>6,000**  
exhibitions

Our vision is of a nation in which every American benefits from arts engagement, and every community recognizes and celebrates its aspirations and achievements through the arts.

**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS**

arts.gov

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