WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN WEST VIRGINIA

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)

WEST VIRGINIA ARTS FACTS

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

1.7% State's GDP 14,414 Jobs

$1.4 B Arts & Culture

$10.5 B Mining

$0.3 B Agriculture & Forestry

The West Virginia arts and culture sector was a $1.4 billion industry in 2021 (1.7% of the state's GDP), representing 14,414 jobs (2.1% of West Virginia's workforce), and total compensation of $896 million.

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

$3 M 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-PROFILE ARTS INDUSTRY ONLY & THEIR AUDIENCES

Morgantown, WV

$27.5 M Economic activity annually

Audiences of 3 million people added another $8.0 million in related spending in 2015.


FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Federal Appropriation FY23 $207 Million

SBA SVOG 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 WEST VIRGINIA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

State Appropriation FY23 $954,315

NEA State Grant FY23 $820,700

NEA Direct Grants FY22 $725,000

SBA SVOG Grants FY21-22 $46,764,526

Cultural Facilities & Capital Resources Grant

FY23 $625,267

Source: NEA, SBA, NASAA, and State Arts Agency of WV, 2023

View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts HERE
West Virginia boasts of the world's top theater festivals. The Contemporary American Theater Festival generates $5.86 million in economic impact in Shepherdstown, Shepherd University and surrounding areas.

THE STATE ARTS AGENCY OF THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF THE ARTS, CULTURE, AND HISTORY—The mission is to foster a fertile environment for the artistic, cultural, educational and economic development of the state. We believe active participation in and enjoyment of the arts are fundamental to sustaining quality community life by providing an abundant and creative environment for businesses to flourish throughout the state. Est. 1967

Department Curator: Randall Reid-Smith
Director of the Arts: Jenna Green
WV Commission on the Arts Chair: Zach Abraham

Learn more at wvculture.org

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE

- Celebrate the folk and traditional arts in West Virginia by starting in Charleston where you can enjoy music, quilts, crafts, and expert storytellers at the Vandalia Gathering or catch a show hosted by the Friends of Old Time Music and Dance (FOOTMAD). Head down to Clifftop to the Appalachian String Band Music Festival and experience WV's folk music heritage with festival attendees from all 50 states and 20 countries. Learn from master musicians and artists at one of Augusta Heritage Center's summer camps in Elkins.

- Watch artisans carrying on the state's 200-year history of glass blowing at Blenko Glass in Milton where you can pick up one of their iconic 384 Water Bottles. You can also find glass blowers in action at Oglebay Institute in Wheeling and Dakota Glassworks in Wardensville. Shop for handmade glass pieces at the Pocahontas County Artisans Co-op in Marlinton.

- Learn traditional and modern techniques in pottery and painting in Parkersburg at the Parkersburg Art Center or purchase a work by one of over 70 local artists showcased at the PAC 713 Market. Take a class in pottery, painting, drawing, or photography at the Walter Gropius-designed Huntington Museum of Art, home of the state's largest collection of artwork.

- Experience the state's growing collection of public art by visiting the vibrant public murals in Princeton, participate in one of Charleston's seven unique public art walking tours, see the variety of public work centered around Trader's Alley in Buckhannon, or have your photo taken at all eight of Parkersburg's selfie station murals.

- Visit Fayetteville and see local artists at the Love Hope Center for the Arts or catch a performance at the Historic Fayette Theater. You'll find all this right next to New River Gorge National Park - the nation's newest national park and home of the iconic bridge and the state's largest one-day festival, Bridge Day.

- Mountain Stage is West Virginia's ambassador to the world. www.mountainstage.org

- West Virginia Tourism Office provides a 3-day itinerary for an arts and culture tour of the state at wvtourism.com/things-to-do/arts-culture-history/

- Tamarack Marketplace showcases and sells works of art from more than 2,800 West Virginia juried artists and artisans tamarackwv.com

- West Virginia Educational Broadcasting Authority is "Telling West Virginia's Story" every day, focusing on education, arts and culture. wvpub.org

- West Virginia Music Educators Association strengthens and advances the cause of music education in the Mountain State. wvmea.org

- The State Arts Office offers grant funding to West Virginia's artists and arts organizations. wvculture.org/agencies/arts

- The West Virginia State Museum focuses on every aspect of the state's history, culture, art, paleontology, archaeology and geology. wvculture.org/agencies/museums

- See more contemporary forms of art by taking in a performance of the WV Professional Dance Company in Beckley or one of several new plays at the Contemporary American Theater Festival in Shepherdstown. Walk down gallery-lined Front Street in Thomas to see the newest work from local visual artists and hear live music at the Purple Fiddle. Visit historic Lewisburg to see an original production by the Greenbrier Valley Theatre or head to the Culture Center's Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater to attend a recording of Mountain Stage; a live performance radio show produced by West Virginia Public Broadcasting and heard across the country.

As of 4/11/2023