As an appointed arts leader, you can depend on NASAA to advocate on your behalf in Congress, to equip you with useful facts and to connect you with your peers. Read on!

**Congress Poised to Increase Funding for the Arts**

In a continuing show of bipartisan support for federal arts funding, both the House and Senate have voted to increase the budget for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for fiscal year 2023. The House's proposed figure is $207 million, while the Senate has proposed $195 million. (The agency's FY2022 budget is $180 million.) State arts agency councilors and commissioners are in a unique position to make the argument for the higher figure: because your agency helps to ensure that NEA funding reaches every congressional district in the country, you can say to any senator with whom you speak that federal arts funding directly supports their community. Another important point is that, by congressional mandate, this federal-state partnership allocates 40% of the NEA's grant funding to state arts agencies and regional arts organizations. The higher the NEA's funding, the more goes to state arts agencies. Contact your senators to urge further support for the arts.

**Reaching Policymakers**

NASAA collaborates to get positive messages about the arts in front of policymakers that illustrate the beneficial results that occur through investments in the arts. Here are recent examples of partnerships that promote the impact of the arts to policymakers:

- **State Legislatures Magazine**, from the National Conference of State Legislatures: The article on page 20, "Embracing the Arts," indicates support for the arts on both sides of the political aisle.

- **A National League of Cities** blog series on the contribution of the arts to community well-being includes:
  - how Bennington, Vermont, activated civic infrastructure through arts programming to reinvigorate its downtown;
  - an account of community leaders across three small rural towns in eastern Colorado who united to provide arts opportunities for kids; and
  - the story of Rhode Island artists embedded in city and state government public health programs aimed at improving health outcomes in marginalized communities.
See You at NASAA Assembly 2022!
Join your state arts agency council member colleagues for **NASAA Assembly 2022!**

- Hear from NEA Chair Maria Rosario Jackson, Ph.D.
- **Meet with your peers** to discuss topics unique to your role as an arts leader.
- Celebrate the accomplishments and impact of state arts agency leaders.
- Attend **sessions** designed to inform and energize your work, from advocacy to equity and more.

Reserve your hotel room and **register today!**

FY2023 State Arts Agency Funding Preview

Check out NASAA's snapshot of the appropriation each state arts agency expects to receive for FY2023: Our **FY2023 Legislative Appropriations Preview** shows projected FY2023 funding as well as an update of FY2022 funding. Appropriations to state arts agencies of $768.7 million for the year ahead will represent an aggregate investment of $2.29 per capita. Individual state per capita figures also are available in the preview report. You can learn more on the **Funding** page of NASAA's website.

You Shared, NASAA Listened

NASAA's Nominating Committee interviewed 83 council chairs and executive directors as part of its process to not only put forward prospective NASAA board members but also take the pulse of our member leaders and help NASAA respond to state needs. This year's interview findings summarize answers to questions such as:

- What NASAA services are most useful or important to you?
- What do state arts agencies need most from NASAA in the year ahead?
- Are there specific ways NASAA could help your state level advocacy efforts?
- Are there ways NASAA could help your agency advance diversity, equity and inclusion?

Explore the report for details and to read verbatim responses grouped by category.

**Keeping State Arts Agencies Strong**

NASAA is here for you! We are dedicated to providing your agency—and all state arts agencies—with the support you need to make you more innovative, resilient and effective. Individual contributions from our members make it possible for NASAA to provide all the vital advocacy, in-depth research, new resources and high-quality leadership training you see here—plus so much more! Your support strengthens our work, and in turn NASAA strengthens state arts agencies. Find out how you can **support NASAA and state arts agencies**. Thank you.