## Why the Arts Matter in North Dakota

### National Arts Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arts &amp; Culture for-Profit &amp; Non-Profit Sectors Represent</th>
<th>North Dakota Arts Facts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.4% Nation's GDP</td>
<td>2.4% State's GDP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.85M Jobs</td>
<td>12,849 Jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1.016 trillion (Arts &amp; Culture)</td>
<td>$1.5 BIL (Arts &amp; Culture)</td>
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<tr>
<td>$945.3 B (Construction)</td>
<td>$9.9 B (Mining)</td>
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<tr>
<td>$378.4 B (Utilities)</td>
<td>$4 B (Agriculture &amp; Forestry)</td>
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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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National</th>
<th>Statewide</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$166.3 B (Economic activity annually)</td>
<td>$110.1 M (Economic activity annually)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$27.5 B (Federal, state, and local government revenue generated)</td>
<td>$9.6 M (State and local government revenue generated)</td>
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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

| Bismarck-Mandan Region nonprofits generated $22.1 million in economic activity. |

Source: Americans for the Arts, Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, Bismark Mandan Region and ND reports, 2017

### 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**

### Public Funding Received for North Dakota Arts & Culture Sector

- **State Appropriation FY23**: $838,320
- **State NEA Grant FY23**: $846,900

During the first SIX months of this fiscal year, NDCA awarded 159 grants totaling $883,369 to organizations and individuals. In addition, six nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling 140,000.

- **ARPA FY21-22**: $421,700

ARPA funds were distributed to 63 individuals and 52 organizations. In addition, four ND nonprofit organizations received $700,000 directly in ARPA relief funds.

Source: NEA and North Dakota, 2023
The Arts Unite Us and Enhance the Vitality of North Dakota, The Peace Garden State

Partnerships with many state agencies have resulted in new programs such as Health and Human Services (Art for Life offerings across the State in support businesses and elder care facilities), ND Department of Transportation (art installations at rest stops), ND Commerce/Tourism (Main Street grant program participation and speakers at the annual Summit), Corrections (Prison Podcast series underway), and with both Parks & Recreations and Game & Fish (artists in residency).

**North Dakota Council on the Arts**

North Dakota Council on the Arts strengthens the creative capacity of North Dakota for all who live and visit here: honoring our cultural traditions, empowering excellence and innovation, inspiring arts and culture opportunities for all.

**Executive Director:** Kim Konikow  
**Chair:** Dr. Shawn Oban

Learn more here.

**Be Sure to Check Out**

- Older adults have many contributions to make to their communities—but they often face ageism and isolation and have been disproportionately affected by COVID. NDCA received funding from the Leveraging State Investments in Creative Aging program, a joint initiative of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) and E.A. Michelson Philanthropy for The Tiny Press Kit project. [here](#)
- The Biennial Governor’s Awards for the Arts highlights six amazing individuals and organizations who were recognized for impacting North Dakota in 2023 through their work in arts, public service, arts education and business. [here](#)
- Look at Arts Across the Prairie, the first National Statewide placemaking program, focused on eight rural installations based on ND cultural heritage [here](#).
- The Department of Tourism can introduce you to North Dakota’s Vibrant Art Scene [here](#).

**The Arts Are Everywhere**

- Start a cultural tour of the state in Fargo, where the Plains Art Museum features regional contemporary artwork, American Modernism, and Native American works. And visit Aptitude, The Arts Partnership's amazing artist studios in West Acres Mall!
- Head west on Interstate 94 to Jamestown for the National Buffalo Museum and the Arts Center for its art exhibitions that change monthly, including a summer series in the square along with a farmer’s market.
- Continue west to the Belle Mehus Auditorium in Bismarck for Broadway shows, concerts, rodeos, and comedy, the Capital Gallery and the Bismarck Art Gallery & Gallery Association.
- In New Rockford, you can go to the Dakota Prairie Regional Center for the Arts for high quality theater.
- Out west in Watford City is the Long X Art Foundation in the brand-new Roughrider Center, which also houses the high school.
- The James Memorial Preservation Society in Williston has art exhibits and classes. The town is also know for its Dakota Prairie Quilt Guild and it Woodworkers Club.
- Straddling the border between ND and Canada, the International Peace Garden offers the International Music Camp Summer School of Fine Arts that attracts students of all ages for classes in Dance, Creative Writing, Painting, Drawing, Theater, and Music.