WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN PENNSYLVANIA

NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 4.2% OF NATION’S GDP & 4.6 MILLION JOBS

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that nationally the arts and culture sector was a $876.7 billion industry in 2020, representing 4.2% of the nation’s GDP, 4.6 million jobs, and total compensation of $446 billion.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Endowment for the Arts, 2022 (2020 data collected during the pandemic)

$876.7 BILLION Arts & Culture Sector

$572 BILLION Transportation

$341.7 BILLION Utilities

BONUS: In 2020, the arts & culture sector ranked 3rd among comparison sectors.

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

Between 2019 and 2020, the U.S. arts economy shrunk at nearly twice the rate of the economy as a whole. Arts and cultural production fell by 6.4% when adjusted for inflation, compared with a 3.4% decline overall.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2022 (Data collected during the pandemic)

See Americans for the Arts regularly updated COVID-19 Impact on the Arts Research Update.

$53.6B GDP LOST & 600,000 JOBS LOST

EDUCATIONAL 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 (Prior to COVID-19 pandemic)

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

PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS & ARTISTS

Q How much is the federal government investing in the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)?

A Congress allocated $180 million to the NEA in FY22. This amounts to just 54 cents per capita. Ideally, Congress should index $1 per capita funding to the NEA. For COVID economic relief, Congress also allocated $75 million in CARES Act and $135 million in ARPA funding for distribution by the NEA. Additionally, Congress allocated $16 billion to the SBA for shuttered arts venues plus billions more for PPP and EIDL.

Source: Americans for the Arts Action Fund, 2022.

ECONOMICS

Pennsylvania Arts Facts

PA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 3.3% OF STATE’S GDP & 156,980 JOBS

U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributed $25.7 billion to PA’s economy in 2020, representing 3.3% of the state’s GDP, 156,980 jobs, and total compensation of $13 billion.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, 2022 (2020 data collected during the pandemic)

$25.7 BILLION Arts & Culture Sector

$7.2 BILLION Mining

$12.8 BILLION Utilities

BONUS: In 2020, PA arts and culture was also larger than the Agriculture industry.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS & THEIR AUDIENCES

In 2015, nonprofit arts organizations in the state generated $3.4 billion in economic activity annually that supported 100,114 jobs and generated $402.1 billion in state and local government revenue.

• In the Lehigh Valley specifically, nonprofit arts groups generated $83.2 million in economic activity. Audiences of 3.6 million people added another $103.2 million in related spending for a total of $186.4 million for the region in 2015, and this generated $18.8 million in local and state government revenues.


NONPROFIT ART IS A $3.4 BILLION DRIVER OF JUST ONE OF OUR LOCAL ECONOMIES.

Q How much did PA receive in public funding for the arts and culture?

A In FY21-22, the state allocated $10,457,000 to the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts also received $1,015,800 in federal NEA funds and $1,433,000 in ARPA and CARES Act funds. Both ARPA and CARES Act Funds supported 528 grants. Another 91 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling $4,220,000.

“In lower-income neighborhoods, cultural resources are ‘significantly’ linked to better health, schooling, and security.”
—Penn Social Policy & Practice

PENNSYLVANIA ARTS FACTS

IN THE KEYSTONE STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US

Creative Communities of Care is a partnership between the PA Council on the Arts and the PA Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to bring in-depth, collaborative, creative programming to veterans at all six homes for veterans in the commonwealth.

THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS (PCA)— The mission of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts is to strengthen the cultural, educational, and economic vitality of Pennsylvania’s communities through the arts.

Executive Director: Karl Blischke
Chair: Jeffrey A. Parks

ART IN PENNSYLVANIA
- VisitPA can direct you to the best destinations for arts and culture in the state here.
- BestThingsPA can direct you to the best venues of live theater and dance performances here.
- ArtsFairCalendar offers a calendar of art shows and craft fairs in Pennsylvania here.

PA ARTS ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS
PA Museums
pamuseums.org/
Pennsylvania Art Education Association
paeablog.org/
Pennsylvania Music Educators Association
www.pmea.net/

CITIZENS FOR THE ARTS IN PENNSYLVANIA
advocates for funding and public policies that ensure the practice of, access to, and the appreciation of arts and culture for all citizens in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Director: Pamela J. Snyder Etters
Chair: Kelly Gibson

Learn more here.
Join here.

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

- Starting in the Lehigh Valley, ArtsQuest’s Musikfest attracts more than 1 million visitors to Bethlehem each year. Musikfest is the country’s largest free music festival.
- Head south to Chadds Ford and enjoy the art of the Wyeth family at the Brandywine River Museum. In addition to the Wyeth family’s work, the museum also houses a cross-section of American art with special focus on artists from the Brandywine Valley.
- Start a tour of Lancaster with a visit to the Ware Center, the city’s newest visual and performing arts center. It is located in the heart of the arts & historical district. Down the street is the Fulton Opera House, and located along Prince Street are arts galleries to appeal to everyone’s taste.
- Head up to State College to attend the Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts in July. The Festival assists the Nittany Valley Running Club in presenting the Sue Crowe Memorial Arts Festival Races, and Schlow Centre Region Library in presenting BookFest.
- Head west to Ridgway and attend the annual Chainsaw Carvers Rendevous. Over 60 carvers from around the nation participate in this experience.
- The City of Sharon sits unassumingly in the Shenango Valley of Mercer County, nestled against Pennsylvania’s border with Ohio. But this quiet city is home to a unique arts festival—Waterfire Sharon! The festival incorporates the contributions of dozens of local galleries and works of art lining downtown Sharon. The family-friendly event offers an opportunity to walk the main streets of the city traffic-free in the glow of the river’s stunning display of fire.

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

PENNSYLVANIA 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 | @ArtsActionFund | @ArtsActionFund

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

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