WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN DELAWARE

NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

ARTS SECTOR’S PERCENTAGE OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

**ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 4.2% OF NATION’S GDP**

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that nationally the arts and culture sector is a $764 billion industry, representing 4.2% of the nation’s GDP—a larger share of the economy than construction (4.1%) or education services (1.1%).


- **$208 BILLION** Education Services
- **$763 BILLION** Construction
- **$764 BILLION** Arts & Culture Sector

**BONUS:** U.S. exports generate a $24.1 billion arts trade SURPLUS.

NUMBER OF ARTS-RELATED BUSINESSES AND JOBS (Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

Nationally 673,656 businesses employ 3.48 million people who are involved in the creation or distribution of the arts. Based on Dun & Bradstreet data, this means that 3.9% of all businesses and 1.9% of all employees are connected to the creative industries.


- **673,656 BUSINESSES** & **3.48M JOBS** ARE INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OR DISTRIBUTION OF THE ARTS

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 $27.5 billion in federal, state, and local government revenue.

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


- **ART IS A** $166.3 BILLION DRIVER OF OUR NATIONAL, STATE & LOCAL ECONOMY

PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS & ARTISTS

**Q** So 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!

Source: Americans for the Arts Action Fund, 2019.
Read: “Funding The Arts is Good For the Nation,” The Hill, 2015.

**DELAWARE ARTS FACTS**

THE DELAWARE ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 1.4% OF STATE’S GDP

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributes $936 million to Delaware’s economy, representing 1.4% of the state’s GDP—a larger share than some other industries in the state.


- **$936 MILLION** Arts & Culture Sector
- **$2,525 MILLION** Construction
- **$372 MILLION** Education Services

**BONUS:** In 2015, DE arts and culture jobs generated $490.2 million in compensation.

NUMBER OF ARTS-RELATED BUSINESSES AND JOBS (Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

In Delaware, 1,829 Arts-Related Businesses employ 7,374 people.

- In Kent County, 242 Arts-Related Businesses employ 986 people.
- In New Castle County, 1,204 Arts-Related Businesses employ 5,186 people.
- In Sussex County, 382 Arts-Related Businesses employ 1,202 people.


- **1,829 BUSINESSES** & **7,374 JOBS** ARE INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OR DISTRIBUTION OF THE ARTS

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS & THEIR AUDIENCES

In 2015, the Delaware arts and culture generated $149.9 million in economic activity annually that supported 4,062 FTE jobs and generated $10.5 million in state and local government revenue.

- Delaware nonprofit arts groups generated $103.6 million in economic activity.
- Audiences of 1,530,657 people added another $46.3 million for a total of $149.9 million in economic activity for 2015, and this generated $10.5 million in local and state government revenues. The arts and culture sector ranks as one of the top ten employers of the state.


- **ART IS A** $149.9 MILLION GDP DRIVER OF OUR STATE ECONOMY

**Q** What about Delaware—how much does state government budget to the Delaware Division of the Arts each year?

**A** The state allocated $3,470,732 to the Delaware Division. In FY 2017, the Delaware Division received $681,100 in federal NEA funds, which the Division re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations through the state.

Another 4 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $741,100.

IN THE FIRST STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US

The Delaware Art Museum collaborates with world-renowned performers to attract audiences from all ethnicities of Delaware’s diverse communities.

THE DELAWARE DIVISION OF THE ARTS, established in 1989, is a branch of the Delaware Department of State, is dedicated to cultivating and supporting the arts to enhance the quality of life for all Delawareans. Together with its advisory body, the Delaware State Arts Council, the Division administers grants and programs that support arts programming, educate the public, increase awareness of the arts, and integrate the arts into all facets of Delaware life.

>Learn more here.

MEET SOME DELAWARE ARTS ADVOCATES

• Jessica Ball is Executive Director of the Delaware Arts Alliance. > More
• Secretary Jeff Bullock is the Secretary of State under Governor John C. Carney. > More
• J. Mack Wathen is a visual artist and Chair of the Delaware State Arts Council. > More
• Senator Chris Coons is a passionate spokesperson for the arts on the floor of the US Senate. > More

ART IN DELAWARE

• Delaware Scene offers a comprehensive calendar of arts events in Delaware here.
• Visit Delaware provides an overview of all the art galleries, theaters, museums, and art festivals here.
• Delaware Today provides feature articles, calendars, and art blogs on events and topics in Delaware here.

DELAWARE ART ORGANIZATIONS

Delaware Arts Alliance
www.delawareartsalliance.org
Delaware Division of the Arts
https://arts.delaware.gov
Delaware Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs
www.history.delaware.gov

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

• Each year more than 200 state employees participate in the National Art Program exhibition mounted in the Delaware State University Art Center Gallery.
• In Wilmington, since 1992, the Delaware Theatre Company has sponsored “Totally Awesome Players,” employing acting skills and the creation of a play to increase the collaborative skills and active creativity of adults with intellectual disabilities.
• The Music School of Delaware, founded in 1924, is the only statewide, accredited, community music school in the nation, providing instruction and concerts throughout the state.
• Travel to Selbyville where the Freeman Stage at Bayside provides unique arts experiences to over 50,000 visitors a year, with an additional goal of engaging every student in the county multiple times during their K-12 life.
• In the heart of Delaware’s First State Heritage Park, the Biggs Museum of American Art presents a broad range of exhibitions and public programs, serves as an education resource to the community, and features Delaware artists in its Delaware By Hand gift shop.
• Visit downtown Wilmington to see the progress of the Wilmington Renaissance Corporation as it connects the new Creative District to the economic revitalization of Downtown Wilmington, strengthening Wilmington’s role as a center of educational, cultural, and social activity.
• With a zip code all its own, Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library is the premier museum of American decorative arts, with an unparalleled collection of nearly 90,000 objects made or used in America between about 1640 and 1860. The collection, displayed in the magnificent 175-room house, is much as it was when the du Pont family lived here, as well as in permanent and changing exhibition galleries.

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

DELAWARE ARTS NEED YOU!

JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!

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

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

2019