### National Arts Facts

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<th>Arts &amp; Culture Sector’s Percentage of U.S. Economy</th>
<th>Arts &amp; Culture Sector Represents 4.3% of Nation’s GDP &amp; 5.2 Million Jobs</th>
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<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</td>
<td>$919.7 Billion</td>
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<td>Construction</td>
<td>$892.7 Billion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education Services</td>
<td>$269.9 Billion</td>
</tr>
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**BONUS:** In 2019, U.S. exports generated a $33 billion arts trade surplus.

### Kentucky Arts Facts

| Kentucky Arts & Culture Sector Represents 2.5% of State’s GDP & 53,113 Jobs |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Arts & Culture Sector | $5.4 Billion |
| Construction | $9.3 Billion |
| Education Services | $1.5 Billion |

**BONUS:** In 2019, KY arts and culture was also larger than the mining industry.

### 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.


<table>
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<tr>
<th>Loss of Revenue</th>
<th>52% of Unemployment</th>
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<td>$150B LOST REVENUE</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.

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

**Source:** Americans for the Arts, *Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, 2017.*

### 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.

**Source:** Americans for the Arts Action Fund, 2021. Read: “Funding The Arts is Good for the Nation,” The Hill, 2015.

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

**A** In FY 20-21, the state allocated $1,537,900 to the Kentucky Arts Council. The Kentucky Arts Council also received $797,600 in federal NEA funds, which the Council re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations through the state. Another 50 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $1,705,000.

**Source:** NEA and NASAA, 2021. Read: “The Art of Economic Development,” Gary Daughters
“Creative places attract skilled workers and tourists. Kentucky, through its support of the arts and other creative enterprises, understands this.”
—Kentucky Economic Development Guide 2017

KENTUCKY ARTS FACTS

IN THE BLUEGRASS STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US

The Community Scholars Program trains members of a community in documentation, interpretation and dissemination of their unique local cultural resources and traditional art forms.

THE KENTUCKY ARTS COUNCIL—Established in 1965, the Kentucky Arts Council is the state arts agency and is responsible for developing and promoting support for the arts in Kentucky. Strategically placed in the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet, the Kentucky Arts Council is publicly funded by the Kentucky General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Executive Director: Chris Cathers
Chair: Mary Michael Corbett

> Learn more here.

ART IN KENTUCKY

- The Mountain Association for Community Economic Development helps kick-start businesses in the arts in Appalachia.
- Food, art, and health intersect in Owensboro.
- Learn how Artists Become Farmers Market Vendors in Owsley and Ohio counties here.

KENTUCKY ART ORGANIZATIONS

Kentucky Performing Arts
Kentucky Arts Partners
Glema Mahr Center for the Arts
Baker Hunt Art and Cultural Center
Kentucky Center for African American Heritage

KENTUCKIANS FOR THE ARTS

Founded in 2016, Kentuckians for the Arts mission is to promote the value of the arts and arts education for all throughout Kentucky.

Executive Director: Philip Shepherd
Chair: Lori Meadows

> Learn more here.
> Join here.

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

- Since 1969, Appalshop in Whitesburg has been enacting cultural organizing and place-based media, arts and education to document the life, celebrate the culture, and voice the concerns of people living in Appalachia and rural America.
- Every July, at the Berea Festival of Learnshops, you can join outstanding professional artists and master craftspeople to experience practically any art form you can imagine.
- Named “Most Beautiful Small Town in America” by Rand McNally in 2012, Bardstown is a picturesque city is recognized worldwide for its array of cultural, artistic and historic features.
- Designated a UNESCO Creative City in November 2013, Paducah features a dynamic arts and entertainment scene with live performances, museums, galleries and a sparkling nightlife that enthralls visitors from around the globe.
- Nestled on a scenic bend of the Ohio River in western Kentucky, Owensboro is the culinary and cultural hub of western Kentucky, with a wide variety of wonderfully delicious, locally owned restaurants and a thriving arts community.
- A unique combination of history and Southern charm greets visitors in Danville. Experience world class music, theater and performance at the Norton Center for the Arts, host of the 2012 Vice Presidential Debate.

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

KENTUCKY 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
FOLLOW US: Facebook | @ArtsActionFund | Instagram

To download this factsheet, "Why the Arts Matter in Kentucky," with corresponding resource links visit www.ArtsActionFund/StateFactsheets

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