

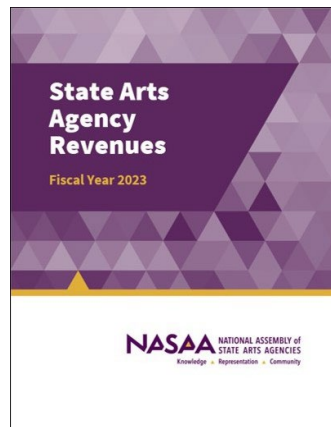
This two-page brief is packed with insights to enhance your work as a state arts agency council or board member. Make it an agenda item at your next council meeting!

FY2024 Budget Is an Advocacy Opportunity

At the time of publication, the Biden administration has released its fiscal year 2024 top-line budget request to Congress, with recommendations for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and other agencies pending. The release of the full FY2024 budget is an opportunity for arts advocates to mobilize into action. Our role is to support a robust budget for the NEA while sustaining continued support for the [federal-state partnership](#), which allocates 40% of NEA grant funding to state arts agencies and regional arts organizations. NASAA will keep you apprised of the budget process and offer counsel on how to effectively engage Congress.

State Arts Agency Revenues at All-Time High

State and jurisdictional arts agencies (SAAs) reported \$891.4 million in total legislative appropriations for fiscal year 2023, an increase of 7% from FY2022. Even taking inflation pressures into account, total FY2023 appropriations to SAAs have surpassed previous all-time highs. Increases were reported by 36 SAAs, while 11 reported flat funding and 9 reported decreases. To learn more about SAA funding sources, consult NASAA's [Fiscal Year 2023 State Arts Agency Revenues](#) report. Our [press release](#) highlights top take-aways, and our updated [interactive dashboards](#) make it easy to visualize regional comparisons, trends over time and more. [Contact NASAA](#) to explore how you can use the data in meetings with policymakers and others to support your case.



NEW! Virtual Peer Sessions for Chairs and Council Members

NASAA is planning four short virtual gatherings this year to help you advance your leadership and connect you with your peers around the country. In these get-togethers, we'll discuss your unique role in the public arts funding ecosystem, state legislative trends related to the arts, the importance of council leadership in times of change, and how you can make the most of your time at your state arts agency.

The first session meets on **Thursday, March 16, from 4:00 - 4:45 p.m. Eastern**, focusing on the partnership between the National Endowment for the Arts and the states and regions. [Register now](#) to attend—and watch our [Events Calendar](#) for more!

Bringing Arts into Transportation

Arts and creativity can strengthen and enrich the work of many other sectors—including transportation. With much attention around the nation currently focused on infrastructure, there are opportunities for state arts agencies to build strong cross-sector partnerships. Collaborations with state transportation agencies can transform public spaces and aid transportation planners in connecting with the communities they serve. NASAA's [Arts in Transportation Strategy Sampler](#) offers concrete examples. The Strategy Sampler also includes justification for policy that meshes arts with transportation work, talking points to engage the transportation community and numerous resources.



Noteworthy State Arts Legislation in 2022

Part of the important work you do as a state arts agency leader is to advance policy that's central to the well-being of the arts community in your state. For a national view of recent state legislation related to arts and culture, check out our [2022 State Legislative Roundup](#). NASAA tracked more than 1,000 bills, 70 of which are highlighted in this report. Topics include COVID-19, the creative economy, public art, arts education, state arts agency structure and governance, and diversity, equity and inclusion. If you have questions about advocating for public arts funding, have a legislative challenge coming up or want a sounding board as you plan meetings with new legislators, be sure to call on NASAA.

Strengthen the Arts
TOGETHER



Strengthen the Arts, Strengthen Our Nation

Public funding is the backbone of arts support in our country—without it, too many Americans would be left behind. As state arts agency leaders, your voice is unique in keeping this backbone strong.

NASAA is committed to you—to promoting your agency's priorities in Congress and giving you the advocacy tools and resources you need. *All* of our advocacy work is made possible thanks to the generosity of individuals like you. Learn more about how to [support NASAA](#), or [contribute now](#) to help. Your gift empowers your agency to grow support for the arts and in turn strengthens our nation. Thank you!

NASAA

For questions or more information, contact Laura Smith, laura.smith@nasaa-arts.org

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