Why the Arts Matter in New York

### National Arts Facts

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

- **Arts & Culture Sector Represents 4.3% of Nation’s GDP & 5 Million Jobs**
  - The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that nationally the arts and culture sector is a $804 billion industry, representing 4.3% of the nation’s GDP—a larger share of the economy than construction (4%) or education services (1.1%).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>GDP 2015</th>
<th>Employees</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.
  - Source: Americans for the Arts, Creative Industries, 2017.

- In New York, 50,337 Arts-Related Businesses employ 396,666 people.
  - In Kings County, 5,556 Arts-Related Businesses employ 26,974 people.
  - In New York County, 15,620 Arts-Related Businesses employ 218,794 people.
  - In Suffolk County, 4,300 Arts-Related Businesses employ 33,804 people.

**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 $275 billion in federal, state, and local government revenue.

- In New York, 2015, New York’s arts and culture sector employed thousands of FTE jobs and generated millions of dollars in economic activity. Nonprofit arts groups helped cultivate that activity.
  - In the Western New York region, nonprofit arts groups generated $156.0 million in economic activity. Audiences of 6.6 million people added another $196.1 million in related spending for a total of $352.1 million for the region in 2015, and this generated $40.3 million in local and state government revenues and 10,160 FTE jobs.

**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 allocated $165.25 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 New York—how much does state government budget to the New York State Council on the Arts each year?
  - **A** The state allocated $45,274,000 to the New York State Council on the Arts in FY 2019-20, the New York State Council on the Arts also received $736,720 in federal NEA funds, which the Council re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations throughout the state. Another 814 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $21,641,500.
New York State has 10 Arts Regions with wonderful offerings: celebrating our industrial and artistic innovation.

The Albany Symphony Orchestra’s summer festivals along the Erie Canal bring together as many as 23,000 fans from diverse communities across the state, THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

NEW YORK ARTS FACTS

IN THE EMPIRE STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US
The Albany Symphony Orchestra’s summer festivals along the Erie Canal bring together as many as 23,000 fans from diverse communities across the state, celebrating our industrial and artistic innovation.

MEET SOME NEW YORK ARTS ADVOCATES

• New York State Senator Joseph M. Serrano is the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation and an advocate for the transformative effect of arts on economies, communities and education. > More
• Arts advocate and philanthropist Agnes Gund recently founded the Art for Justice fund. > More
• Stephen Butler is the Executive Director of CNY Arts and a leader of Arts NYS. > More
• New York State Assemblymember Daniel O’Donnell is Chair of the Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports Development Committee. > More
• Janet Langsam is the CEO of ArtsWestchester and a leader of Arts NYS. > More

ART IN NEW YORK

• I love New York’s New York State bucket list details must-see cultural attractions.
• Catch a show from Broadway to Buffalo with this comprehensive guide.
• Learn all about New York museums here.

NEW YORK ART ORGANIZATIONS

ArtsNYS Coalition
www.artsnys.org
CNY Arts
www.cnyarts.org
New York State Arts Teachers Association
www.nysata.org

The arts are essential to our identity as New Yorkers, embodying our spirit of innovation as they drive economy, build community and enhance education. From the millions who visit our museums, theaters, concert halls, public artworks and festivals to each individual student whose world is broadened in the classroom, our state’s creative culture enriches our lives.”

—Mara Manus, Executive Director, New York State Council on the Arts

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!
New York State has 10 Arts Regions with wonderful offerings:

• Western New York. Did you know Buffalo is a hotspot for NYS art? Head to contemporary art haven Albright-Knox Art, then, check out Frank Lloyd Wright’s Darwin Martin House and hear JoAnn Falletta—the first female conductor of a major U.S. orchestra—conduct the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.
• Finger Lakes. Grab your camera and head to the George Eastman Museum, the world’s oldest museum dedicated to photography. In September, head to the Rochester Fringe Festival, a showcase of 500+ events, many free, for nearly 80,000 fans.
• Central New York. Visit the first museum to dedicate itself to the collection of American arts. The Everson Museum of Art is home to almost 11,000 works, which you can discover within an architectural wonder designed by I.M. Pei.
• Southern Tier. Try your hand at glassmaking at the Corning Museum of Glass, an international tourist destination which draws more than 500,000 annually to New York’s Southern Tier.
• Mohawk Valley. Hear opera stars at the Glimmerglass Festival in Cooperstown on picturesque Lake Otsego—and while you’re there, slow down with a taste of 19th century rural life at the nearby Farmers Museum.
• North Country. Jump right into the history of the American Revolution at Fort Ticonderoga, and admire your mountain surroundings at the Adirondack Experience.
• Capital Region. Listen to the Grammy-winning Albany Symphony Orchestra or stop by the Saratoga Performing Arts Center for their annual jazz festival.
• Hudson Valley. Take in 500 acres of modern and contemporary large-sculpture al fresco at Storm King Art Center in New Windsor, then catch a classic at the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival.
• Long Island. Get a jump on Oscar season at the Hamptons International Film Festival, then head to the Herzog & de Meuron-designed Parrish Art Museum to view modern and contemporary American art.
• New York City. Broadway lights are brighter than ever, with Second Stage’s new Helen Hayes Theatre, a home for new American plays and diverse voices; Venture out of Manhattan for innovative fare at BAM or to Queens’ Museum of the Moving Image.

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

NEW YORK 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