National Endowment for the Arts
Arts Investment Fact Sheet
March 2020

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 $162.5 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 $48.3 million in fiscal year 2018—are distributed through state arts agencies and regional arts organizations.

- In combination with approximately $494.2 million in state appropriations, the federal-state partnership supports more than 25,000 grants in 16,000 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-two 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 $877.8 billion to the nation's economy. This equates to 4.5% of GDP, which is greater than construction ($790.4 billion) or transportation ($612.4 billion).
• **The arts create jobs.** Arts and culture support **5.1 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 have positive health outcomes, especially for military service members.** The [Arts Endowment's Creative Forces](#) initiative now has clinical sites at 11 military bases throughout the country. In 2018, Creative Forces supported approximately **14,000 encounters** and treated **2,800 new patients**.

### National Endowment for the Arts Funding to Idaho: What's at Stake

• In its fiscal year 2019, the Arts Endowment provided **$791,200 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 state of North Dakota.

• Arts Endowment and state funds **enabled the Idaho Commission on the Arts not only to award 187 grants totaling $595,452** in its fiscal year 2018, but also to provide non-grant services to arts organizations, community groups, schools and artists. These grants and services supported access to the arts, jobs, arts education, community well-being and the cultural heritage of the state.

• The Arts Endowment also awards grants directly to arts organizations in each state. In its fiscal year 2019, the **Arts Endowment made 3 direct grants totaling $65,000 in Idaho.**
National Endowment for the Arts and Idaho Commission on the Arts Grants

Symbols indicate at least one grant award recipient. One symbol may indicate multiple awards in densely populated areas.

Grants location data reflect current final reports from the National Endowment for the Arts (FY2019) and the state arts agency (FY2018).

Geographical boundaries represent U.S. congressional districts for the 116th United States Congress.