## Why the Arts Matter in Maine

### National Arts Facts

#### 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%).


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>GDP (in Billion)</th>
<th>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</th>
<th>Construction</th>
<th>Education Services</th>
<th>Bonus</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
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<td>Education Services</td>
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<td>$1.5</td>
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**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.

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

- 673,656 BUSINESSES
- 3.48M JOBS

#### 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 $275 billion in federal, state, and local government revenue.

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


#### 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!


**Q** What about Maine—how much does state government budget to the Maine Arts Commission each year?

**A** The state allocated $918,203 to the Maine Arts Commission. In FY 2018, the Maine Arts Commission also received $741,300 in federal NEA funds, which the Council re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations through the state. Another 17 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $430,000.


### Maine Arts Facts

#### The Maine Arts & Culture Sector Represents 2.5% of State’s GDP

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributes $1.5 billion to Maine’s economy, representing 2.5% of the state’s GDP—a larger share than some other industries in the state.


<table>
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<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
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**BONUS:** In 2015, ME arts and culture jobs grew by 2.6% while the national average was 2.1%.

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

In Maine, 2,582 arts-related businesses employ 10,445 people.

- In Cumberland County, 866 Arts-Related Businesses employ 4,390 people.
- In Androscoggin County, 130 Arts-Related Businesses employ 737 people.
- In Penobscot County, 201 Arts-Related Businesses employ 665 people.


- 2,582 BUSINESSES
- 10,445 JOBS

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

In 2015, nonprofit arts organizations in the state generated $150.6 million in economic activity annually that supported 4,190 jobs and generated $12.3 million in state and local government revenue.

- Spending by audiences added another $29.0 million in related spending for a total of $75.6 million for the city in 2015, and this generated $8.6 million in local and state government revenues and 2,372 in FTE jobs.


#### Arts Are A $150.6 Million Driver of Our State Economy
The Maine Arts Commission supports and promotes the arts and culture sector throughout Maine and has done so since its development in 1965. Through its partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the Commission distributes up to $500,000 in grants annually. The Commission administers the State’s Percent for Art program and manages Art in the Capitol, Maine Excellence in Arts Education, Poetry Out Loud and the Congressional Art Competition, just to name a few of its programs. Its 501c3 support and advocacy organization – ArtsEngageME – was created in 2018 to help further the Commission’s mission.

> Learn more here.

### Meet Some Maine Arts Advocates

- **Maine boasts two Co-Chairs of the arts and cultural caucuses in Congress.** Senator Susan Collins (R) is the Co-Chair of the Senate Cultural Caucus and Congresswoman Chellie Pingree (D) is the Co-Chair of Congressional Arts Caucus.
- The Maine Arts Commission’s Executive Director, Julie Richard, serves as the State Captain and on the State Arts Action Network Council for Americans for the Arts. She was also instrumental in the creation of ArtsEngageME, the state’s first advocacy and support organization for the arts.

### Arts in Maine

- In September 2018, ArtsEngageME in partnership with the Maine Arts Commission launched the first-ever Maine Arts Awards. See who was honored here.
- See a comprehensive list of Maine Arts Organizations and Artists here.
- Visit Maine can direct you to music festivals and live theater here.
- The Maine Art Museum Trail will lead you to 9 museums and 80,000 works of art here.

### Maine Arts Organizations

- ArtsEngageME: www.artsengageme.org
- Union of Maine Visual Artists: www.umvaonline.org/
- Maine Alliance for Arts Education: www.maineartsed.org

The Maine Arts Commission is a non-profit organization created in 2018 to further the Commission’s mission. Through its partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the Commission distributes up to $500,000 in grants annually. The Commission administers the State’s Percent for Art program and manages Art in the Capitol, Maine Excellence in Arts Education, Poetry Out Loud and the Congressional Art Competition, just to name a few of its programs. Its 501c3 support and advocacy organization – ArtsEngageME – was created in 2018 to help further the Commission’s mission.

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### The Arts Are Everywhere!

- From the south, stop in **Ogunquit** to experience the Ogunquit Playhouse and the Ogunquit Museum of American Art.
- Stop in **Portland** for the First Friday Art Walk and experience all this arts-rich city has to offer including, but not everything: the Portland Museum of Art, Portland Stage, the Portland Symphony Orchestra, Opera Maine, FOKO, ChoralArt, Portland Ballet, and the list goes on...
- Head up I-95 to **Lewiston** and check out the Bates Dance Festival, The Public Theatre and the exhibits in LA Arts’ gallery.
- Drive toward the coast and stop in **Rockland** to see the many galleries and museums including the Farnsworth Art Museum which boasts numerous works by the Wyeths in its collection and the new Center for Maine Contemporary Art. Right up the street visit Bay Chamber Concerts in **Rockport** and the **Camden** International Film Festival in Camden. On your way to Waterfall Arts in **Belfast**.
- Don’t forget to stop in **Bar Harbor** to see the Abbe Museum, Maine’s only museum dedicated to Wabanaki art, history and culture – while enjoying the sites of Acadia National Park. Don’t forget to stop at the “quiet side” of Acadia – the Schoodic Peninsula and take in a workshop provided by Schoodic Arts for All in Winter Harbor.
- Drive all the way **Downeast** following the Maine Sculpture Tour on your way to **Eastport** for the TIDES Institute and Eastport Arts Center’s many programs and take in the Pirate Festival while you are there.
- Then go all the way north to see the Reed Gallery at UMaine in **Presque Isle** – which is also one of the stops on the Langlais Art Trail that stretches from Portsmouth, NH through Maine. Keep going north to the Musee Culturel du Mont-Carmel in Lille to experience French classic architecture as well as an extensive collection of Acadian and Quebecois artifacts.

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

### Maine Arts Need You!

**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 Maine” with corresponding resource links visit www.ArtsActionFund.org/ME.

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“Maine is a unique place that is rich in the arts and culture. From Maine’s beaches, to the mountains, to downeast and north to Aroostook, you can experience all the arts bring to make this state special. Maine’s artists and arts organizations are its lifeblood and are a critical component of our economy.”

— Julie A. Richard, Executive Director, Maine Arts Commission