State arts agencies create more equitable access to the arts

A majority of state arts agency awards go to less-affluent counties

When looking at SAA awards by county, 54% of awards go to counties with median incomes below the state median. These public funds reach areas most in need of access to the arts, benefitting small towns, suburbs, and rural and inner-city areas.

State arts agencies make substantial investments in low-income communities

A greater proportion of SAA awards go to populations living in lower-income counties. 20% of the U.S. population lives in counties with median household incomes below $50,000. 40% of SAA awards go to these counties.

Related Research

For additional data, explore NASAA’s Fact Sheet: Support for Arts in Rural Communities and the Research Supplement to Why Should Government Support the Arts? Learn more at www.nasaa-arts.org.

Sources: National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, Final Descriptive Reports FY2015; U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Population Estimates