

**National Endowment for the Arts**  
**Arts Investment Fact Sheet**  
February 2017

**NEA Appropriations**

- The \$147.9 million budget of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) represents just **0.004%** (four thousandths of one percent) of the federal budget.
- The NEA has already sustained significant budget reductions. The NEA appropriation is **12% lower than it was in 2010, a decline of \$19.5 million.**
- Each **\$1 in NEA grant funds leverages another \$9** from other public and private sources, resulting in \$500 million in matching support.

**Everyone Benefits**

- The NEA has an exemplary partnership with states. **Forty percent** of all NEA program funds—approximately \$49.6 million in fiscal year 2017—are distributed through state arts agencies and regional arts organizations. In combination with approximately \$360 million in state appropriations, **the federal-state partnership supports more than 23,000 grants in 5,000 communities across the United States.** Voters in every congressional district are stakeholders in sustaining this successful partnership.
- Combined, NEA and state arts agency grant awards reach **all 435 federal congressional districts.**
- NEA funding made possible more than 30,000 concerts, readings and performances and 5,000 exhibitions in 2015. More than **33 million individuals attended such live events** (exclusive of television and radio broadcasts).
- **The arts reach rural areas.** States use NEA and state legislative funds together to address the unique needs of rural areas. **Twenty-six 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.

**Impact of the Arts**

- **The arts are a positive investment.** The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that arts and cultural production contributes more than **\$704.2 billion** to the nation's economy. This equates to **4.23% of GDP**, which is greater than construction (\$619.8 billion) or transportation and warehousing (\$483.5 billion).
- **The arts create jobs.** Arts and culture support **4.7 million wage and salary workers** and many more independent jobs.
- **The arts strengthen education.** [Research confirms](#) that the arts cultivate young imaginations and facilitate success in school, enhancing students' academic achievement in multiple subject areas. The arts provide the critical thinking, communications and innovation skills essential to a productive 21st-century workforce.

## NEA Funding to Idaho: What's at Stake

- In its FY016, the NEA provided **\$787,100 in Partnership Agreement funds to the Idaho Commission on the Arts**. These critical funds are used in conjunction with state legislative dollars to support grants and services across the entire state of Idaho.
- NEA and state funds **enabled the Idaho Commission on the Arts to not only award 173 grants totaling \$593,277** in its FY2015 but also provide nongrant services to arts organizations, community groups, schools and artists. These grants and services supported access to the arts, employment, arts education, community well-being and the cultural heritage of the entire state.
- Also affected by NEA budget cuts would be direct grants to arts organizations in each state. In its FY2016, the **NEA made five direct grants in Idaho totaling \$80,000**.

## National Endowment for the Arts and Idaho Commission on the Arts Grants

