



The NEA is the federal agency that supports and funds the arts to give all Americans the opportunity to experience creativity and participate in the arts. The NEA partners closely with the nation's state and regional arts organizations, leveraging resources to provide more funding and programs across the country.

Forty percent of the National Endowment for the Arts grantmaking funds are designated for state and jurisdictional arts agencies and regional arts organizations to ensure support of learning, creativity, and celebration of the arts at the local level.

- There are 55 state, territorial, and jurisdictional arts agencies (SAAs)—one for every state, as well as American Samoa, District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands—and six multi-state regional arts organizations (RAOs) whose members are the SAAs in their respective regions.
- In order to be eligible for NEA partnership agreement funds, each state and regional arts organization develops long-range plans, with public input, that helps to position arts and culture in public policy areas such as cultural tourism, community revitalization, economic development, education, and health and human services.
- Regional arts organizations encourage the development of the arts and support arts programs in multi-state areas and assist the NEA and other funders in distributing programs nationally.
- In addition, the NEA works with the RAOs for special programs such as The Big Read (managed by Arts Midwest) and Poetry Out Loud's National Finals (administered by the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation).

For FY 2014, the NEA recommended \$48.7 million for these partners, including \$39.8 million for state and territorial arts agencies and \$8.2 million for the regional arts organizations.

- Each state and regional arts organization must match its NEA funding at least 1:1, to provide funding at the local level and throughout the states. The SAA matching funds must come from state government funds that are directly controlled and appropriated by the state and directly managed by the state arts agency.
- Through the combination of the NEA's partnership agreement and state appropriations, the state arts agencies will support 21,000 arts projects in approximately 4,400 communities over and above the direct grants made by the NEA.
- State Partnership Agreement grant amounts are derived from a mix of formula allocations and competitive allocations that cover funding for arts education, underserved, and folk and traditional arts. Regional Partnership Agreement grant amounts are based solely on formula allocations.

The National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) is the service organization for the states. NEA partners with NASAA on data collection and analysis, and performance measurement, and professional development for state agency leadership. Our partnership with NASAA helps to inform policy at the state, regional and national levels.