

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL ARTS AGENCIES

Through many kinds of grants and services, state arts agencies (SAAs) increase public access to the arts and help each state to cultivate and promote its unique creative assets. Local arts agencies (LAAs) are essential partners in that work. Whether incorporated as nonprofit organizations or established as branches of municipal or county governments, LAAs play a variety of important arts programming, grant-making and technical assistance roles. They use a blend of public and private funds to promote grass-roots arts programs and integrate the arts into community life. State arts agency support for local arts agencies takes many forms:

- **Grant funding:** State arts agencies invest almost \$37 million in local arts agencies. These grants—representing more than 1,300 awards—strengthen the programming of LAAs and help them secure additional public and private dollars at the local level. About one-quarter of the dollars awarded to LAAs by SAAs is operating support—flexible dollars that can be used to support community arts activities and operations in accordance with local needs and circumstances.

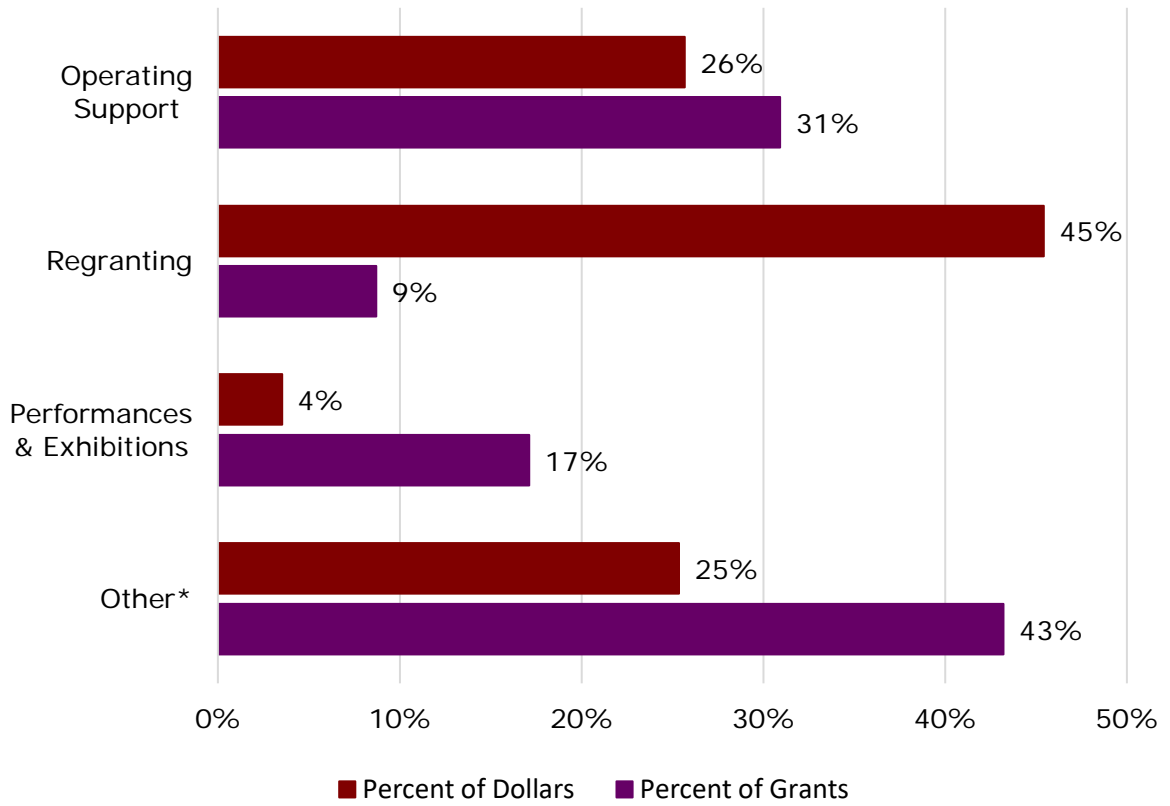
Grant dollars awarded:	\$36,857,448
Share of all SAA grant dollars:	12%
Largest grant:	\$4,504,227
Median grant:	\$7,419
Number of grants awarded:	1,319
Share of all SAA grants:	6%
SAA grants to rural LAAs:	612
Rural share of grants to LAAs:	46%
SAA grant dollars to rural LAAs:	\$11,172,780
Rural share of dollars to LAAs:	30%

- **Decentralization programs:** [Fifteen states](#) have decentralization programs through which block grants of state arts council funds are provided to local arts agencies for regranting at the community level. These programs encourage local decision making and extend the reach of state dollars. Almost half of the dollars awarded to local arts agencies by state arts agencies is regranting through such programs.
- **Infrastructure development:** State arts agencies provide technical assistance, training and convening services that strengthen the local arts agency network. Sometimes these goals are accomplished through state arts agency funding of a statewide alliance of local arts agencies. In other cases, the state arts agency itself serves as a coordinating body for these activities.
- **Strategic partnerships:** State arts agencies and local arts agencies often collaborate on initiatives, policies or programs designed to increase citizen participation in or raise public awareness about the arts.

Local Arts Agency Revenue Sources by Organization Size

Budget Size	Less than \$100K	\$100K to \$249.9K	\$250K to \$499.9K	\$500K to \$999.9K	\$1M to \$4.9M	\$5M to \$9.9M	\$10M or More	All
Local Gov't.	23%	18%	25%	29%	34%	58%	58%	28%
State Gov't.	21%	14%	9%	8%	3%	2%	1%	11%
Federal Gov't.	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Contributed Income	26%	30%	26%	28%	31%	19%	14%	27%
Earned Revenue	18%	27%	25%	26%	23%	16%	17%	23%
In-kind/Other	12%	10%	13%	9%	8%	4%	9%	10%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

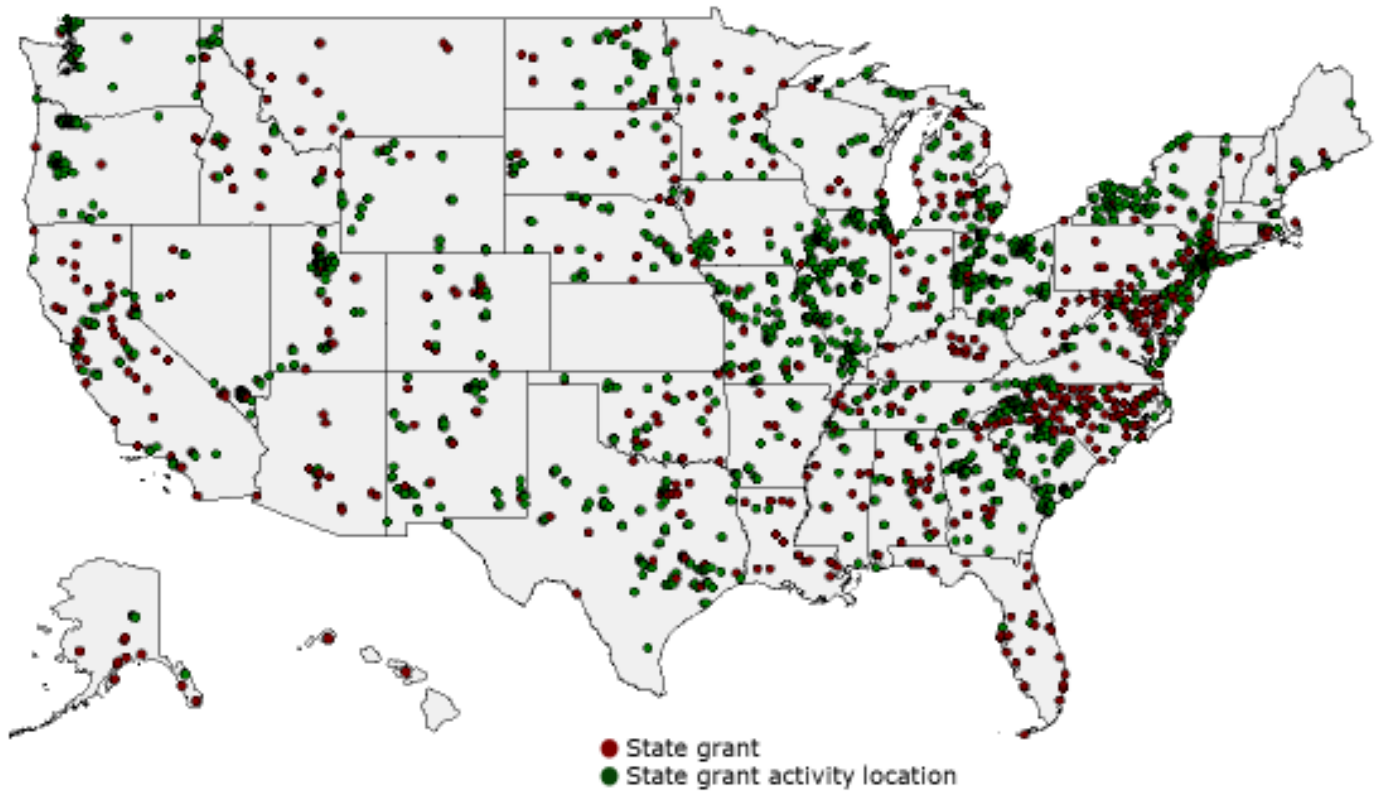
Local Arts Agency Activities Funded by State Arts Agencies
Fiscal Year 2019



* Other activities include arts education programs, marketing assistance, individual artist services, professional development, etc.

The figures in this snapshot represent data from 2019 or the most recent information available. Statistics reflect only grants awarded by the state arts agency. They do not reflect nongrant state services to LAAs, which can constitute a substantial portion of state arts agency support.

State Arts Agency Awards to Local Arts Agencies
Award Sites and Activity Locations, Fiscal Years 2017-2019



Symbols indicate ZIP codes of at least one (and sometimes more than 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, visit nasaa-arts.org.



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