

Distribute this succinct report at your next council meeting to inform your colleagues of how NASAA can be of service to you. Be sure you're on [NASAA's e-mail list](#) to learn the latest!

56 Years, 56 Strong

This year, NASAA is celebrating our 56th birthday—that's 56 years of dedicated service to our nation's 56 state and jurisdictional arts agencies! State and jurisdictional arts agencies are why NASAA exists, then and now. You work tirelessly to ensure access to the arts for ALL, and we are proud to work alongside you! Join us in celebrating state arts agencies by checking out [NASAA's 56 Years, 56 Strong](#) web page. You'll see a link to a Kudoboard where you can share stories, photos, videos and shout-outs about our amazing community, past and present.

You'll also see that one of our birthday wishes is to get 56 NEW donors—one new donor from every state and jurisdiction. Will you help us? If you haven't [given](#) to NASAA before, now's the time! Check the page often to see your colleagues' stories and watch the donor challenge map get filled in. We look forward to celebrating with you all year long!



Citizen Councils vs. Nonprofit Boards

Serving on a state arts council is a wonderful arts leadership role! As appointees to a public board, state arts agency council/commission members play important citizen oversight roles and serve as influential arts advocates and ambassadors. While experiences with nonprofit or corporate boards can be good preparation, there are important distinctions to be drawn between nonprofit boards and public boards. Operating within the executive branch of state government offers some unique opportunities to shape policy—and some unique requirements and limitations as well. Get more details in NASAA's new resource, [Citizen Councils](#).

The Federal-State Arts Partnership

It takes multiple kinds of resources to cultivate a healthy arts and culture sector. In the United States, the arts are sustained by not only private and corporate contributions, but by multiple levels of government support—local, state and federal. The partnership between state arts agencies and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) helps to ensure public funding for arts and creativity is spread widely and equitably. In fact, 40% of the NEA's grant funds are allocated to the 56 state and jurisdictional arts agencies and the six regional arts organizations. Learn more about this unique collaboration in NASAA's policy brief, [The Federal-State Partnership in the Arts](#).

Clear Evidence: Arts and Creativity Drive Economies

New research commissioned by NASAA shows that the arts are a highly effective economic investment that drives state growth, regardless of how other economic sectors perform. This empirical research, analyzing the period from 2001-2021, provides strong, causal and statistically valid evidence showing that growth in the arts and culture sector positively impacts gross state product and the overall economy. Use [Arts and Creativity Drive Economies and Build Resilience](#) to make the case for continued investments in arts, culture and creativity to benefit your state.

There is a causal link between growth in the creative economy and broad economic growth in the United States.

The Latest Data on Your State's Creative Economy

NASAA's annually updated [Creative Economy State Profiles](#) dashboard describes the value of arts and cultural production in each state and the nation. These data are published by the [U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis](#) in partnership with the NEA. In 2022, arts and cultural production accounted for:

- over \$1.1 trillion in value added to the U.S. economy
- 4.3% of U.S. gross domestic product
- 5.2 million U.S. jobs

Use this interactive dashboard to discover how your state performed.

Dates to Remember



Mark your calendar for [NASAA Assembly 2024, October 23-26 in San Juan, Puerto Rico!](#) Many sessions will support your work with your agency—including an in-person Chairs and Council Members Peer Group meeting.

We hope to see you at our next (virtual) **Chairs and Council Members Peer Group session on June 4 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. Eastern.** We'll discuss how serving on a state arts agency board differs from nonprofit board service.

Nominate the excellent work and leadership of your agency for the [2024 NASAA Leadership Awards!](#) Nominations are due by **May 22.**



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

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