WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN MAINE

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 & 5.2 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.

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

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**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**

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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.

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

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**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.


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**MAIN ARTS FACTS**

**MAINE ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 2.6% OF STATE’S GDP & 17,324 JOBS**

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributed $1.7 billion to Maine’s economy in 2019, representing 2.6% of the state’s GDP, 17,324 jobs, and total compensation of $911 million.

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

**$1.7 BILLION ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR & $2.5 BILLION Construction**

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

In Maine, COVID-19 has devastated creative economy businesses with a loss of $385 million in revenue. In addition, 76% of all creative workers in Maine became unemployed (12,812 people) as of July 2020.

**$385M LOST REVENUE & 76% OF UNEMPLOYMENT**

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

In 2015, nonprofit arts organizations in the state generated $150.6 million in economic activity annually that supported 4,190 jobs and generated $12.3 million in state and local government revenue.

- In Portland specifically, nonprofit arts groups generated $46.6 million in economic activity. Audiences of 1.0 million people added another $29.0 million in related spending for a total of $75.6 million for the city in 2015, and this generated $8.6 million in local and state government revenues and 2,372 in FTE jobs.

**NONPROFIT ART IS A $150.6 MILLION DRIVER OF JUST ONE OF OUR LOCAL ECONOMIES.**

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**PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS & ARTISTS**

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

**A** In FY 20-21, the state allocated $966,180 to the Maine Arts Commission. The Maine Arts Commission also received $795,000 in federal NEA funds, which the Council re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations through the state. Another 30 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $955,000.

Maine is a unique place that is rich in the arts and culture. From Maine’s beaches, to the mountains, to down east and north to Aroostook, you can experience all the arts bring to make this state special. Maine’s artists and arts organizations are its lifeblood and are a critical component of our economy.”
—Julie A. Richard, Executive Director, Maine Arts Commission

THE MAINE ARTS COMMISSION supports and promotes the arts and culture sector throughout Maine and has done so since its development in 1965.

Executive Director: David Greenham
Chair: David Hopkins

> Learn more here.

ART IN MAINE
- In September 2018, ArtsEngageME in partnership with the Maine Arts Commission launched the first ever Maine Arts Awards. See who was honored here.
- See a comprehensive list of Maine Arts Organizations and Artists here.
- Visit Maine can direct you to music festivals and live theater here.
- The Maine Art Museum Trail will lead you to 9 museums and 80,000 works of art here.

MAINE ART ORGANIZATIONS
Union of Maine Visual Artists: www.umvaonline.org/
Maine Alliance for Arts Education: www.maineartsed.org

> Learn more here.
> Join here.

ARTS ENGAGE ME is an advocacy and support organization for the Maine Arts Commission. It is modeled on the support organizations for many of Maine’s other state cultural agencies, with a directive to increase the Commission’s capacity to advocate and to hold an endowment in support of Maine’s cultural sector.

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!
- From the south, stop in Ogunquit to experience the Ogunquit Playhouse and the Ogunquit Museum of American Art.
- Stop in Portland for the First Friday Art Walk and experience all this arts-rich city has to offer including, but not everything: the Portland Museum of Art, Portland Stage, the Portland Symphony Orchestra, Opera Maine, FOKO, ChoralArt, Portland Ballet, and the list goes on...
- Head up I-95 to Lewiston and check out the Bates Dance Festival, The Public Theatre and the exhibits in LA Arts’ gallery.
- Drive toward the coast and stop in Rockland to see the many galleries and museums including the Farnsworth Art Museum which boasts numerous works by the Wyeths in its collection and the new Center for Maine Contemporary Art. Right up the street visit Bay Chamber Concerts in Rockport and the Camden International Film Festival in Camden, on your way to Waterfall Arts in Belfast.
- Don’t forget to stop in Bar Harbor to see the Abbe Museum, Maine’s only museum dedicated to Wabanaki art, history and culture - while enjoying the sites of Acadia National Park. Don’t forget to stop at the “quiet side” of Acadia – the Schoodic Peninsula and take in a workshop provided by Schoodic Arts for All in Winter Harbor.
- Drive all the way Downeast following the Maine Sculpture Tour on your way to Eastport for the TIDES Institute and Eastport Arts Center’s many programs and take in the Pirate Festival while you are there.
- Then go all the way north to see the Reed Gallery at UMaine in Presque Isle— which is also one of the stops on the Langlais Art Trail that stretches from Portsmouth, NH through Maine. Keep going north to the Musee Culturel du Mont-Carmel in Lille to experience French classic architecture as well as an extensive collection of Acadian and Quebecois artifacts.

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

MAINE 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 Arts Action Fund | Twitter @ArtsActionFund | Instagram @ArtsActionFund

MAINE ARTS FACTS

IN THE PINETREE STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US

Many Maine communities, such as Belfast, Winter Harbor, Portland and Skowhegan have evolved into arts communities that impact the economy, drive investment, and showcase artists that have influenced art throughout the country and world.