### Why the Arts Matter in Vermont

#### National Arts Facts

- **Arts & Culture for-Profit & Non-Profit Sectors Represent**
  - 4.4% Nation's GDP
  - 4.85M Jobs

- **Economic Activity**
  - $1.016 Trillion Arts & Culture
  - $945.3 Billion Construction
  - $378.4 Billion 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)

#### Vermont Arts Facts

- **Arts & Culture for-Profit & Non-Profit Sectors Represent**
  - 3% State's GDP
  - 10,007 Jobs

- **Economic Activity**
  - $1.1 Billion Arts & Culture
  - $1.2 Billion Construction
  - $410 Million Agriculture & Forestry

The Vermont arts and culture sector was a $1.1 billion industry in 2021 (3% of the state's GDP), representing 10,007 jobs (3.2% of Vermont's workforce), and total compensation of $673 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 Billion Economic activity annually
  - $27.5 Billion 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)

- **Statewide**
  - $122.9 Billion Economic activity annually
  - $9.8 Billion State and local government revenue generated

In the Greater Burlington Area, nonprofit arts groups generated $59.1 Billion in economic activity. Audiences of 1.1 million people added another $36.0 Billion in related spending for a total of $95.2 Billion.

Source: Americans for the Arts, Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, VT and Greater Burlington Area reports.

#### 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 Vermont Arts & Culture Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>FY23 Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Appropriation</td>
<td>$859,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEA Grant</td>
<td>$859,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARPA FY21-22</td>
<td>$9,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct NEA VT Grants FY22</td>
<td>$563,000</td>
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In FY22, funding from the Arts Council supported 121 individuals and 217 organizations.

Source: NEA and Vermont Arts Council 2023
Vermont is known as one of the most creative states in the nation. From Bennington to Barton, arts and culture significantly bolster the local economy and are at the heart of Vermont's identity.

THE VERMONT ARTS COUNCIL envisions a Vermont where all people have access to the arts and creativity in their lives, education, and communities. Engagement with the arts transforms individuals, connects us more deeply to each other, energizes the economy, and sustains the vibrant cultural landscape that makes Vermont a great place to live. Since 1965, the Council has been the state's primary provider of funding, advocacy, and information for the arts in Vermont.

Executive Director: Susan Evans McClure
Chair: Rebecca McMeekin

Learn more here.

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE

- To fully experience the Northeast Kingdom start with Dog Mountain, home of the Stephen Huneck Gallery and 150 acres of dog-friendly grounds. Or, head to Bread and Puppet, one of the nation’s oldest political theater companies and a 140-year old hay barn that has been transformed into a museum with an exquisite collection.

- Burlington, Vermont’s “Queen City,” is both the largest city in the state and a hub of arts activities and is home to The Flynn, the city’s flagship performing arts center for 90 years. On the Church Street pedestrian mall, visit Burlington City Arts and Frog Hollow, home to more than 200 Vermont artists and artisans. Or venture to the South End Arts District for a meandering collection of galleries and artist studios—and the site of the South End Art Hop each September.

- In Middlebury, the college campus offers the Museum of Art and Mahaney Center for the Arts. Town Hall Theater offers theater, opera, films, and a gallery. It is also host to the August Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival.

- Downtown Rutland is home to several incredible works of art from local, national, and international artists and home to the Paramount Theatre for world class live entertainment. Take a walk on the sculpture trail to view historic works featuring moments from Vermont's storied marble history. Discover 20 larger-than-life murals adorning the town's historic buildings and visit unique exhibitions at five local galleries.

- In Brattleboro, see a world-class jazz ensemble at the Vermont Jazz Center or a performance at the New England Center for Circus Arts. The Brattleboro Museum & Art Center offers contemporary art exhibits throughout the year, while Epsilon Spires offers provocative performances and interactive art installations.

- A first stop in the Bennington area is The Bennington Museum, featuring the largest collection of paintings by American folk artist Grandma Moses.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

- The Vermont Arts Calendar lists arts events, concerts, classes around the state here.

- CreativeGround provides a comprehensive list of Vermont artists, arts organizations, and venues here.

- The Vermont Vacation Guide suggests arts and culture experiences for every season here.

- The Vermont Arts Council website has resources to help residents and visitors alike experience the arts here.

Vermont Folklife Center
www.vermontfolklifecenter.org

Inclusive Arts
www.inclusivearts.org

Vermont Creative Network
www.vermontcreativenetwork.org

IN THE GREEN MOUNTAIN STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US

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