# Why the Arts Matter in Massachusetts

## National Arts Facts

**Arts & Culture Sector’s Percentage of U.S. Economy (Artists, University Arts, Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</td>
<td>$878 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$790.4 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Services</td>
<td>$246 billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Businesses &amp; Employees</td>
<td>673,656 &amp; 3.48M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.

**Economics**

**Nonprofit Art is a Driver of Our National, State & Local Economy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit Art</td>
<td>$166.3 billion</td>
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**Public Investment in Grants to Nonprofit Arts Organizations & Artists**

**Funding**

Q: So how much is the federal government investing in the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)?

A: 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: What about Massachusetts—how much does state government budget to the Mass Cultural Council each year?

A: In FY 2020, the state allocated $18,180,000 to Mass Cultural Council. The Mass Cultural Council also received $910,700 in federal NEA funds, which the Council re-granted to cultural organizations throughout the state. Another 116 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $4,286,700.


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## Massachusetts Arts Facts

**Arts & Culture Sector Represents 4.8% of State’s GDP & 140,593 Jobs**

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that nationally the arts and culture sector is a $387 billion industry, representing 4.5% of the nation’s GDP—a larger share of the economy than construction or education services.

**Massachusetts Arts & Culture Sector Represents 4.8% of State’s GDP & 140,593 Jobs**

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</td>
<td>$25.8 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$19.7 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Services</td>
<td>$16.7 billion</td>
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</tbody>
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**Number of Arts-Related Businesses and Jobs** (Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Businesses &amp; Employees</td>
<td>16,157 &amp; 95,658</td>
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**Economic Impact of Nonprofit Arts Organizations & Their Audiences**

In Massachusetts, 16,157 arts-related businesses employ 95,658 people.

- In Norfolk County, 1,657 arts-related businesses employ 11,656 people.
- In Middlesex County, 4,519 arts-related businesses employ 29,719 people.
- In Suffolk, 2,077 arts-related businesses employ 24,38 people.

**Economics**

**Nonprofit Art is a Driver of Just One of Our Local Economies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit Art</td>
<td>$2.3 billion</td>
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**Source:**

MASSACHUSETTS ARTS FACTS

IN THE BAY STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US

The public place-making project “Beyond Walls” in downtown Lynn brought together diverse communities including Puerto Rican, Cambodian, and Dominican residents while the project generated new economic activity.

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

- Recognizing the creative sector as an asset in economic development and community-building, the Commonwealth has established 45 cultural districts. The destinations below represent only a few of the Commonwealth’s cultural offerings.
- In western Massachusetts, see the famous illustrations of the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, which is near many art galleries in Adams, Pittsfield, and Barrington. Novelist Edith Wharton’s former estate and lovely gardens are worth a visit in nearby Lenox. The Barrington State Company produces first-rate musicals in Pittsfield, and the Berkshires also has the Berkshire Opera Festival, the Berkshire Playwrights Lab, the Berkshire Theater Group, Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival, and Tanglewood’s amazing schedule of popular and classical music.
- Head east, to Northampton, where its Paradise City Cultural District offers performance venues, museums, galleries, and shops. Visit the Emily Dickinson Museum in nearby Amherst, along with the Mead Art Museum, and the UMass Fine Arts Center.
- Springfield is the birthplace of basketball and beloved children’s author Dr. Seuss. It is also the home to the Dr. Seuss National Memorial Sculpture Garden, Springfield Symphony Orchestra, CityStage, and the Community Music School.
- The Worcester Art Museum’s collection span 51 centuries of Art. The town has many colorful murals, the Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts, and the Worcester County Light Opera Company.
- Not far from Fenway Park, Boston’s Museum of Fine Art has an amazing 450,000 works of art! The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum also has an amazing collection of works, housed in an architectural marvel. Symphony Hall is the venue for America’s favorite orchestra, the Boston Symphony.
- To the southeast, in New Bedford, the town’s namesake Symphony Orchestra is one of the oldest regional orchestras in the U.S. The former whaling center has a whaling museum, of course, and many art galleries, the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center, and Your Theater, Inc., a community theater group.

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

THE MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL—
The Mass Cultural Council believes in the power of culture. Working through the arts, humanities, and sciences, culture is a dynamic force for enriching communities, growing the economy, increasing accessibility, and fostering individual creativity. Culture is intrinsically valuable and unique in its ability to lift the human spirit. The Council recognizes the essential role that a rich cultural life plays in communities and the lives of individuals. To invest in our cultural life is to invest in our shared future.

> Learn more here.

MEET SOME MASSACHUSETTS ARTS ADVOCATES

- Emily Ruddock is the Executive Director of MASSCreative. >More
- Melissa Mastrolia is President of the Massachusetts Art Education Association and their past president is Laura Marotta, who is also the co-founder of Creative Hub Worcester. >More
- Massachusetts Artists Leaders Coalition works to ensure that Massachusetts artists of all disciplines have a voice in public dialogs, decisions, and key public policy initiatives that impact artists and the creative economy. >More
- The Mass Cultural Council presents the Commonwealth Awards every two years to individuals and organizations who have made extraordinary contributions to the arts, humanities, and sciences, such as the Provincetown Art Association & Museum, David McCullough, and Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival. >More
- Arts | Learning is an arts education advocacy group in MA. > More
- PriscillaKane Hellweg,Executive and Artistic Director of Enchanted Circle Theater, received a 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Massachusetts Nonprofit Network. >More

ART IN MASSACHUSETTS

- Western Massachusetts Scenic Byways can guide you to fabulous music, theater, and arts festivals here.
- MassVacation list venues for great arts and culture throughout the state here.
- CultureTrip can point you towards ten of the best art galleries in Boston here.

MASSACHUSETTS ART ORGANIZATIONS

MassCreative advocates for our state’s creativity. www.mass-creative.org
New England Museum Association www.nemanet.org
Massachusetts Art Education Association (MAEA) www.massarted.com

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