

FISCAL YEAR 2020

# HIGHLIGHTS: NASAA ACCOMPLISHMENTS

National Assembly of  
State Arts Agencies

What a year! We couldn't have accomplished everything we did in 2020 without the support of individuals like you. Your gift strengthens state arts agencies and supports our community so that together we can sustain the arts. Thank you!

## ADVOCACY

NASAA helped state arts agencies navigate an unprecedented policy environment—COVID-19, contentious elections and bitter partisanship. To support states, we:

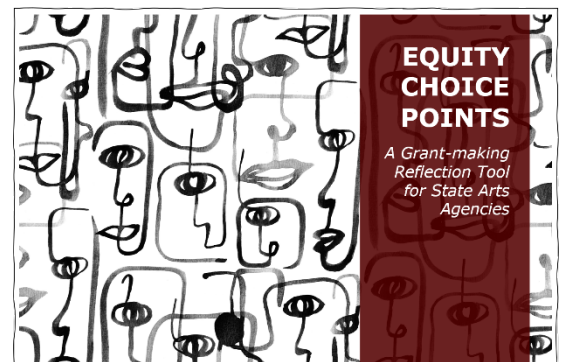
- Collaborated with advocates and Congress to get an increase of **\$7.25 million** for the National Endowment for the Arts—the largest one-year bump in funding in a decade
- Secured dedicated resources for state arts agencies and regional arts organizations in the **Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act**
- Helped state arts agencies advocate for designated arts relief funds within state COVID-19 allocations
- Issued [Virtual Advocacy](#), a new Practical Advocate to help arts champions find inventive new ways to stay engaged with elected officials



## DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

In this year of reckoning with long-standing racial inequities, NASAA delivered many services and tools to help advance diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI):

- [Equity Choice Points: A Grant-making Reflection Tool for State Arts Agencies](#) to help uproot bias in grants policies, practices and procedures
- An [Inclusive Language Guide](#) to help state arts agencies communicate skillfully about race, age, gender, sexual orientation, ability and socioeconomic status
- Convened our affinity group for people of color in the state arts agency field



- Prioritized DEI in our professional development offerings with sessions dedicated to equity, access and inclusion, led by an intentionally diverse cadre of facilitators and speakers
- Established a new national awards program to recognize DEI leaders

## STATE ARTS AGENCY INNOVATION

This year's **COVID-19 crisis** required state arts agencies to pivot their operations and programs to address new realities. NASAA supported these rapid innovations by sharing:

- examples of funding and programming responses to the pandemic
- models of state level reopening guidelines for the arts and arts education
- resources to help reduce xenophobia and address the needs of vulnerable populations



## AND SO MUCH MORE!

- We're partnering with Aroha Philanthropies on a major initiative to advance creative aging across the country.
- We're collaborating with ArtPlace America and the National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations to strengthen community development and creative placemaking.
- In lieu of an in-person conference, NASAA launched a special [online learning series](#)—full of provocative perspectives, actionable ideas and diverse voices.
- We hosted the 2020 Mid-Atlantic Teaching Artists Virtual Retreat.
- With the National Endowment for the Arts, we developed new state maps showing the distinct areas served by federal, state and foundation arts grants—demonstrating the public sector's unique role in providing access to the arts.



This is just a snapshot of NASAA's key accomplishments from fiscal year 2020. See all of NASAA's accomplishments in our [2020 Action Plan Highlights](#).

Please help move our work forward and ensure state arts agencies get the support they need in the year ahead by [donating today](#). **Thank you!**