



Federal Legislative Priorities

Americans for the Arts is working every day to ensure that federal lawmakers understand the many policy areas the arts impact in communities across the nation.

In this Congress, we are pursuing more active legislation than ever before.

This diverse policy agenda is made possible by an active Congressional Arts Caucus and Senate Cultural Caucus, a growing coalition of pro-arts organizations, and motivated grassroots advocates in every state.

[Click here](#) to learn the latest status of each bill and to take action by contacting your members of Congress to support these bills.

AMERICANS
for the **ARTS**



Arts & Cultural Agency and Education Programs Funding

Interior Appropriations Bill

U.S. House bill includes a \$12.5 million increase for national grantmaking, to \$167.5 million, for the National Endowment for the Arts. The U.S. Senate bill includes \$2 million increase, to \$157 million.

Education Appropriations Bill

U.S. House bill provides a \$6 million increase to Education Department arts education grant program--the largest increase to date. The U.S. Senate bill admonishes the National Assessment Governing Board for terminating the arts assessment, and calls for it to be administered.



Arts & Veterans, Servicemembers, and Trauma Victims

Defense Department Appropriations Bill

U.S. House bill includes language to increase support for creative arts therapies for treating Defense Department servicemembers with traumatic brain injuries and psychological health conditions.

Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill

U.S. House bill includes language that would dedicate \$5 million in funding for creative arts therapies in treating veterans with traumatic brain injuries and psychological health conditions through the VA's Office of Patient Care and Cultural Transformation through their Whole Health initiative.

RISE from Trauma Act-S.1770

Bipartisan legislation to improve the identification and support of children and families who experience trauma. It includes support for local and state arts agencies and adds a new trauma program grantmaking category at the National Endowment for the Arts.



Arts & Juvenile Justice Programs

Justice Department Appropriations Bill

Both the U.S. House and Senate bills include language to call on the Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention to include arts-based juvenile justice programs among its strategies.



Arts & the Creative Economy

The CREATE Act-H.R. 1519, S.650

Through minor adjustments to existing federal programs, the legislation takes steps to better invest in our country's workforce and creative industries, while empowering the entrepreneurs and artists and encouraging their role as contributors to the small business community.



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Arts & Transit

The STAR Act-H.R. 3437

A bill to reinstate flexibility and allow local transit authorities to incorporate art into federally-funded transit projects and facilities. Transit agencies and communities benefit from integrating art into transportation projects. Artists aid in transit design, which improves safety and security, increases ridership, reduces vandalism, facilitates communication and community pride, and boosts economic activity through tourism.



Arts & Technology

Save the Internet Act-H.R. 1644, S. 682

This bill restores net neutrality and broadband competition protections for all Americans, ensuring that artists and arts organizations not be disadvantaged based on the business practices or other preferences of Internet Service Providers (ISPs).



Arts & Tax Policy

The Artist-Museum Partnership Act-H.R. 1793

A bill to provide artists a fair market value tax deduction when they donate their art work to museums.

The Performing Artist Tax Parity Act-H.R. 3121

A bipartisan bill to increase the existing Qualified Performing Artist (QPA) tax deduction income ceiling to more appropriately reflect today's cost of living: \$100,000 for individuals indexed to inflation.

The Universal Charitable Deduction-H.R. 1260

A bill to allow all taxpayers (both itemizers and non-itemizers) to utilize the charitable tax deduction.



Arts & Health

The Dignity in Aging Act-H.R. 4334

A bipartisan reauthorization of the Older Americans Act that provides aging Americans the support they need to age independently and with dignity. This bill contains specific language that prioritizes a focus on the arts and cultural experiences.