**WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN ALASKA**

### NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

**ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR’S PERCENTAGE OF U.S. ECONOMY** (Artists, University Arts, Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

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<th>Source</th>
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<td>U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2016.</td>
<td>4.3% of nation’s GDP &amp; 5 million jobs</td>
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- **$804 billion** Arts & Culture Sector
- **$746 billion** Construction
- **$244 billion** Education Services

**BONUS:** U.S. exports generate a $25 billion arts trade SURPLUS.

### ALASKA ARTS FACTS

**ALASKA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 2.7% OF STATE’S GDP AND 11,878 JOBS**

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributes **$1.35 billion** to Alaska’s economy, representing 2.7% of the state’s GDP—a larger share than some other industries in the state.

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- **$1.35 billion** Arts & Culture Sector
- **$1.97 billion** Construction
- **$0.19 billion** Education Services

**BONUS:** In 2016, Arts and Cultural Compensation was $894,511,262.

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

- **1,705 businesses** & **31.6K employees** are involved in the creation or distribution of the arts in Alaska.

- **673,656 businesses** & **3.48 million employees** are involved in the creation or distribution of the arts nationally.

**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.

**PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS & ARTISTS**

**Q** Congress allocated **$162.25 million** to the NEA in FY 2020, which has been relatively level for the last several years. This amounts to just **$49** 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** The state awarded **$704,400** to the Alaska State Council on the Arts in FY 2019-20. The Alaska State Council on the Arts also received **$696,500** in federal NEA funds, which the Council re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations throughout the state. Another 21 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling **$470,000**.

IN THE LAST FRONTIER THE ARTS UNITE US AS ALASKANS

The biggest state with the fewest people needs the arts to bring people together. The arts support the collaboration of many nonprofit organizations serving the many diverse communities of the state.

MEET SOME ALASKA ARTS ADVOCATES

- Ben Brown is a statewide arts advocate, member of Preserenance Theatre in Juneau, and has served on the Alaska State Council on the Arts. >More
- Biennial Alaska Arts Convergence. This is a statewide gathering of arts organizations and individuals. Contact the Alaska State Council on the Arts for information. >More
- Norm Campbell of Sitka is President of the Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation. >More
- Sally Grimsrud is the 2018 Champion of the Arts, an honor conferred by the Alaska Arts Education Consortium >More
- Kameron Perez Verdia is the President of the Alaska Humanities Forum. >More

ART IN ALASKA

- Check out the many arts centers and community festivals, including the Anchorage Film Festival here.
- Plan a cultural trip among the art galleries and museums here.
- Discover how the state is rich in art and crafts created by indigenous communities here.

ALASKA ART ORGANIZATIONS

- 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.

ALASKA ARTS NEED YOU!

JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!

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