### 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%).


- Arts & Culture Sector: $764 billion
- Construction: $763 billion
- Education Services: $208 billion

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

### Jobs

- 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** What about Vermont—how much does state government budget to the Vermont Council on the Arts each year?

**A** The state allocated $675,306 to the Vermont Council on the Arts. In FY 2017, the Vermont Council on the Arts also received $708,900 in federal NEA funding which the Council re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations through the state. Another 16 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $1,468,660.


**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.

In the small town of Bethel, a revitalization project brought together the local government, businesses, and members of the community to revitalize the neglected downtown through pop-up art galleries, live music events, and a 200-foot long trout-themed mural created and installed with the help of more than 150 community members.

**VERMONT ARTS FACTS**

In the Green Mountain State, the arts unite us.

**THE VERMONT ARTS COUNCIL—**
The Vermont Arts Council envisions a Vermont where all people have access to the arts and creativity in their lives, education, and communities. Engagement with the arts transforms individuals, connects us more deeply to each other, energizes the economy, and sustains the vibrant cultural landscape that makes Vermont a great place to live. Since 1965, the Council has been the state’s primary provider of funding, advocacy, and information for the arts in Vermont.

> Learn more here.

**MEET SOME VERMONT ARTS ADVOCATES**

- **Karen Mittelman** is the executive director of the Vermont Arts Council. > More
- **John Killacky**, former executive director of the Flynn Center for Performing Arts and recently elected Vermont State Representative, has worked as an advocate to expand access to the arts for people with disabilities. > More
- **Allison Coyne Carroll**, director of Middlebury College’s Performing Arts Series, advocates for the arts at the state and federal level, specifically issues relating to cultural diplomacy, immigration, and taxation for artists from abroad. > More
- **Cornelia Carey** is executive director of CERF+, which provides emergency relief assistance for artists working in craft disciplines and emergency preparedness and mitigation resources for all artists. > More

**ART IN VERMONT**

- **The Vermont Arts Calendar** lists arts events, concerts, classes around the state here.
- **Creative Ground** provides a comprehensive list of Vermont artists, arts organizations, and venues here.
- **The Vermont Vacation Guide** suggests arts experiences for every season, like this arts and skiing article here.
- **The Vermont Arts Council** website has resources to help residents and visitors alike experience the arts here.

**VERMONT ART ORGANIZATIONS**

Vermont Folklife Center:
www.vermontfolklicefcenter.org

VSA Vermont:
www.vsavt.org

Vermont Creative Network:
www.vermontcreativenetwork.org

**THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!**

- To fully experience the Northeast Kingdom start with Dog Mountain, home of the Stephen Huneck Gallery and 150 acres of dog-friendly grounds. Or, head to Bread and Puppet, one of the nation’s oldest self-supporting theater companies and a 140-year old hay barn that has been transformed into a museum with an exquisite collection.
- **Burlington**, Vermont’s “Queen City,” is both the largest city in the state and a hub of arts activities. On the Church Street pedestrian mall, visit Burlington City Arts and Frog Hollow, home to more than 200 Vermont artists and artisans. Or venture to the South End Arts District for a meandering collection of galleries and artist studios—and the site of the South End Art Hop each September.
- In the picturesque Mad River Valley, the Bundy Modern is positioned on a natural plateau with incredible views of the mountainside—the perfect backdrop for its showing of contemporary art. During August the entire valley celebrates the Vermont Festival of the Arts, with music, art exhibitions, and family-friendly events.
- In Middlebury, the college campus offers the Museum of Art and Mahaney Center for the Arts. Town Hall Theater offers theater, opera, films, and a gallery. It is also host to the August Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival.
- In Brattleboro, see a world-class jazz ensemble at the Vermont Jazz Center or a performance at the New England Center for Circus Arts. The Brattleboro Museum & Art Center offers contemporary art exhibits throughout the year and the historic Latchis Theater is the go-to place for a wide array of performing arts.
- A first stop in the Bennington area is The Bennington Museum, featuring the largest collection of paintings by American folk artist Grandma Moses.

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

**VERMONT 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: facebook.com/ArtsActionFund | twitter.com/ArtsActionFund | #ArtsVote

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

DRAFT March 1, 2019