

## VIRGINIA

**Nationwide, COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on the arts. Thanks to historic investments, the NEA is helping the arts and cultural sector to recover, rebuild, and reopen. In 2022:**

- Arts and cultural production in Virginia added **2.9%** or **\$19.3 billion** to the state's economy.
- Virginia's arts and cultural industries employed **119,011** workers. These workers earned wages and benefits totaling over **\$10 billion**.

## GRANTS TO THE STATE

**Over a five-year period (FY 2019-2023), the NEA distributed \$16,639,290 in federal funds to grant applicant organizations in this state, either directly or through state and regional partners.**

The Arts Endowment awarded **222** direct grants throughout Virginia over the past 5 years, totaling **\$12,127,104**. These direct grants included:

- An arts program that enhances the mental health of military service members and veterans through art experiences and classes
- A visual arts program for individuals with Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia
- Free after-school arts programming for teens from underserved communities

## NEA NATIONAL INITIATIVES IN THE STATE

*In addition to offering direct grants, the NEA supports national initiatives benefiting people across the country. Over the past five years:*

**Blue Star Museums** program provided free admission to thousands of active military personnel and their families at **149** participating museums in Virginia.

**Poetry Out Loud** program provided opportunities for an average of **5,047** students per year attending **132** unique high schools in Virginia to appreciate—through study, memorization, and public recitation—great poetry.

The **NEA Big Read** program generated **331** community events focused on reading outstanding American literature and involving more than **25,897** adults and students in Virginia.

