WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN DELAWARE

NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

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

4.3% OF NATION’S GDP & 5.2 MILLION JOBS

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that nationally the arts and culture sector was a $919.7 billion industry in 2019, representing 4.3% of the nation’s GDP, 5.2 million jobs, and total compensation of $466 billion.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2019 (Prior to COVID-19 pandemic)

$919.7 BILLION Arts & Culture Sector
$892.7 BILLION Construction
$269.9 BILLION Education Services

BONUS: In 2019, U.S. exports generated a $33 billion arts trade SURPLUS.

LOSS OF REVENUE AND JOBS (Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

Nationally, COVID-19 has devastated creative economy businesses with a loss of $150 billion in revenue. In addition, 52% of all creative workers became unemployed (2.7 million people) as of July 2020.


$150B LOST REVENUE & 52% OF UNEMPLOYMENT

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NONPROFIT ART 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.


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

DELAWARE ARTS FACTS

DE ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 1.4% OF STATE’S GDP & 8,854 JOBS

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributed $1 billion to Delaware’s economy in 2019, representing 1.4% of the state’s GDP, 8,854 jobs, and total compensation of $524 million.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2019 (Prior to COVID-19 pandemic)

$1 BILLION Arts & Culture Sector
$3 BILLION Construction
$464 MILLION Education Services

BONUS: In 2019, DE arts and culture was also larger than the Agriculture industry.

LOSS OF REVENUE AND JOBS (Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

In Delaware, COVID-19 has devastated creative economy businesses with a loss of $198 million in revenue. In addition, 62% of all creative workers in Delaware became unemployed (5,478 people) as of July 2020.


$198M LOST REVENUE & 62% OF UNEMPLOYMENT

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NONPROFIT ART ORGANIZATIONS & THEIR AUDIENCES

In 2015, the Delaware arts and culture generated $149.9 million in economic activity annually that supported 4,062 FTE jobs and generated $10.5 million in state and local government revenue.

- Delaware nonprofit arts groups generated $103.6 million in economic activity. Audiences of 1,530,657 people added another $46.3 million for a total of $149.9 million in economic activity for 2015, and this generated $10.5 million in local and state government revenues. The arts and culture sector ranks as one of the top ten employers of the state.


NONPROFIT ART IS A $149.9 MILLION DRIVER OF JUST ONE OF OUR LOCAL ECONOMIES.

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 $167.5 million to the NEA in FY 2021, which has been relatively level for the last several years. This amounts to just 51¢ per capita, yet the nonprofit arts industry generates over $13 billion in federal tax revenue back to the U.S. Treasury. Imagine what nonprofit arts groups could generate with $1 per capita.


Q What about Delaware—how much does state government budget to the Delaware Division of the Arts each year?
A In FY 20-21, the state allocated $3,866,700 to the Delaware Division. The Delaware Division also received $734,500 in federal NEA funds, which the Division re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations through the state. Another 8 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $300,000.

“Delaware’s vibrant arts scene is grounded in its rich cultural heritage and shaped by the creative innovation that has evolved as each generation explores our unique identities, histories, and challenges through artistic engagement.”

—Delaware Division of the Arts

DELWARE ARTS FACTS

IN THE FIRST STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US

The Delaware Art Museum collaborates with world-renowned performers to attract audiences from all ethnicities of Delaware’s diverse communities.

THE DELAWARE DIVISION OF THE ARTS, established in 1989, is a branch of the Delaware Department of State, is dedicated to cultivating and supporting the arts to enhance the quality of life for all Delawareans. Together they educate the public, increase awareness of the arts, and integrate the arts into all facets of Delaware life.

Director: Paul Weagraff
Chair: J. Mack Wathen

> Learn more here.

ART IN DELAWARE

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DELWARE ART ORGANIZATIONS

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DELWARE ARTS NEED YOU!

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THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

- Each year more than 200 state employees participate in the National Art Program exhibition mounted in the Delaware State University Art Center Gallery.
- In Wilmington, since 1992, the Delaware Theatre Company has sponsored “Totally Awesome Players,” employing acting skills and the creation of a play to increase the collaborative skills and active creativity of adults with intellectual disabilities.
- The Music School of Delaware, founded in 1924, is the only statewide, accredited, community music school in the nation, providing instruction and concerts throughout the state.
- Travel to Selbyville where the Freeman Arts Pavilion at Bayside provides unique arts experiences to over 50,000 visitors a year.

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