

# WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN DELAWARE



## 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)

## DELAWARE ARTS FACTS

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

**1.2%** State's GDP    **7,746** Jobs

**\$973 M** Arts & Culture

**\$1.3 B** Utilities

**\$566 M** Agriculture & Forestry

The Delaware arts and culture sector was a **\$973 million industry** in **2021** (1.2% of the state's GDP), representing **7,746 jobs** (1.7% of Delaware's workforce), and total compensation of **\$536 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

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

Statewide

**\$149.9 M** Economic activity annually

**\$10.5 M** State and local government revenue generated

Source: Americans for the Arts, [Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, Delaware](#) report, 2017.

## 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](#).

**View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts [HERE](#)**

## PUBLIC FUNDING RECEIVED FOR DELAWARE ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

State Appropriation FY23    **\$3,880,015**

NEA State Grant FY22    **\$825,500**

NEA Direct Grants FY22    **\$365,000**

Source: [NEA, SBA, NASAA, 2023](#)

As of 4/11/2023

# DELAWARE ARTS HIGHLIGHTS

IN THE FIRST STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US



**THE DELAWARE DIVISION OF THE ARTS**, established in 1989, is a branch of the Delaware Department of State, is dedicated to cultivating and supporting the arts to enhance the quality of life for all Delawareans. Together they educate the public, increase awareness of the arts, and integrate the arts into all facets of Delaware life.

**Division Director: Jessica Ball**  
**Chair: J. Mack Wathen**



[Learn more here.](#)

## BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

- Delaware Scene offers a comprehensive calendar of arts events in Delaware [here](#).
- Visit Delaware provides an overview of all the art galleries, theaters, museums, and art festivals [here](#).
- Delaware Today provides feature articles, calendars, and art blogs on events and topics in Delaware [here](#).

Delaware Division of the Arts  
[arts.delaware.gov/](http://arts.delaware.gov/)

Delaware Division of Historical & Cultural Affairs  
[www.history.delaware.gov/](http://www.history.delaware.gov/)

**DELAWARE ARTS ALLIANCE** is the unifying voice for the arts throughout the state. We believe that a strong arts and culture sector is essential to creating vibrant and engaged communities, so we champion how the arts improve quality of life and address the social, economic and educational needs of Delaware. We envision a world where all Delawareans have access to the benefits of the arts so that their lives are enriched with culture, diversity and excitement.

**Executive Director: Neil Kirschling**  
**Chair: Molly Giordano**

[Learn more here.](#)  
[Join here.](#)



## THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE

- Each year more than 200 state employees participate in the **National Art Program** exhibition mounted in the Delaware State University Art Center Gallery.
- In Wilmington, since 1992, the **Delaware Theatre Company** has sponsored "Totally Awesome Players," employing acting skills and the creation of a play to increase the collaborative skills and active creativity of adults with intellectual disabilities.
- The **Music School of Delaware**, founded in 1924, is the only statewide, accredited, community music school in the nation, providing instruction and concerts throughout the state.
- Travel to Selbyville where the **Freeman Arts Pavilion at Bayside** provides unique arts experiences to over 50,000 visitors a year, with an additional goal of engaging every student in the county multiple times during their K-12 life.
- In the heart of Delaware's First State Heritage Park, the **Biggs Museum of American Art** presents a broad range of exhibitions and public programs, serves as an education resource to the community, and features Delaware artists in its Delaware By Hand gift shop.
- Visit downtown Wilmington to see the progress of the **Wilmington Alliance** as it connects the new Creative District to the economic revitalization of Downtown Wilmington, strengthening Wilmington's role as a center of educational, cultural, and social activity.
- With a zip code all its own, **Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library** is the premier museum of American decorative arts, with an unparalleled collection of nearly 90,000 objects made or used in America between about 1640 and 1860. The collection, displayed in the magnificent 175-room house, is much as it was when the du Pont family lived here, as well as in permanent and changing exhibition galleries.
- Founded in 1912, the **Delaware Art Museum** houses more than 12,000 works of American and British art. They are regional leaders in community-based art education, wellness, and workforce programs that connect Delaware's diverse communities to art, and to each other.

8/2023



**JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!**

**E-MAIL US:** [ArtsActionFund@artsusa.org](mailto:ArtsActionFund@artsusa.org) **VISIT US:** [ArtsActionFund.org](http://ArtsActionFund.org)

**FOLLOW US:**

