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 4.3% 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)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Billions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</td>
<td>$919.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$892.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Services</td>
<td>$269.9</td>
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</tbody>
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**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.


<table>
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<th>Loss of Revenue</th>
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<td>$150B LOST REVENUE &amp; 52% OF UNEMPLOYMENT</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.


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

**WASHINGTON ARTS FACTS**

**WA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 8.7% OF STATE'S GDP & 185,741 JOBS**

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributed $53.2 billion to WA's economy in 2019, representing 8.7% of the state's GDP, 185,741 jobs, and total compensation of $25.2 billion.

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

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<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Sector</td>
<td>$53.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>$26.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Services</td>
<td>$3.4</td>
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**BONUS:** In 2019, WA arts and culture was also larger than the Agriculture industry.

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

In Washington, COVID-19 has devastated creative economy businesses with a loss of $5.2 billion in revenue. In addition, 47% of all creative workers in Washington became unemployed (78,402 people) as of July 2020.


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**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 $62.6 million in related spending for a total of $137.2 million for the city in 2015, and this generated $14.0 million in local and state government revenues and 3,656 FTE jobs.

*Source: Americans for the arts, *Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, Tacoma* report, 2017*

**NONPROFIT ART IS A $35.6 BILLION 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 WA—how much does state government budget to the WA State Arts Commission each year?

**A** In FY 20-21, the state allocated $2,574,000 to the Washington State Arts Commission. The Washington State Arts Commission also received $893,000 in federal NEA funds, which the Commission re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations throughout the state. Another 105 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $2,999,500.

WASHINGTON ARTS FACTS
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.

Executive Director: Karen Hannan
Chair: Diane Martindale

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.
• Experience WA offers a list of arts and cultural activities in Washington here.

WASHINGTON ARTS & CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS
Inspire Washington
inspirewashington.org
Artist Trust
artiststrust.org
Humanities Washington
humanities.org
Washington Art Education Association
waeaboard.net
Washington Filmworks
washingtonfilmworks.org

ArtsEd Washington
artsedwashington.org
ArtsWA
arts.wa.gov
Washington Museum Association
washingtonmuseumassociation.org
Washington State Historical Society
washingtonhistory.org
Whipsmart
bewhipsmart.org

INSPIRE WASHINGTON nurtures the human spirit and strengthens communities by increasing access to science, heritage, and arts programming through advocacy, resource development, education and coalition building. Est. 1977

Executive Director: Manuel Cawaling
Chair: Benjamin Moore

> Learn more here.
> Join here.

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, Annex Theatre, NW African American Museum, Pacific Science Center, Wing Luke Museum, Vera Project, and Woodland Park Zoo
• Nearby Bellevue and the Eastside presents innovative Arts & Design at the Bellevue Arts Museum, KidsQuest Children’s Museum, NW Railway 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.
• Head Southwest to the Maryhill Museum of Art, overlooking the beautiful Columbia River Gorge.
• Tacoma’s Museum District is a jewels of the South Sound. You can walk to six premier museums, including the State History Museum, the Tacoma Art Museum, the Museum of Glass, the LeMay Car Museum, the Foss Waterway Museum, and the Children’s Museum of Tacoma.

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

WASHINGTON ARTS NEED YOU!

JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!

E-MAIL US: ArtsActionFund@artsusa.org
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CALL US: 202.371.2830
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To download this factsheet, "Why the Arts Matter in Washington," with corresponding resource links visit www.ArtsActionFund/StateFactsheets

4/2/2021