WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN LOUISIANA

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)

LOUISIANA ARTS FACTS

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

2.4% State’s GDP 47,825 Jobs

$6.1 BILLION Arts & Culture

$11.5 B Mining (Including Petro-Chemical)

$1.9 B Agriculture & Forestry

The Louisiana arts and culture sector was a $6.1 billion industry in 2021 (2.4% of the state’s GDP), representing 47,825 jobs (2.5% of Louisiana's workforce), and total compensation of $3 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

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)

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

Lafayette, LA

$6.4 M Economic activity annually

$1.5 M State and local government revenue generated

Audiences of 328,950 people added another $10.6 M in related spending for a total of $17.0 M in 2015.


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.

PUBLIC FUNDING RECEIVED FOR LOUISIANA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

State Appropriation FY23 $2,139,981

NEA Grant FY23 $882,400

NEA Direct Grants FY22-23 $4,412,900

IN THE BAYOU STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US

With some 400 different festivals each year featuring local music, arts and culture, it’s easy to see why Louisiana is often called the Festival Capital of America.

THE LOUISIANA DIVISION OF THE ARTS (LDOA)— Established by the state legislature in 1977, the LDOA serves the citizens of Louisiana by acting as a catalyst to provide funding and support the advancement of the arts field while providing public access to Louisiana’s arts and culture.

Learn more here.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

- See a comprehensive list of state fine craft artists here and an awesome roster of musical events here.
- Louisiana Travel can point you toward the ten must see cultural festivals here and interesting art galleries and destinations here.
- Movoto lists the five best cities in Louisiana for the arts here.

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

- A visit to Louisiana is not complete without a stop in the Big Easy for one of New Orleans’ many music and arts festivals such as the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, Essence Festival, or to hear the shouts of “STELLA!” at the Tennessee Williams Literary Festival.
- From Festivals Acadiens et Créoles, Zydeco Extravaganza to Festival International de Louisiane, in Lafayette, you can take in the local culture and cultures from around the world all en français (in French).
- Residents and visitors are crawling all over Monroe and West Monroe with the Downtown Gallery Crawl featuring art galleries, live music, and award winning local culinary delights.
- Flow into the Capital City, Baton Rouge, and enjoy SEVEN world-class museums in walking distance, performances and exhibitions at the Shaw Center for the Arts and creative innovation at the Cary Saurage Community Arts Center.
- In Shreveport, Elvis may have left the building...but the King of Rock n’ Roll and hundreds of local and nationally touring performers like Kenny Wayne Shepherd reign at the Municipal Auditorium as part of the Shreveport Common Creative Placemaking community with Caddo Common Park and “UNcommon Arts Experiences” throughout the 9 block area...Downtown lights up with the “Bakowski Bridge” with LED LIGHT ART shows on the art programmed Texas Street Bridge.
- Shared Digital Infrastructure - LDOA launched Culturalyst across Louisiana, setting up a shared digital infrastructure for all 9 cultural communities in Louisiana. Providing both a universal discovery experience to consumers and cultural data to regional arts councils, Culturalyst makes it easy to find artists, arts organizations, and opportunities across the state and a growing network of cities nationally and internationally.