## Why the Arts Matter in Alaska

### National Arts Facts

**Arts Sector’s Percentage of Gross Domestic Product (Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Segment</th>
<th>GDP Contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</td>
<td>$764 Billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$763 Billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Services</td>
<td>$208 Billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bonus:** U.S. exports generate a $24.1 billion arts trade surplus.

### Alaska Arts Facts

**The Alaska Arts & Culture Sector Represents 2.2% of State’s GDP**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Segment</th>
<th>GDP Contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</td>
<td>$1.31 Billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$2.28 Billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Services</td>
<td>$0.14 Billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bonus:** In 2015, Arts & Culture Production in AK provided 4.1% of the state’s compensation to its citizens.

### Number of Arts-Related Businesses and Jobs (Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number of Businesses</th>
<th>Number of Jobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nationally</td>
<td>673,656</td>
<td>3,486,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>1,705</td>
<td>5,896</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Art is a $166.3 Billion Driver of Our National, State & Local Economy.**

**Art is a $1.3 Billion GDP Driver of Our State Economy.**

### Economic Impact of Nonprofit Arts Organizations & Their Audiences

Nationally, the nonprofit arts industry alone generates $166.3 billion in economic activity annually that supports 4.6 million jobs and generates $274 billion in federal, state, and local government revenue.

- Spending by arts audiences generated $102.5 billion to local businesses.

**Source:** Americans for the Arts, *Creative Industries,* 2017.

### Public Investment in Grants to Nonprofit Arts Organizations & Artists

**Q** How much is the federal government investing in the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)?

**A** Congress has proposed allocating $155 million to the NEA in FY 2019, which has been relatively level for the last several years. This amounts to just 47¢ per capita, yet the nonprofit arts industry generates over $13 billion in federal tax revenue back to the treasury. Imagine what nonprofit arts groups could generate with $1 per capita!


**Q** What about Alaska—how much does state government allocate to the Alaska State Council on the Arts each year?

**A** The state awarded $692,800 to the Alaska State Council on the Arts. In FY 2017, the Alaska State Council on the Arts also received $695,700 in federal NEA funds, which the Council re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations throughout the state. Another 15 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $1,099,046.

THE ALASKA STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS—The Alaska State Council on the Arts represents, supports and advances the creative endeavors of individuals, organizations and agencies throughout Alaska. The Council works in concert with the Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation (AACF), which was established in 2001. The AACF provides funding for some of the Council’s projects.

> Learn more here.

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

- In Anchorage, the Anchorage Museum tells the story of the North—a story that weaves social, political, cultural, scientific, historic and artistic threads. Explore the full diversity of Alaska Native cultures, including masterworks of Alaska Native art and design from the collections of the Smithsonian Institution.
- Go south to Seward, and you can take in the Seward Music and Arts Festival with fabulous art, live music, and dance performances. Local Alaskan artisans and food vendors are featured. It is a family-oriented festival with children’s activities and artist’s projects throughout the weekend; including the creation of a mural-in-a-day by members of the Seward Mural Society.
- Further down the coast in Ketchikan, timed for the winter holidays, the Ketchikan Arts & Humanities Council’s Winter Arts Faire showcases the creations of local artists, which make for great gifts. More than 80 artists exhibit their work here, so you could easily fill all of your holiday wish lists with local, handmade gifts.
- Up in Fairbanks, you can take a riverboat tour that combines colorful river history, Native traditions and the beauty of Alaska’s Interior. An Alaskan crew will share their culture as you stroll through an Athabascan Indian village. The Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival offers over 200 workshops and 100 performances held all over Interior Alaska in music, visual arts, dance, writing, theatre, healing arts & culinary arts. Offering workshops for adults and concerts for all!
- Way up in Nome, the Alappaa Film Festival showcases films that highlight many aspects of living in the Arctic: traditional dance, nature and climate change, string stories, scientific research, wildlife, and more. Recent selections have focused on children of the Arctic, Inuit tattoos, and growing up Native in Alaska.

To View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts, Click Here.

ALASKA ARTS NEED YOU!

E-MAIL US: ArtsActionFund@artsusa.org
VISIT US: ArtsActionFund.org/join
CALL US: 202.371.2830 x2067
FOLLOW US: Facebook Arts Action Fund | Twitter @ArtsActionFund | #ArtsVote

To download this fact sheet, “Why the Arts Matter in Alaska,” with corresponding resource links visit www.ArtsActionFund.org/AK.

DRAFT March 1, 2019