

# National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

## KNOWLEDGE ★ REPRESENTATION ★ COMMUNITY

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### National Endowment for the Arts Fact Sheet

March 2013

#### NEA Appropriations

- The budget of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) of \$146 million represents just **.012%** (about one one-hundredth of one percent) of federal discretionary spending.
- The NEA has already sustained significant budget reductions. NEA appropriations have **declined by \$21.5 million (-13%)** in the last three federal budgets.
- Each **\$1** in NEA grant funds leverages another **\$8** from other public and private sources.
- The NEA has an exemplary partnership with states. Forty percent of all NEA program funds—approximately \$46 million in FY 2013—are distributed through state arts agencies. In combination with approximately \$280 million in state appropriations, **the federal-state partnership supports more than 22,000 grants in 5,000 communities across the United States**. Voters in every congressional district are stakeholders in sustaining this successful partnership.

#### Benefits to Citizens

- **The arts create jobs.** The nonprofit arts and culture industry creates an [economic impact](#) of \$135 billion and supports 4.13 million jobs in multiple industries.
- **The arts generate revenues.** The arts sector generates \$22.3 billion in federal, state and local tax receipts.
- **The arts strengthen education.** Research confirms a positive relationship between arts education and academic success for both [elementary](#) and [secondary](#) students. Benefits include gains in intelligence (IQ), grades and performance on standardized tests. The arts also improve educational attainment and increase the likelihood of attending a postsecondary institution for students from disadvantaged socioeconomic backgrounds.
- **The arts reach rural areas.** States use NEA and state legislative funds together to address the unique needs of rural areas. 25% of state arts agency grants go to rural communities. Even larger proportions of grants and grant dollars go to rural areas in states with larger rural populations.

#### NEA Funding to Alabama: What's at Stake

- In its 2012 fiscal year the NEA provided \$767,300 in Partnership Agreement funds to the Alabama State Council on the Arts. These are critical funds, used in conjunction with state legislative dollars to support grants and services across the entire state of Alabama.
- The Alabama State Council on the Arts uses NEA and state funds to provide about 450 grants to arts organizations, community groups, schools and artists each year. These

grants support access to the arts, employment, arts education, community well being and the cultural heritage of the entire state.

- Also affected by NEA budget cuts would be direct grants to arts organizations in each state. In fiscal year 2012 the NEA made 18 direct grants totaling \$439,500 in Alabama.

### **National Endowment for the Arts and Alabama State Council on the Arts Grants By Legislative District**

*Symbols indicate ZIP codes of at least one grant award recipient. One symbol may indicate multiple awards in densely populated areas.*

*Map data reflects the latest final reports available from the NEA (2012) and the Alabama State Council on the Arts (2011).*

*Geographic boundaries represent U.S. congressional districts for the 112<sup>th</sup> United State Congress.*

- ◆ NEA direct grant
- ◆ Alabama State Council on the Arts grant

