WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN GEORGIA

NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

ARTS & CULTURE FOR-PROFIT & NON-PROFIT SECTORS REPRESENT

4.4% Nation’s GDP
4.85M Jobs

$1.016 TRILLION Arts & Culture
$945.3 B Construction
$378.4 B Utilities

The national arts and culture sector was a $1.016 trillion industry in 2021 (4.4% of the nation’s GDP), representing 4.85 million jobs (3.2% of nation’s workforce), and total compensation of $504.2 billion.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Endowment for the Arts, 2023 (2021 data collected during the pandemic)

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NON-PROFIT ARTS INDUSTRY ONLY & THEIR AUDIENCES

National
$166.3 B Economic activity annually
$27.5 B Federal, state, and local government revenue generated

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

Source: Americans for the Arts, Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, 2017 (New data coming Oct 2023)

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Federal Appropriation FY23 $207 Million
SBA SVO Grants FY21-22 $13 Billion

Congress allocated $207 million to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in FY23. This amounts to just 62 cents per capita. Ideally, Congress should index $1 per capita funding to the NEA.

Source: Americans for the Arts Action Fund, 2023.

View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts HERE

3/25/2023

GEORGIA ARTS FACTS

ARTS & CULTURE FOR-PROFIT & NON-PROFIT SECTORS REPRESENT

4.2% State’s GDP
149,036 Jobs

$29.2 BILLION Arts & Culture
$31.9 B Construction
$3.9 B Agriculture & Forestry

The Georgia arts and culture sector was a $29.2 billion industry in 2021 (4.2% of the state's GDP), representing 149,036 jobs (3.1% of Georgia's workforce), and total compensation of $13.8 billion.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, 2023 (2021 data collected during the pandemic)

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NON-PROFIT ARTS INDUSTRY ONLY & THEIR AUDIENCES

Atlanta, GA
$434.8 M Economic activity annually
$64.5 M State and local government revenue generated

Audiences of 10.4 M people added another $285.0 M in related spending for a total of $719.8 M for the city in 2015.

Source: Americans for the Arts, Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, Atlanta Metro report, 2017

PUBLIC FUNDING RECEIVED FOR GEORGIA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

State Appropriation FY23 $1,555,890
NEA Grant FY23 $902,035
NEA Direct Grants FY22-23 $5,433,335

Source: NEA, SBA, NASAA, 2023
GEORGIA ARTS HIGHLIGHTS
IN THE PEACH STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US AS GEORGIANS

The video Right Here in Georgia: The Impact of the Arts highlights the impact of the arts on the state.

GEORGIA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS
Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) is a division of the Georgia Department of Economic Development whose mission is to cultivate the growth of vibrant, thriving Georgia communities through the arts. GCA provides grant funding, programs and services statewide that support the vital arts industry, preserve the state’s cultural heritage, increase tourism and nurture strong communities.

Executive Director: Tina Lilly
Chair: J. Barry Schrenk

GEORGIA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS
Learn more here

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE

- One of the largest arts centers in the world, Woodruff Arts Center in Atlanta is home to Alliance Theatre, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the High Museum of Art. Celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2018, The Woodruff hosts 800,000 patrons and serves 200,000 students each year. > More
- The historic family home of world-renowned author Flannery O’Connor, Andalusia has recently been stabilized and is undergoing a long-term restoration under the auspices of Georgia College & State University. Located outside of Milledgeville, the 500-acre estate is open to the public for tours and special events. > More
- The Savannah Music Festival brings more than 500 of the world’s finest musical artists representing a broad variety of genres for more than 100 events over 17 days each spring.
- Reaching an audience of more than 35,000, the annual festival is touted as one of the most innovative cultural events in North America. > More
- Georgia’s official folk life play, Swamp Gravy is produced in Colquitt, Georgia, located in the far southwestern corner of the state. First presented in 1992, Swamp Gravy incorporates local stories and characters, volunteer actors, and regional music. Received with national acclaim and visitors from all around the country, the story of Swamp Gravy was recently featured on NPR’s “Planet Money.” Productions take place in March and October of each year. > More
- A three-week event to highlight the role of the arts in the community of Columbus, Georgia, Artbeat coordinates events with the many local cultural institutions, including The Columbus Museum, RiverCenter for the Performing Arts, The Bo Bartlett Center, Springer Opera House, Columbus Symphony Orchestra, The Columbus Ballet, and Columbus State University, among many others. > More
- Located in Summervile, Georgia, Paradise Garden encompasses the historic home and artist-built environment which was the vision of celebrated self-taught artist Rev. Howard Finster. While he didn’t begin his career as an artist until the age of 59, Finster produced more than 45,000 works before his death in 2001 at the age of 84. Managed by the Paradise Garden Foundation, his unique estate features numerous buildings covered in Finster’s work, as well as two guest cottages where visitors can stay overnight. Paradise Garden also hosts the annual Finster Fest and a regional OutsiderArt Trail Tour. > More

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

- Explore Georgia offers a calendar of arts and culture events, including festivals, fairs, concerts, theatre and dance productions, among many other types of events here.
- Atlanta Magazine lists 100 arts destinations throughout the state here.
- Several sites catalog the wide variety of events happening in Atlanta, including Atlanta.net and artsatl.org.

Arts Georgia artsgeorgia.net
Georgia Association of Museums and Galleries gamg.org
Georgia Lawyers for the Arts glarts.org
Georgia Music Partners georgiamusicpartners.org
SouthArts southarts.org

GEORGIA FOR THE ARTS, a 501(c)4 established in 2019, has the mission to provide vision, leadership, and resources that ensure the growth, prosperity, and sustainability of arts and culture in Georgia. They are the state’s leading arts and culture advocacy membership-driven organization and Georgia’s representative to Americans for the Arts’ State Arts Advocacy Network and its National Arts Action Summit.

President & CEO: Patrick A. Kelsey

Learn more here
Visit Georgia Arts Action Center

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JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!
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3/22