WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN PENNSYLVANIA

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)

Pennsylvania Arts Facts

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

3.4% State’s GDP
165,186 Jobs

$28.6 BILLION Arts & Culture
$31.6 B Transportation

$13.8 B Utilities

The Pennsylvania arts and culture sector was a $28.6 billion industry in 2021 (3.4% of the state’s GDP), representing 165,186 jobs (2.8% of Pennsylvania workforce), and total compensation of $14 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

$3.4 B Economic activity annually

$402 M State and local government revenue generated

In the Lehigh Valley specifically, nonprofit arts groups generated $83.2 million in economic activity.


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 PENNSYLVANIA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

State Appropriation FY23 $10,569,000
NEA Grant FY23 $1,094,800
CARES & ARPA FY21-22 $1,433,000

NEA Direct Grants FY22-23 $7,792,300

Source: NEA, SBA, NASAA 2023

View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts HERE
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.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

- 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](#).

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](#).

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 Rendezvous. 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.

Learn more [here](#).