

# SUPPORT FOR ARTS EDUCATION

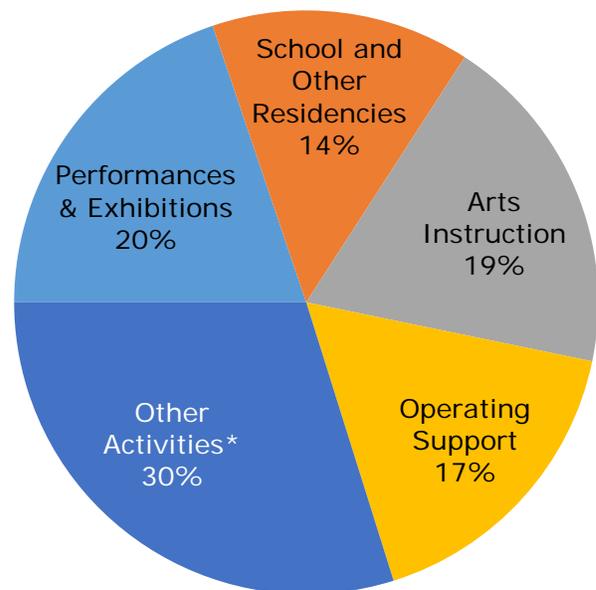
Supporting lifelong learning in the arts is a top priority for state arts agencies (SAAs). By supporting arts education in the schools, state arts agencies foster young imaginations, address core academic standards, and promote the critical thinking and creativity skills essential to a 21st-century work force. State arts agencies also support after-school/out-of-school arts programs, early childhood arts learning, the arts in higher education, and many programs that teach the arts to adults and seniors. To achieve these diverse arts education goals, state arts agency grants and services take many forms:

- **Grant funding:** State arts agencies invest more than \$80 million in arts education. Almost half of all state arts agency grants (more than 9,000 grants) have a significant arts education component. These grants support a wide range of activities, including performances, exhibitions, residencies (both school and non-school), instruction and curriculum development. Other types of grants support the design of assessment and evaluation tools and fund professional development programs. About 17% of arts education grants awarded are in the form of operating support—flexible dollars that can be used to support operations in accordance with an organization's specific needs.

Grant dollars awarded:	\$80,326,287
Share of all SAA grant dollars:	26%
Number of grants awarded:	9,134
Share of all SAA grants:	45%
Number of communities receiving an SAA grant for arts education:	2,840

- **Services:** State arts agencies provide extensive training and services to complement grant programs. Some services are geared toward teaching artists and arts organizations, offering training focused on classroom management or teaching techniques. Others are tailored to schools and educators, to help them connect with resident teaching artists, to provide training on how to use artists in educational settings, or to illustrate how the arts can integrate with other core subjects and advance educational outcomes.
- **Research:** State arts agencies lead state level efforts to assess and monitor the status and condition of K-12 arts education. In conjunction with other partners, state arts agencies also encourage high-quality,

**Arts Education Activities Funded by State Arts Agencies, FY2018**



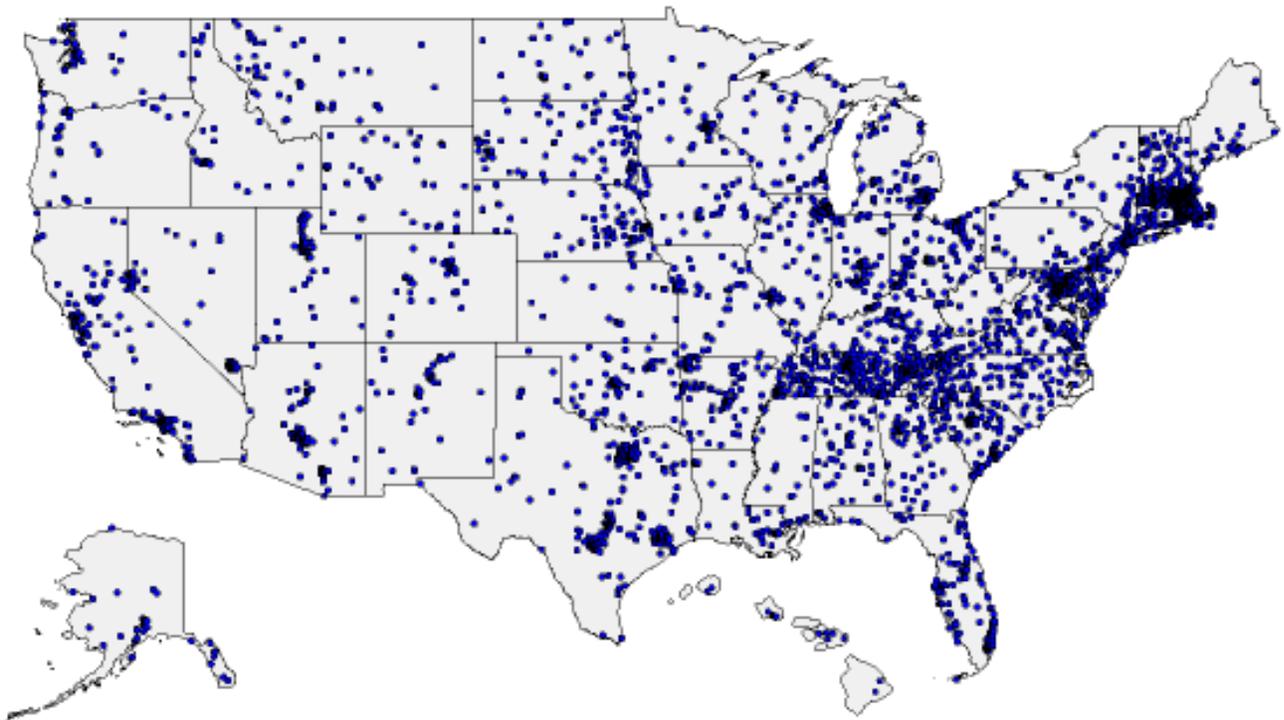
\* Other Activities include professional development, festivals, commissions, apprenticeships, curriculum development, etc.

evidence based research; ensure that research is designed to inform policy; and communicate research results to decision makers and the public.

- **Partnerships and collaborations:** State arts agencies cultivate program and policy collaborations with many different partners. These partners include state departments of education, statewide arts education networks, statewide arts advocacy organizations, after-school alliances, institutions of higher education and teacher associations.

For more information on arts education, including statewide studies, research on the effects of arts learning and state-by-state program information, explore NASAA's [Arts Education resources](#).

### State Arts Agency Arts Education Awards Fiscal Year 2018



Symbols indicate ZIP codes of at least one grant award recipient.

#### National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

The National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) represents the nation's state and jurisdictional arts agencies and serves as a clearinghouse for data and research about public funding and the arts. This report draws on data from state arts agencies' Final Descriptive Reports of grant-making activity submitted annually to the National Endowment for the Arts and NASAA. NASAA's collection of grant-making statistics is supported in part through a cooperative agreement with the Arts Endowment. For more information on the work of state arts agencies, call NASAA at 202-347-6352, e-mail [nasaa@nasaa-arts.org](mailto:nasaa@nasaa-arts.org) or visit [nasaa-arts.org/](http://nasaa-arts.org/).



National Assembly of  
State Arts Agencies  
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