

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

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National Endowment for the Arts Fact Sheet

Spring 2013

NEA Appropriations

- The \$146 million budget of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) represents just **0.012 %** (about one one-hundredth of one percent) of federal discretionary spending.
- The NEA has sustained significant budget reductions. NEA appropriations have **declined by \$21.5 million (-13 %)** in the last three federal budgets.
- Each **\$1** in NEA grant funds leverages another **\$9** from other public and private sources.

Everyone Benefits

- Forty percent of all NEA grant funds—approximately \$46 million in fiscal year 2013—are distributed through state arts agencies. In combination with approximately \$280 million in state appropriations, **the federal-state partnership supports more than 22,000 grants in 5,000 communities across the United States.**
- Voters in every congressional district are stakeholders in sustaining this successful partnership. Combined, NEA and state arts agency grant awards reached **all 435 federal congressional districts** in 2012.
- NEA funding made possible nearly 44,000 concerts, readings, performances and exhibitions in 2012. More than **75 million individuals** attended such live events (exclusive of television and radio), including **18 million children and youth.**
- States use NEA and state legislative funds together to address the **unique needs of rural areas.** Rural communities receive 25% of state arts agency grants. Even larger proportions of grants and grant dollars go to rural areas in states with larger rural populations.

Impact of the Arts

- **The arts create jobs.** The nonprofit arts and culture industry creates an [economic impact](#) of \$135 billion and supports 4.13 million jobs in multiple industries.
- **The arts generate revenues.** The arts sector generates \$22.3 billion in federal, state and local tax receipts.
- **The arts strengthen education.** Research confirms a positive relationship between arts education and academic success for both [elementary](#) and [secondary](#) students. Benefits include gains in intelligence (IQ), grades and performance on standardized tests. For students from disadvantaged socioeconomic backgrounds, the arts improve educational attainment and increase the likelihood of attending a postsecondary institution.