# Why the Arts Matter in South Carolina

## National Arts Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For-Profit &amp; Non-Profit Arts &amp; Culture Sectors Represent</th>
<th>South Carolina Arts-Related Economic Cluster Represents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>$1.102 T</strong> Economic Impact</td>
<td><strong>$14.1 B</strong> Economic Impact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5.2 M</strong> Jobs</td>
<td><strong>123,550</strong> Jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>$540.9 B</strong> Total Compensation</td>
<td><strong>$360.2 M</strong> Total Tax Revenue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The national arts and culture sector was a **$1.102 trillion** industry in 2022 (4.31% of the nation’s GDP), representing **5.2 million jobs** (3.28% of nation’s workforce), and total compensation of **$540.9 billion**.


## Economic Impact of Non-Profit Arts & Culture Industry and Audiences

### National

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>$151.7 B</strong> Economic activity annually</th>
<th><strong>$77.98 M</strong> Economic activity annually</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2.6 M</strong> Jobs supported by economic activity</td>
<td><strong>1,199</strong> Jobs supported by economic activity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2022, the impact of this economic activity generated **$29.1 billion** in total tax revenue to federal, state, and local governments.

$38.46 per person per event is spent by the typical attendee, not including the cost of admission.


## Economic Impact of Non-Profit Arts Industry Only & Their Audiences

### Regional Snapshot: Greater Spartanburg Area, SC

<table>
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In 2022, the impact of this economic activity generated **$10.7 million** in total tax revenue to federal, state, and local governments.

$35.75 per person per event is spent by the typical attendee, not including the cost of admission.


## Federal Funding for the National Endowment for the Arts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federal Appropriation FY24</th>
<th>$207 Million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Congress allocated **$207 million** to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in FY24. 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, 2024.

View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts **HERE**

## Public Funding Received for South Carolina Arts & Culture Sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Appropriation FY24</th>
<th>$11,540,843</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NEA Grant FY24</td>
<td>$1,072,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct NEA Grants FY23</td>
<td>$1,317,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At least 70% of all appropriations are used for direct grants.

Source: NEA, NASAA, South Carolina Arts Alliance, 2024.
THE SOUTH CAROLINA ARTS COMMISSION, was created by an act of the state legislature in 1967. The mission of the South Carolina Arts Commission is to promote equitable access to the arts and support the cultivation of creativity in South Carolina. The agency has expanded its capacity through well-established partnerships with other state agencies and institutions and private groups, extending well beyond the traditional boundaries of the arts community.

Executive Director: David Platts
Chair: Dee Crawford

SOUTH CAROLINA ARTS COMMISSION
Learn more here.

ARTS GROW SC
Arts Grow SC was born during the pandemic and is a collaboration between the South Carolina Department of Education and the South Carolina Arts Commission. It serves as a vital resource for fostering community strength, enhancing quality of life and delivering comprehensive arts education for students.

Executive Director: Ashley Brown
Learn more here.

ARTS IN BASIC CURRICULUM INSTITUTE
We strive to ensure students in South Carolina have access to arts-rich educational opportunities as a core component of curriculum.

Director: Dr. Kim Wilson
Learn more here.

SC ARTS ALLIANCE
Founded in 1979, the SC Arts Alliance advances the arts for all South Carolinians through advocacy, leadership development, and public awareness.

Executive Director: Jeff Robinson
President: Dana Gencarelli

SOUTH CAROLINA ARTS ALLIANCE
Learn more here. Join here.

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE

- Every April, Lake City hosts ArtFields, a major visual art competition and festival that brings this small town to life every year.

- Artisphere, a weekend arts festival in Greenville, has been named one of the top ten arts festivals in the country.

- In 2019, Coastal Carolina University in Conway hosted the first International GullahGeechee and African Diaspora Conference, highlighting the important impact the Gullah community has had in the state’s history and continues to have.

- The recently renovated Columbia Museum of Art houses one of the largest collections in the state and is situated right in the heart of the state.

- Visit Spartanburg to catch creative growth in progress with the launch of the Mayfair Mill, a redeveloped historic mill that includes dedicated studio space.

- As the nation’s preeminent performing arts festival, Spoleto Festival in Charleston produces and presents work of the highest artistic caliber to diverse and adventurous audiences. Through innovation, education, and a commitment to our community, we harness the power of the arts to foster a culture of belonging and deepen and engage the public appreciation for the arts in building a better world.

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

5/2024