

# National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

KNOWLEDGE ★ REPRESENTATION ★ COMMUNITY

## Report to Councils September 2021

Report to Councils is *your* resource for info on federal arts policy, grant-making and funding tools, and chances to connect with peers. Be sure you keep receiving Report to Councils: contact Communications Manager [Sue Struve](#)—and share this edition at your next meeting!

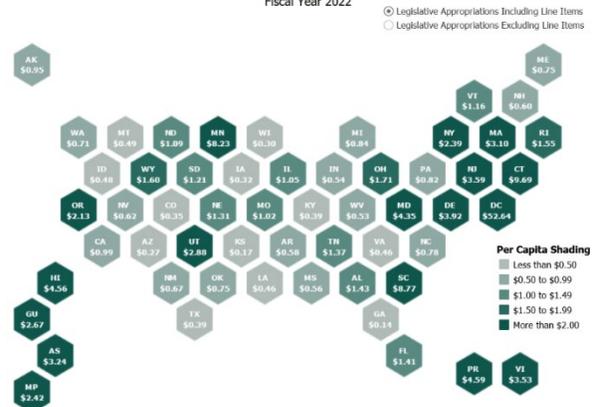
### Help Grow Federal Arts Funding

After steady increases in recent years, the budget for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is poised to take a leap: the White House has proposed and the U.S. House Committee on Appropriations has approved a fiscal year 2022 budget of \$201 million—an increase of nearly \$35 million. Now is the time to encourage your senators and representatives to endorse this needed increase. Thank them for their support of the [federal-state partnership](#) that allocates 40% of the NEA's program dollars to state arts agencies, and share how those dollars are being put to work in your state. Be sure to stay abreast of NASAA's [latest advocacy updates and calls to action](#). Let's keep the NEA strong!

### FY2022 State Arts Appropriations

Speaking of increases, state funding for the arts may reach a new high-water mark this year, according to NASAA's [State Arts Agency Legislative Appropriations Preview, FY2022](#). With a 49.5% projected increase in the aggregate, states reported that per capita appropriations could increase by \$0.51 to \$1.89 in FY2022 ([see map](#) for state-by-state figures). Read about this appropriations forecast, along with the impact of federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act funds, in this new report.

PROJECTED PER CAPITA LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS TO STATE ARTS AGENCIES  
Fiscal Year 2022



### Anti-Bias Training for State Arts Agencies

As custodians of public funds for artists and arts organizations across the nation, state arts agencies have a special duty to recognize and reduce bias. We can raise awareness of our personal perceptions of the world and how they affect the systems we create. All council members and staff of state arts agencies and regional arts organizations are invited to join us for [Anti-Bias Training for State Arts Agencies](#). The two-part track specific to council/board members focuses on reducing bias around the board table and how bias can affect governance. [Register for the Council Member Track](#) today!



## More to Learn at the NASAA 2021 Learning Series

NASAA's professional development and community work for state arts agencies is going strong, offering council members opportunities to learn about the latest issues facing your agencies. The [NASAA 2021 Learning Series](#) is nearing completion, but you can review recordings and resources for each session. Past sessions of interest include [New Paradigms for Artist Support](#) and [New Advocacy Messaging Strategies](#), and the series wraps up with [Making Operating Support More Equitable](#) and our closing [Business Bash](#). Keep an eye on our YouTube page for the full [NASAA 2021 Learning Series Playlist](#).

## Especially for New Council Members

Want to talk to a legislator about arts support? Need info on your state's grant activity? Curious about the status of federal arts funding? Call on NASAA! We have been strengthening state arts agencies for more than 50 years. These resources were designed with council members in mind:

- [For Council Members](#) is a one-page grouping of helpful tools and info.
- [Welcome, Newcomers](#): See the Councils Quick-Start Menu, or scroll down to Connect with NASAA.
- Watch our [New to NASAA?](#) web seminar for an introduction to the services NASAA offers...
- ...or schedule a customized [live video orientation to NASAA services](#) for your council, with NASAA Communications Manager Sue Struve.
- [Advocacy resources](#)—both state and federal—abound.

So call on the [NASAA staff](#) anytime. We are here for you!

## Empower State Arts Agencies

Through NASAA, state arts agencies stay informed, your voice is heard, and you belong to a welcoming and respected community. NASAA strengthens state arts agencies because together we achieve more! Our work is made stronger and we can do more because of the generosity of people like you, our members and donors. Individual contributions to NASAA help us provide the advocacy, resources and connections that your agency—and all state arts agencies—need. You can join our work and empower your agency and our field by [making a gift to NASAA today](#). Thank you!

### Governing Features NASAA Research on the Arts & Economic Recovery



Creative sector events like the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival were pivotal to Louisiana's economic recovery. Pictured: the Brass-A-Holics, photo by kowarsky.

NASAA's timely research on how the arts and culture contribute to economic recovery reached governors, mayors, state legislators and other policymakers when it was featured in a recent *Governing* magazine article. [To Accelerate Our Economic Recovery, Look to the Arts](#), by former Louisiana Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu and NASAA President and CEO Pam Breaux, powerfully shows how the creative sector has helped communities—like those in Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina—rebound from severe economic shocks.