

## National Endowment for the Arts Arts Investment Fact Sheet March 2021

### National Endowment for the Arts Appropriations

- Each **\$1 in National Endowment for the Arts grant funds leverages another \$9** from other public and private sources, resulting in \$500 million in matching support.
- The \$167.5 million budget of the National Endowment for the Arts represents just **0.0035%** (less than four thousandths of one percent) of the federal budget.

### Everyone Benefits

- The National Endowment for the Arts (Arts Endowment) has an exemplary partnership with states. **Forty percent** of all Arts Endowment program funds—approximately \$49.2 million in fiscal year 2019—are distributed through state arts agencies and regional arts organizations.
- In combination with approximately [\\$402.4 million in state appropriations](#), **the federal-state partnership supports more than [27,000 grants in over 7,600 communities](#) across the United States.**
- Combined, Arts Endowment and state arts agency grant awards **reach all 435 federal congressional districts.**
- **The arts reach rural areas.** States use Arts Endowment and state legislative funds together to address the unique needs of rural areas. [Twenty-three percent](#) 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.
- Arts Endowment funding benefits **economically distressed communities.** Forty-two percent of activities supported by the Arts Endowment take place in high-poverty neighborhoods.

### Return on Investment

- **The arts are a positive investment.** [The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis](#) reports that [arts and cultural production contributes more than \\$919.7 billion](#) to the nation's economy. This equates to **4.3% of GDP**, which is greater than construction (\$892.7 billion) or transportation (\$696.7 billion).

- **The arts create jobs.** Arts and culture support [5.2 million wage and salary workers](#) and many more independent jobs.
- **The arts create resilient economies that can recover quickly.** [The arts and culture sector can improve—not merely reflect—the health of the broader economy](#). The arts offer economic diversification, which can help communities more rapidly recover from economic downturns.
- **The arts strengthen education.** [Research confirms](#) that the arts cultivate young imaginations and [facilitate success](#) in school, [improving emotional intelligence](#) and enhancing students' [academic achievement in multiple subject areas](#). The benefits of an arts education are [particularly important for at-risk youth](#).
- **The arts have positive health outcomes, especially for military service members.** The [Arts Endowment's Creative Forces](#) initiative now has clinical sites at 13 military bases and 10 community connection sites throughout the country. In 2020, Creative Forces supported approximately **23,000 encounters** and treated **more than 4,000 patients**.