WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN OREGON

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)

OREGON ARTS FACTS

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

3.4% State's GDP
62,725 Jobs

$9.3 BILLION Arts & Culture

$7.4 B Transportation

$4.3 B Agriculture & Forestry

The Oregon arts and culture sector was a $9.3 billion industry in 2021 (3.4% of the state's GDP), representing 62,725 jobs (3.2% of Oregon's workforce), and total compensation of $5.3 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 & CULTURE INDUSTRY & 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 & CULTURE INDUSTRY & AUDIENCES

Statewide

$687 M Economic activity annually

$53 M State and local government revenue generated

In Greater Portland Area, nonprofit arts groups generated $364.1 million in economic activity.

Source: Americans for the Arts, Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, OR and Greater Portland Area 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.

PUBLIC FUNDING ALLOCATED IN OREGON ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

State Appropriation FY23: $2,058,120
NEA Grant FY23: $901,800
Cultural Trust FY23: $2,508,738
Artist Resiliency FY22-23: $1,680,000
ARPA Live Venue FY22-23: $48,725,519
Cultural Resource Economic Fund FY22-23: $9,510,728

Approximately 801 arts & culture organizations and 565 artists benefitted from these public funds.

Source: NEA, SBA, NASAA, and Oregon Arts Commission 2023

View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts HERE
Every year, engaged Oregonians make an estimated 250,000 donations to local arts and culture organizations!

THE OREGON ARTS COMMISSION
Established in 1967, the Oregon Arts Commission works to enhance the quality of life for all Oregonians through the arts by stimulating creativity, leadership, and economic vitality. The Arts Commission became part of Business Oregon (formerly Oregon Economic and Community Development Department) in 1993, in recognition of the expanding role the arts play in the broader social, economic and educational arenas of Oregon communities.

Executive Director: Brian Rogers

Learn more here.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

- The Oregon Legislature designated more than $100 million in COVID-19 Relief Funds and ARPA funds to sustain Oregon arts, heritage, and humanities organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The Celebrate Oregon! license plate honors the diversity of the state's arts heritage and humanities.

- In Early 2023, Oregon launched the state’s first Arts and Culture Caucus, including more than 20 bipartisan Legislators.

More than 1,500 Oregon cultural nonprofits are listed on the Oregon Cultural Trust website.

CULTURAL ADVOCACY COALITION OF OREGON (CACO)
Our mission is to increase ongoing public investment in arts, heritage and the humanities. Volunteers serve on the Board of Directors and include representatives from a broad number of interests to best represent the diverse mix of Oregon’s cultural community.

President: J.S. May

Learn more here. Join here.

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE

- Oregon’s must-experience arts event is the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, where visitors enjoy world class plays amid stunning scenery and fine Northwest cuisine.

- Pickathon, the “biggest little music festival in the Northwest,” is a truly unique multi-day outdoor music experience at the beautiful Pendarvis Farm in Happy Valley (just outside of Portland).

- No surprise that Wordstock, the largest literary festival in the Pacific Northwest, takes place in Portland, home to the world-renowned Powell’s Books.

- The Sisters Folk Festival is an annual three-day roots music festival held in Sisters, Oregon, near Bend the last weekend in September.

- Literary lore meets music and epic storytelling during the FisherPoets Gathering in historic Astoria. It’s a grand gathering of writers, poets, musicians and artists.

- Pianist Hunter Noack transports his piano on a flatbed truck for “In A Landscape: Classical Music in the Wild,” presented in some of the state’s most awe-inspiring and remote destinations.

- Every summer dozens of writers gather near Eastern Oregon’s beautiful Wallowa Lake for workshops, panel discussions, open mic readings, and breakout sessions as part of Summer Fishtrap. Nearby Joseph is a literal hotbed of arts activity, including the Valley Bronze Gallery & Foundry. Baker City is home to a one-of-a-kind art festival featuring artistic salt lick sculptures tongue-crafted by local cows, sheep, goats and deer.

- The High Desert Museum near Bend, a Smithsonian Affiliate Institution, features works by Oregon artists and draws nearly 170,000 visitors per year.

JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!
E-MAIL US: ArtsActionFund@artsusa.org VISIT US: ArtsActionFund.org FOLLOW US: 

3/3/2023