The arts are a fundamental part of American lives and American education, and arts education can transform students, schools, and communities. The NEA is helping ensure Americans of all ages have opportunities to learn, create, and grow.

ARTS EDUCATION AND THE NEA

The NEA supports arts learning both in and out of the classroom, as a way to develop creative thinking skills and inspire self-expression. On average each year:

- $9 M funded 339 grants to support lifelong learning
- $6 M of that supports 180 pre-K – 12 arts education projects

The NEA provides financial resources, leadership and support to ensure our nation’s youth have access to educational opportunities that will help them learn and be active and participatory citizens.

ARTS EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

NEA research shows that arts education helps students succeed throughout their academic careers and their lives.

Arts education is associated with many positive, long-term academic, social, and workforce benefits.

Creative thinking
Civic Engagement
Problem solving

Disadvantaged 8-12th grade students who received arts education were 3x more likely to earn a bachelor’s degree than students who lacked those experiences.

Arts education helps prepare the next generation of the creative economy.

Arts and cultural production contribute $729.6 B to the US economy

4.2% OF THE NATION’S GDP

4.8 M Americans work in the arts and cultural industries, including

Broadcasting
Movies
Publishing
Performing Arts
Creative Advertising

The NEA advances arts education across the country by funding initiatives, publishing research, and maintaining partnerships that lay the foundation for lifelong learning.