## National Arts Facts

**Arts & Culture Sector’s Percentage of U.S. Economy**
(artists, university arts, commercial & nonprofit arts organizations combined)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>2015 Value</th>
<th>As of 3/3/2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</td>
<td>$804 BILLION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$746 BILLION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Services</td>
<td>$244 BILLION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### 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.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>State</th>
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<th>Number of Employees</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>3,242</td>
<td>18,405</td>
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### 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.

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### Why the Arts Matter in Nebraska

#### Nebraska Arts Facts

**Arts & Culture Sector’s Percentage of State’s GDP & 28,135 Jobs**

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributes $2.7 billion to Nebraska’s economy, representing 2.3% of the state’s GDP—a larger share than some other industries in the state.

**Source:** U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2016.

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### Public Investment in Grants to Nonprofit Arts Organizations & Artists

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

The state allocated $1,508,852 to the Nebraska Arts Council. In FY 2019-20, Nebraska Arts Council also received $780,600 in federal NEA funds, which the Council re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations throughout the state. An additional 20 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $395,000.


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**Source:** Americans for the Arts, *Creative Industries*, 2017.

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**Source:** Americans for the Arts Action Fund, 2020. Read: "Funding The Arts is Good For the Nation," The Hill, 2015.
NEBRASKA ARTS COUNCIL (NAC) is a state agency that promotes, cultivates, and sustains the arts for the people of Nebraska. In doing so, NAC helps to support creative and innovative communities, drive an integral part of the state’s economy, and enrich the quality of life for all Nebraskans.

> Learn more here.

THE NEBRASKA CULTURAL ENDOWMENT is the first cultural endowment in the nation to sustain both the arts and humanities, its resources enhance the programs and grants of the Nebraska Arts Council and Humanities Nebraska by raising funds and investing them to provide the $1-to-$1 match required to trigger additional investments at the State of Nebraska.

> Learn more here.

MEET SOME NEBRASKA ARTS ADVOCATES

- **Suzanne Wise** is the recipient of the 2018 Gary Young Award for extraordinary public support for the arts, an award of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies. Wise serves as Executive Director of Nebraska Arts Council. > More
- **Doug Zbylut** is Executive Director of Nebraskans for the Arts, a grassroots organization dedicated to advocating for the arts and arts education. > More
- **Patsy Koch Johns** is President of Nebraskans for the Arts and an elected representative of the Nebraska State Board of Education. > More
- **Jordan Huether** is the 2018 Governor’s Arts Awardee. > More
- **Todd Simon** is a passionate contemporary arts collector and supporter, serving on the boards of the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts and United States Artists > More

ART IN NEBRASKA

- Visit Nebraska provides a searchable database of arts destinations and events throughout the state here.
- Visit Omaha can direct you to the city’s best venues of live theater and dance performances here.
- An interactive map of Nebraska Arts Council-supported arts events in Nebraska here.

NEBRASKA ART ORGANIZATIONS
Nebraskans for the Arts
www.nebraskansforthearts.org
Nebraska Museums Association
www.nebraskamuseums.org
Nebraska Art Teachers Association
www.nebraskaarteducators.org

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

- **Start in Omaha** for a variety of art museum experiences, ranging from the twenty galleries and public art of Joslyn Museum to the Bemis Center for Contemporary Art.
- **Travel north in June to enjoy the Norfolk Arts Center** and take in the Great American Comedy Festival at the Johnny Carson Theatre.
- **The capitol city area of Lincoln** offers a wide variety of plays and musicals through venues connected with the Lincoln Theatre Alliance.
- **Scottsbluff** is a hub of creativity through the Midwest Theatre and the West Nebraska Arts Center.
- **North Platte** was the nation’s stop for traveling WWII soldiers; now travelers stop to enjoy the activities at the Prairie Arts Center and the Neville Center for Performing Arts.
- **Visiting the center of state brings you to the center of art events and activities coordinated by the Kearney Cultural Partnership.**
- **The halfway point to St. Patrick’s Day is always a celebration when you attend the Greeley Irish Festival.**

NEBRASKA 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 Nebraska” with corresponding resource links visit www.ArtsActionFund.org/StateFactsheets.

3/3/2020