



Report to Councils December 2018

Report to Councils is a bite-sized resource that keeps you and your peers current on NASAA activities on your behalf. Share it at your next council meeting!

Advocacy Opportunities

Since the midterm elections, there are 104 new members of Congress, 1,700 new state legislators and 21 new governors to educate about the benefits of public investment in the arts. For help when you reach out to your elected officials, check out the tools on NASAA's [Advocate](#) page. Our [Federal Updates](#) section contains the latest arts actions on Capitol Hill—news that affects federal funds for your agency and its constituents.

State Arts Agencies Advancing Equity

As part of NASAA's ongoing work to [support diversity, equity and inclusion](#) among state arts agencies and at NASAA, we are mapping the populations that benefit from our members' grants and activities. Two new infographics link [race equity](#) and [economic equity](#) with state arts agency grant making. The tools show how state arts agency grantees serve populations of color and economically disadvantaged groups, helping you understand how your state's grant diversity data compares with national benchmarks.

RACE EQUITY



STATE ARTS AGENCY INVESTMENTS



74%
of state arts agency awards and 81% of grant dollars go to counties in which people of color make up more than a fifth of the population.

Join Us in Celebrating 50 Years!

Fifty years ago, NASAA was created by and for state arts agencies. Today, we remain the only organization dedicated exclusively to you. We empower your agency with the most effective advocacy tools, in-depth research, top-notch leadership training and powerful representation in Congress. Check out the many ways we impact your work and the arts in our [50 Years, 50 Ways NASAA Makes a Difference](#) infographic!

50 Years, 50 Ways

We hope you'll join us in celebrating this milestone by giving to NASAA today. Your gift commemorates all that we've accomplished and invests in a stronger future in which every state and jurisdiction achieves its highest potential in and through the arts. With your help, NASAA will keep strengthening state arts agencies for the *next* 50 years. [Please give now!](#) Thank you.

Council Members at NASAA Assembly 2018

The arts and health care, rural economic development, and diversity, equity and inclusion were among several issues chairs and council members examined with each other at Assembly 2018 in Baltimore, Maryland. [Proceedings](#) from the conference are now available, including presentations and reports, a [photo album](#), and action focused notes from the [Chairs & Council Members Peer Session](#).



Affinity Group for People of Color

NASAA's Affinity Group for People of Color at State Arts Agencies is open to all council members and staff who identify as persons of color. Regular conference calls are taking place and a listserv is available for group conversation. If you are interested in joining, contact NASAA Special Assistant to the President and CEO [Connie Souto Learman](#). In addition, NASAA's Mentorship Program for People of Color has launched and mentor-mentee pairs have begun working together. This program provides professional development for members of color and nurtures the leadership pipeline for diversity in the state arts agency field.

Live Video Orientation to NASAA Services

Now NASAA can meet your council where you are with our new live video orientation to member services. You can see the data NASAA collects on your state arts agency's funding, grant making and programs; find out how NASAA has your back in Congress; get familiar with our arts advocacy tools; and discover [council focused resources](#) on our website. And the best part is getting your questions answered on the spot! (Just ask the commissioners at the [Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts](#), who had an orientation last month.) Contact NASAA Communications Manager [Sue Struve](#) to learn more.

Meet NASAA's New Board Members



In November, state arts agencies elected three new members to NASAA's 2019 board of directors (left to right): Eduardo Arosemena-Muñoz, chair, Institute of Puerto Rican Culture; Carla Du Pree, council member, Maryland State Arts Council; and Michael Faison, executive director, Idaho Commission on the Arts. In addition, four NASAA board members were elected to second

terms, and the board elected officers. See our [NASAA Board of Directors](#) page for details.