WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN OREGON

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%).


$764 BILLION Arts & Culture Sector

$763 BILLION Construction

$208 BILLION Education Services

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

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

673,656 & 3.48M

ARE INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OR DISTRIBUTION OF THE ARTS

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.

OREGON ARTS FACTS

THE OREGON ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 3.3% OF STATE’S GDP

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributes $7.2 billion to Oregon’s economy, representing 3.3% of the state’s GDP—a larger share than some other industries in the state.


$7.2 BILLION Arts & Culture Sector

$4.3 BILLION Agriculture & Forestry

$1.7 BILLION Education Services

BONUS: In 2015, OR arts and culture jobs generated $4.1 billion in total compensation.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS & THEIR AUDIENCES

In Oregon, 11,606 Arts-Related Businesses employ 46,927 people.

• In Clackamas County, 1,224 Arts-Related Businesses employ 4,026 people.

• In Multnomah County, 3,711 Arts-Related Businesses employ 18,843 people.

• In Washington County, 1,527 Arts-Related Businesses employ 6,076 people.


11,606 & 46,927

ARE INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OR DISTRIBUTION OF THE ARTS

In 2015, nonprofit arts organizations in the state generated $687 million in economic activity annually that supported 22,299 jobs and generated $53 million in state and local government revenue.

• In Greater Portland Area, nonprofit arts groups generated $364.1 million in economic activity. Audiences of 9.9 million people added another $323.0 million in related spending for a total of $687.0 million for the city in 2015, and this generated $43.3 million in local and state government revenues.

Source: Americans for the Arts, Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, OR and Greater Portland Area reports, 2017.

In Oregon, 11,606 Arts-Related Businesses employ 46,927 people.

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

ART IS A $687 MILLION GDP DRIVER OF OUR STATE 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.


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

A In the 2017-19 biennium the state allocated $3,686,183 ($1,843,091 annually) to the Oregon Arts Commission. In FY 2017, the Commission also received $716,600 in federal NEA funds, which it re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations throughout the state. Another 35 nonprofit arts organization received direct grants from the NEA totaling $1,493,600.


“Oregon art reflects the breadth and beauty of our landscape as well as the diversity and innovation creativity of our citizens.”
—Christopher Acebo, Chair, Oregon Arts Commission

OREGON ARTS FACTS

IN OREGON THE ARTS UNITE US
Every year, engaged Oregonians make an estimated 250,000 donations to local arts and culture organizations!

THE OREGON ARTS COMMISSION—
Established in 1967, the Oregon Arts Commission works to enhance the quality of life for all Oregonians through the arts by stimulating creativity, leadership, and economic vitality. The Arts Commission became part of Business Oregon (formerly Oregon Economic and Community Development Department) in 1993, in recognition of the expanding role the arts play in the broader social, economic and educational arenas of Oregon communities.

> Learn more here.

MEET SOME OREGON ARTS ADVOCATES

• Brian Rogers is the Executive Director of the Oregon Arts Commission. > More
• Sue Hildick is the new Executive Director of the Cultural Advocacy Coalition. > More
• Chuck Sams is the Communication Director for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and he serves as the Chair of the Oregon Cultural Trust. > More
• Christopher Acebo is the Associate Artistic Director of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and the Chair of the Oregon Arts Commission. > More
• Elizabeth Woody is the Executive Director of the Museum at Warm Springs and the past Oregon State Poet Laureate. > More

ART IN OREGON

• Oregon Artswatch offers a compressive overview of cultural activities in the state here.
• Oregon’s NPR-affiliate presents a weekly program and podcast highlighting Oregon artists and art here.
• Regional Arts & Cultural Council of Portland’s event calendar can guide you to wonderful performances, music, and art exhibits here.

OREGON ART ORGANIZATIONS

Cultural Advocacy Coalition (CAC)
oregonculture.org
Oregon Museums Association
oregonmuseums.org
Oregon Art Education Association
oregonarted.org

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

• Oregon’s must-experience arts event is the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, where visitors enjoy world class plays amid stunning scenery and fine Northwest cuisine.
• Pickathon, the “biggest little music festival in the Northwest,” is a truly unique multi-day outdoor music experience at the beautiful Pendarvis Farm in Happy Valley (just outside of Portland).
• No surprise that Wordstock, the largest literary festival in the Pacific Northwest, takes place in Portland, home to the world-renowned Powell’s Books.
• The Sisters Folk Festival is an annual three-day roots music festival held in Sisters, Oregon, near Bend the weekend after Labor Day.
• Literary lore meets music and epic storytelling during the FisherPoets Gathering in historic Astoria. It’s a grand gathering of writers, poets, musicians and artists.
• Pianist Hunter Noack transports his piano on a flatbed truck for “In A Landscape: Classical Music in the Wild,” presented in some of the state’s most awe-inspiring and remote destinations.
• Every summer dozens of writers gather near Eastern Oregon’s beautiful Wallowa Lake for workshops, panel discussions, open mic readings, and breakout sessions as part of Summer Fishtrap.

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

OREGON 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 Oregon,” with corresponding resource links visit www.ArtsActionFund.org/OR.

DRAFT March 1, 2019