



# WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN ILLINOIS



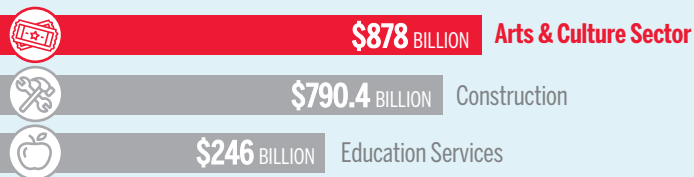
## NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

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

### ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 4.5% OF NATION'S GDP & 5.1 MILLION JOBS

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that nationally the arts and culture sector is a **\$878 billion industry**, representing 4.5% of the nation's GDP—a larger share of the economy than construction or education services.

Source: [U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis](#), 2017.



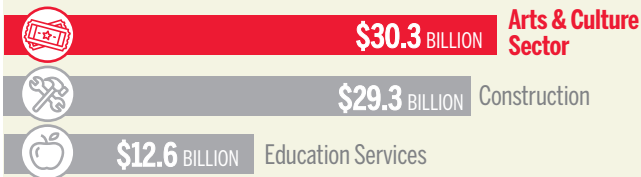
**BONUS:** U.S. exports generate a \$29.7 billion arts trade SURPLUS.

## ILLINOIS ARTS FACTS

### ILLINOIS ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 3.7% OF THE STATE'S GDP & 224,102 JOBS

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributes **\$30.3 billion** to Illinois's economy, representing 3.7% of the state's GDP—a larger share than some other industries in the state.

Source: [U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis](#), 2017.



**BONUS:** In 2017, arts and culture compensation generated \$15.1 billion.

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.



In Illinois, **22,482 Arts-Related Businesses** employ **134,372 people**.

- In Cook County, **10,798 Arts-Related Businesses** employ **79,529 people**.
- In DuPage County, **2,272 Arts-Related Businesses** employ **14,689 people**.
- In Lake County, **1,767 Arts-Related Businesses** employ **7,037 people**.

Source: Americans for the Arts, [Creative Industries, Illinois](#) report, 2017.



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.

Source: Americans for the Arts, [Arts & Economic Prosperity 5](#), 2017.



In 2015, nonprofit arts organizations in the state generated **\$4 billion** in economic activity annually that supported **111,068 jobs** and generated **\$478.5 million** in state and local government revenue.

- In **Chicago** specifically, nonprofit arts groups generated \$3.2 billion in total economic activity and **\$336.5 million** in local and state government revenue. Audiences totaled **36.3 million people**.

Source: Americans for the Arts, [Arts & Economic Prosperity 5](#), [City of Chicago](#) report, 2017.



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 **\$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!

Source: [Americans for the Arts Action Fund](#), 2020.

Read: "Funding The Arts Is Good For the Nation," [The Hill](#), 2015.

**Q** What about Illinois—how much does state government budget to the Illinois Arts Council Agency (IACA) each year?

**A** In FY 2020, the state allocated **\$63 million** to IACA. The agency also received **\$863,000** in federal NEA funds, which IACA re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations through the state. Another 165 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling \$3,844,500.

Source: [NEA](#) and [NASAA](#), 2020.

Read: "What cuts to the NEA budget would mean for Illinois," Claire Rice, Executive Director, and E. Brooke Flanagan, Board Chair, Arts Alliance Illinois, [Chicago Tribune](#), 2017.

GDP & JOBS

BUSINESSES

ECONOMICS

FUNDING

“The arts are not practiced in isolation. The Illinois Arts Council Agency promotes unity among diverse communities. Differences shared create unique mosaics; they enrich the lives of Illinoisans.”

—Illinois Arts Council Agency



## ILLINOIS ARTS FACTS

### IN THE LAND OF LINCOLN, THE ARTS ADDRESS CHALLENGES AND BRING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

Project FIRE (Fearless Initiative for Recovery and Empowerment) is an artist development employment program in Chicago that offers healing through glassblowing—combining glass arts education, mentoring, and trauma psychoeducation to support trauma recovery and to create jobs for youth affected by violence.

#### THE ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL AGENCY

(IACA)—was created as a state agency by the Illinois General Assembly in 1965 through legislation sponsored by Senators Paul Simon, Thomas McGloin, and Alan Dixon. The agency is governed by up to twenty-one private citizens chosen for their demonstrated commitment to the arts and appointed by the Governor. IACA’s mission is to build a strong, creative, and connected Illinois through the arts.

More than 100 local arts agencies, municipal arts councils, and area cultural commissions belong to the **LOCAL ARTS NETWORK (LAN)**, a partnership program between IACA and Arts Alliance Illinois.

>Learn more [here](#).

#### MEET SOME ILLINOIS ARTS ADVOCATES

- **Patricia Frazier**, on the 2018 Illinois team for National Arts Advocacy Day, is the first-ever Chicago Youth Poet Laureate and the second-ever National Youth Poet Laureate. > [More](#)
- **Angelique Power** is President of the Field Foundation of Illinois and has reinvented its strategy around community empowerment through justice, art, and leadership investment. > [More](#)
- **Claire Rice** is Executive Director of Arts Alliance Illinois, supporting and promoting the value of the arts, culture, and creativity in communities across the state. > [More](#)
- **Josh Shearer** is fighting for the presence and power of art in southern Illinois schools. > [More](#)
- **Joshua Davis-Ruperto** is Executive Director of the Illinois Arts Council. > [More](#)

#### THE ARTS IN ILLINOIS

- The Illinois Office of Tourism has a comprehensive overview of the best arts destinations [here](#).
- Atlas Obscura knows 241 cool, hidden, and unusual things to do in Illinois [here](#).
- IACA offers a calendar of arts festivals [here](#).
- ArtsPartners of Central Illinois collects cultural events and creative happenings midstate [here](#).

#### ILLINOIS ART ORGANIZATIONS

Arts Alliance Illinois [www.artsalliance.org](http://www.artsalliance.org)

Illinois Association of Museums

[www.illinoismuseums.org](http://www.illinoismuseums.org)

The College of Fine and Applied Arts and the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign [www.faa.illinois.edu/menu](http://www.faa.illinois.edu/menu) and [www.krannertcenter.com](http://www.krannertcenter.com)

### THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

- Start near the southern tip of Illinois in **Carbondale**, where Carbondale Community Arts transformed the city’s former library into a state-of-the-art facility for exhibitions and performances, Artspace 304.
- Head north toward **Mt. Vernon** where the Goldman-Kuenz Sculpture Park surrounds the Mitchell Museum and the Shrode Art Center for education at the Cedarhurst Center for the Arts.
- Next, go west to **Lebanon** and the oldest college in Illinois, McKendree University, where the Hettenhausen Center for the Arts presents notable speakers, performing-arts ensembles, great films, and *National Geographic Live!* events for audiences of all ages.
- Be sure to hit **Quincy** for picture-perfect architectural landmarks on the Mississippi River—and a thriving cultural scene supported by America’s first arts council, Arts Quincy.
- In midstate **Peoria**, check out the sculpture walk and Peoria Riverfront Museum, then take a printmaking class at Prairie Center of the Arts.
- **Galena** visitors can cruise some or all 100-plus miles of the Scenic Art Loop, which includes galleries and studios, vineyards and breweries, and specialty stores and boutiques.
- Stop by **Freeport’s** new Civic Arts Plaza and **Rockford’s** Riverfront Museum Park on your way east to the Art Institute of **Chicago**, winner of multiple “Best Museum in the World” awards, and home to the School of the Art Institute of Chicago—six of whose graduate programs are at the top of *U.S. News and World Report’s* rankings.

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

## ILLINOIS ARTS NEED YOU!

### JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!

E-MAIL US: [ArtsActionFund@artsusa.org](mailto:ArtsActionFund@artsusa.org)

VISIT US: [ArtsActionFund.org/join](http://ArtsActionFund.org/join)

CALL US: 202.371.2830 x2067

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To download this fact sheet, “Why the Arts Matter in Illinois” with corresponding resource links visit [www.ArtsActionFund.org/StateFactsheets](http://www.ArtsActionFund.org/StateFactsheets).

DRAFT as of 3/27/2020