WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN WASHINGTON

**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.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>GDP (Billions)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</td>
<td>$878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$790.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Services</td>
<td>$206</td>
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</tbody>
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**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.

673,656 BUSINESSES & 3.48M EMPLOYEES ARE INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OR DISTRIBUTION OF THE ARTS

**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.

- Spending by arts audiences generated $102.5 billion to local businesses.


**ECONOMICS**

**NONPROFIT ART IS A $166.3 BILLION DRIVER OF OUR NATIONAL, STATE & LOCAL ECONOMY.**

**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)?

Congress has proposed allocating $162.5 million to the NEA in FY 2020, which has been relatively level for the last several years. This amounts to just 49c 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 Washington—how much does state government budget to the Washington State Arts Commission eachyear?

The state allocated $2,169,000 to the Washington State Arts Commission. In FY 2019-20, the Washington State Arts Commission also received $845,600 in federal NEA funds, which the Commission re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations throughout the state. Another 96 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $2,414,887.


**WASHINGTON ARTS FACTS**

**WA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 8.4% OF STATE’S GDP & 167,004 JOBS**

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributes $44.3 billion to Washington’s economy, representing 8.4% of the state’s GDP—a larger share than some other industries in the state.


<table>
<thead>
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<th>Industry</th>
<th>GDP (Billions)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</td>
<td>$44.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$22.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Services</td>
<td>$3.1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

In Washington, 17,642 Arts-Related Businesses employ 69,844 people.

- In King County, 8,108 Arts-Related Businesses employ 34,536 people.
- In Pierce County, 1,408 Arts-Related Businesses employ 4,317 people.
- In Spokane County, 1,046 Arts-Related Businesses employ 6,172 people.


17,642 BUSINESSES & 69,844 EMPLOYEES ARE INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OR DISTRIBUTION OF THE ARTS

**ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS & THEIR AUDIENCES**

In 2015, Washington’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 Tacoma, for example, nonprofit arts groups generated $74.6 million in economic activity. Audiences of 2.7 million people added another $14.0 million in local and state government revenues and 3,656 FTE jobs.


**NONPROFIT ART IS A $35.6 BILLION DRIVER OF JUST ONE OF OUR LOCAL ECONOMIES.**
IN THE EVERGREEN STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US

Washington Creative Forces Summit II – Healing in Community will be aimed at arts organizations and individuals interested in working with and improving knowledge of our target military population grappling with Post Traumatic Stress or Traumatic Brain Injury.

THE WASHINGTON STATE ARTS COMMISSION—Established in 1961, the Washington State Arts Commission (ArtsWA) is a catalyst for the arts, advancing the role of the arts in the lives of individuals and communities throughout the state. > Learn more here.

MEET SOME WASHINGTON ARTS ADVOCATES
• Manual Cawaling is Executive Director of Cultural Access Washington. > More
• Shannon Halbertstadt is Executive Director of Artist Trust. > More
• Karen Hanan is the Executive Director of ArtsWA. > More
• Christopher Shainin is President of Washington State Arts Alliance. > More

ART IN WASHINGTON
• Best Things Washington can direct you to the best venues of live theater and dance performances here.
• Artist Trust offers a calendar of arts events in Washington here.
• ExperienceWA offers a list of arts and cultural activities in Washington here.

WASHINGTON ART ORGANIZATIONS
Washington State Arts Alliance
washingtonstateartsalliance.org
Washington Museums Association
washingtonmuseumassociation.org
Washington Art Education Association
waeaboard.net

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!
• Start in the coolest coastal town in the state, Port Townsend, and experience Centrum, featuring jazz, literary arts, and the Port Townsend Film Festival.
• Hit Bellingham’s picturesque Fairhaven District and enjoy the Arts & Music Festival and the best selection of microbrews in the state.
• Head South to Seattle to enjoy world-class theatre, music, visual arts, literary arts and dance, presented by Seattle Theatre Group, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle Opera, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Northwest Folklife, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Seattle Symphony, Seattle Arts & Lectures, and a year of cultural festivals at Seattle Center.
• Nearby Bellevue presents innovative Arts & Design at the Bellevue Arts Museum, and experience the Bellevue Arts Fair.
• In Eastern Washington, Spokane hosts a citywide Arts Month in October, and is the home of the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture.
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WASHINGTON 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 View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts, Click Here.


DRAFT as of 3/20/2020