

Established by Congress in 1965, the **National Endowment for the Arts** is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the Arts Endowment supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America.

The National Endowment for the Arts is the only funder, public or private, to support the arts in all 50 states, U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia. The agency awards more than \$120 million annually with each grant dollar matched by up to nine dollars from other funding sources.

Economic Impact of the Arts

The arts generate more money to local and state economies than several other industries. According to data released by the National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, the arts contributed \$804.2 billion to the U.S. economy in 2016, more than agriculture or transportation, and employed 5 million Americans.

FUNDING THROUGH THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS VISUAL ARTS PROGRAM:

Direct grants awarded, 1966-2018:

\$171 million

Direct grants awarded, 2018:

\$3.1 million

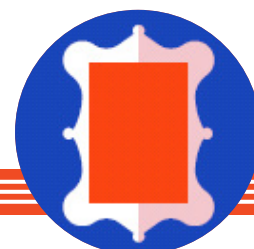
2018 FUNDING EXAMPLES

Advancing learning: **Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama**, to support the Alabama Prison Arts and Education Project. In collaboration with the Alabama Department of Corrections, the university delivers visual arts workshops taught by professional artists to incarcerated men and women in multiple prisons throughout Alabama.

Revitalizing public spaces: **Center for Great Neighborhoods of Covington in Covington, Kentucky**, to support a series of public art installations in downtown Covington in the newly developed Hellmann Plaza, a community gathering and event space.

Assisting veterans through the arts: **Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in Deer Isle, Maine**, to support residencies with veterans and ceramicists Ehren Tool and Jessica Putnam-Phillips to create new work that reflects their experiences in combat and as civilians.

Supporting Native American artists: **Crow's Shadow Institute of the Arts in Pendleton, Oregon**, to support a printmaking residency program for Native American artists that culminates with a full-color publication as well as an digital archive documenting the participating artists, their published prints, and the community's involvement.



2018 FUNDING EXAMPLES, CONTINUED

Featuring artists from around the world: **FotoFest in Houston, Texas**, this international biennial of photography explores different themes, last year's was, "INDIA: Contemporary Photography and New Media Art," which presented contemporary artists from India and its diaspora alongside U.S. and other international artists at museums, galleries and community venues throughout Houston.

Encouraging cross-sector collaborations: **Utah State University in Logan, Utah**, to support a residency program for artists and scientists to collaborate in the creation of new works of public art. Artists work with the City of Logan, regional artists, and university-based researchers from the arts and sciences, to design and install public art works in Cache Valley, Utah.

RESEARCH

U.S. Trends in Arts Attendance and Literary Reading: 2002-2017 (2018) is a first look at results from the 2017 Survey of Public Participation in the Arts, a partnership of the National Endowment for the Arts with the U.S. Census Bureau. The report notes that in 2017, 23.7 percent of U.S. adults (57.5 million people) visited an art museum or gallery. The share of adults who visited an art museum or gallery increased 12.9 percent from 2012 to 2017.

Through Creative Forces™: NEA Military Healing Arts Network, the agency supports research on the impacts of creative art therapies (including therapy using the visual arts such as mask-making) on military patients recovering from post-traumatic stress and other physiological health conditions. These include the paper "Observational study of associations between visual imagery and measures of depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress among active-duty military service members with traumatic brain injury at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center," published in the *British Medical Journal*.

RESOURCES

National Endowment for the Arts Readiness and Resilience Convening: Summary of Proceedings (2016)

Since the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, preparedness and response has broadened to embrace "readiness and resiliency" in recognition of the role of the arts and cultural sector in natural disasters, periods of civic unrest, and acts of terrorism and violence. On April 19, 2016, the Arts Endowment convened a cross-sector panel of experts working in this arena to outline strategies to advance this important work.

For more information on visual arts at the NEA, go to [arts.gov/artistic-fields/visual-arts](https://www.arts.gov/artistic-fields/visual-arts).
For more information on the NEA and its programs, go to [arts.gov](https://www.arts.gov). The NEA is on Twitter @NEAarts as well as Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and iTunes.

