

SUPPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS

Artists form the foundation of a state's creative environment. They act as creators and individual entrepreneurs who provide many of the products and designs that drive innovation and shape a state's cultural character. Many artists also work as educators, providing training in creative skills and passing on cultural traditions from one generation to the next. State arts agencies (SAAs) support artists through a variety of grants and services:

Grant funding: State arts agencies invested nearly \$11 million in grants to individual artists in 2019. This figure represents an increase of 81% from 2010, keeping pace with the growth of overall state arts agency grant making.

Grants to individual artists as a proportion of all SAA grant portfolios average 11% of all grants and 3% of all grant dollars. These numbers should be interpreted as a minimum of SAA investments in individual artists, since they do not include SAA grants to intermediaries that state arts agencies engage to subgrant funds to artists. Also excluded from these figures are the numerous artists engaged by state and regional grants to organizations, a figure that totals over 2 million annually.

Fellowships, which encourage the development of new creative works and advance artist careers, are a common type of grant support. These make up close to a third of SAAs' individual artist grants in terms of dollar amounts and typically include public engagement requirements. SAAs also provide grants for commissions, as well as project support for performances, exhibits, apprenticeships, professional development, instruction and residencies. Awards to artists are supported through a mixture of federal funds, state funds and private dollars.

Programs and services: In addition to direct financial support, state arts agencies provide services and information to assist artists. One important SAA goal is to broaden opportunities for artists to showcase their work. To this end, numerous SAAs maintain artist rosters, which promote performing artists and encourage their booking for residencies and touring. Many SAAs offer galleries (both physical and virtual) and statewide art collections that encourage the display of art in public spaces. Some SAAs also offer digital marketplaces, online platforms that facilitate marketing and product sales. SAAs further provide training and networking services through conferences, workshops and web seminars that assist artists with business development and connect them with peers.

Total dollars awarded:	\$10,902,516
Percentage of total dollars:	4%
Number of grants awarded:	2,873
Share of all SAA grants:	12%
Median award size:	\$2,384
Artist fellowship grants	
Grant dollars awarded:	\$3,479,850
Number of grants awarded:	676
Median fellowship size:	\$5,000

State Arts Agency Grants to Individual Artists

Fiscal Years 2010-2019

Fiscal Year	Number of Grants	Percent of SAA Grants	Grant Dollars	Percent of SAA Grant Dollars
2010	2,372	11%	\$6,038,044	3%
2011	2,526	11%	\$6,257,678	3%
2012	2,236	11%	\$6,769,549	3%
2013	2,314	11%	\$6,745,559	3%
2014	2,146	10%	\$7,942,024	3%
2015	2,006	10%	\$6,999,511	3%
2016	2,147	10%	\$7,258,530	3%
2017	2,448	11%	\$8,534,682	3%
2018	2,718	12%	\$9,763,306	3%
2019	2,384	12%	\$10,902,516	4%

Individual Artist Activities Funded by State Arts Agencies

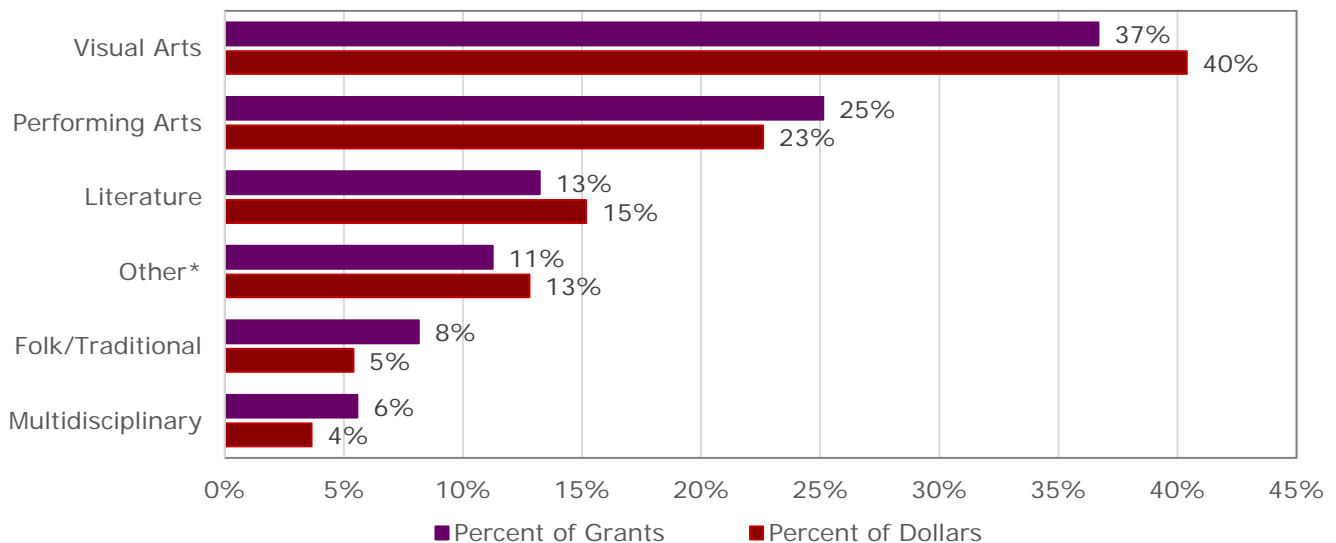
Fiscal Year 2019

Grant Activity	No. of Grants	Percent of Grants	Grant Dollars	Percent of Dollars
Fellowships	676	24%	\$3,479,850	32%
Artwork Creation	226	8%	\$865,654	8%
Performance/Reading	382	13%	\$1,670,619	15%
Apprenticeship	110	4%	\$287,941	3%
Arts Instruction	236	5%	\$1,064,147	5%
Professional Dev/Training	126	4%	\$116,131	1%
Other*	1,117	39%	\$3,418,174	31%

* Other activities include marketing, fairs/festivals, equipment acquisition, publication, etc.

State Arts Agency Grants to Individual Artists

by Artistic Discipline
Fiscal Year 2019



* Other artistic disciplines include media arts, interdisciplinary and design.

Figures in this fact sheet represent data from fiscal year 2019 or the most recent information available. Statistics reflect only direct grants awarded; they do not reflect funds distributed through subgranting partnerships or nongrant state arts agency programs and services, which in some instances make up a substantial portion of support for individual artists.

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 202-347-6352, e-mail nasaa@nasaa-arts.org or visit nasaa-arts.org.

National Assembly of
State Arts Agencies
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