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Book Nina for FREE as an expert guest speaker at your next webinar to talk about all things CARES Act and ArtsVote 2020. For scheduling, visit ArtsActionFund.org/BookNina.



The Quarterly Newsletter of the Americans for the Arts Action Fund
Volume II, 2020

ArtsActionFund.org

Arts Action News

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Americans for the Arts
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CARES Act Provides Billions of Dollars in Support for Arts Groups and Gig Workers



When Congress passed on March 27, 2020, a \$2.3 trillion CARES Act emergency relief package in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was the largest appropriations bill in history. Even then, Congress had to quickly add \$1 trillion more the next month. Many popular federal programs proved to be a lifeline to nonprofit and commercial arts groups and gig workers, including:

- \$8.2 billion in Paycheck Protection Program loans made to the “Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation” sector.
- Millions of self-employed artists and furloughed arts administrators and artists collecting an additional \$600 per week in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation.
- Millions of arts-centric small business and self-employed artists receiving SBA Emergency Injury Disaster Loan advances and low-interest business loans.
- \$300 million in economic relief to support nonprofit cultural organizations through the National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.
- State and local governments regrating a portion of their federal CARES Act relief funds to provide economic relief grants to local arts organizations.

Visit ArtsActionFund.org/CaresActTable for a detailed breakdown and FAQs of all the federal CARES Act programs that are available to professionals in the arts.

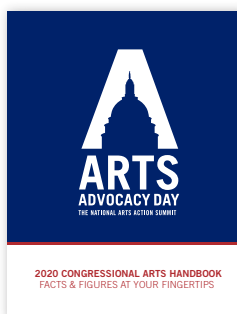
National Arts Action Summit Goes Digital



Representative Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) offers opening remarks about the CARES Act Relief Package session during the National Arts Action Digital Summit (April 29, 2020). Listen to many of these archived recorded sessions by registering at Artsu.AmericansfortheArts.org/NAAS2020.

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Americans for the Arts quickly re-programmed its annual National Arts Action Summit (NAAS) on Capitol Hill into a week-long digital conference on April 27 through May 1, 2020. Advocates were given a brand-new experience to engage digitally as well as an entire suite of arts policy webinars to watch again anytime. The nation’s top arts lobbyists representing every arts discipline presented more than a dozen educational sessions.

Several key Congressional arts leaders also joined the webinar sessions, including: Senators Susan Collins (R-ME), Brian Schatz (D-HI) and Tom Udall (D-NM), and Representatives Alma Adams (D-NC), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Betty McCollum (D-MN) and Chellie Pingree (D-ME).



The ultimate guide in arts advocacy is printed in our annual Congressional Arts Advocacy Handbook, which can be found at bit.ly/AAD2020Handbook.

Message from President & CEO Robert Lynch



Dear Arts Action Fund Member,

I would like to thank you for your continued support during these trying times. Americans for the Arts Action Fund has been working diligently to keep you updated on how COVID-19 has affected the arts and how we've successfully lobbied Congress for billions of dollars to assist our sector...all while teleworking from home. In fact, once the CARES Act legislation was enacted, Arts Action Fund Executive Director **Nina Ozlu Tunceli** jumped into action to begin training thousands of arts organizations and artists on how to tap federal funds to keep their businesses operational with national webinars and customized Office Hours on Zoom. Her personal touch has given our members the timely advantage of navigating the complexities of a massive federal relief package and successfully securing funding. If you have a question, be sure to visit ArtsActionFund.org/OfficeHoursNina.

While this pandemic is all-consuming, we haven't taken our eye off the upcoming elections. For our latest activities, visit ArtsActionFund.org/ArtsVote. We submitted an updated arts policy platform (post-COVID-19) to both the Democratic and Republican National Committee. I have been personally invited by the Joe Biden campaign to chair his Arts Policy Subcommittee in order to make recommendations to him, which include arts policy positions that we share with all federal candidates, both Republican and Democratic.

Stay safe and thank you for your commitment to the arts.

Office Hours with

Nina

11am - 12pm ET

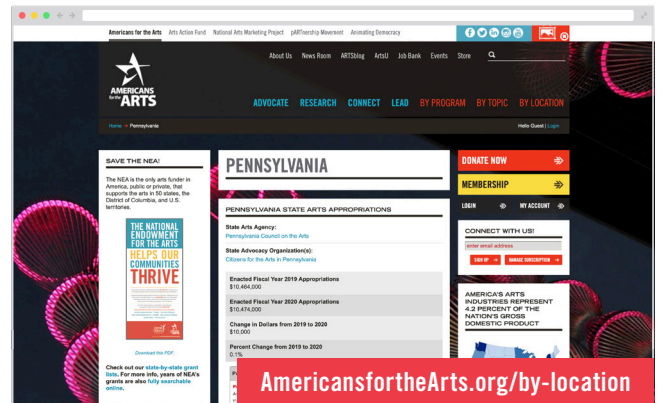
Find out more at:

ArtsActionFund.org/OfficeHoursNina



State Arts Resources

Did you know that Americans for the Arts has dedicated web pages for each of the 50 states and DC? These pages provide links to your state arts agency and state arts advocacy organization as well as provide state arts appropriations information, printable state arts factsheets, and various links to state arts legislation. To see your state's page, go to AmericansfortheArts.org/by-location to find arts-related resources for your state!



AmericansfortheArts.org/by-location

Arts Action Center

To engage in any of our current legislative or election campaigns or petitions, please visit ArtsActionFund.org/ActionCenter

Sign the Petition

Track Legislation

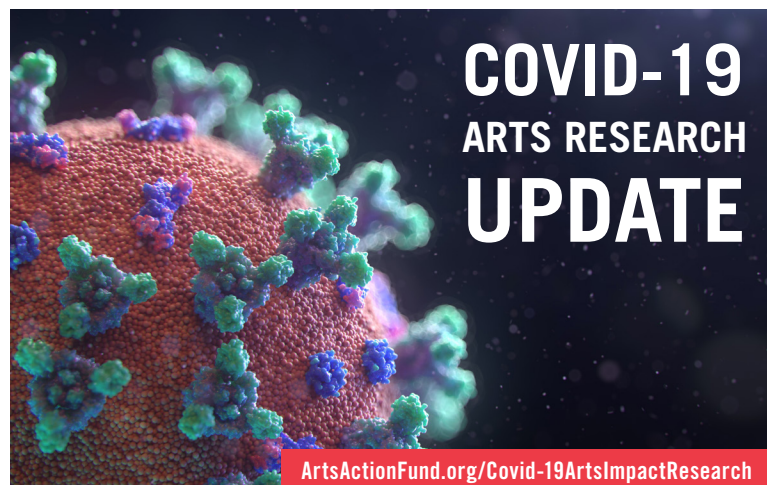
Current Action Campaigns

View Voting Records

Find Your Legislators

Candidates

Americans for the Arts Research Confirms COVID-19's Impact on the Arts



Since the first U.S. case was diagnosed, cancellations and closings have been taking place at thousands of arts organizations across the country, two-thirds of the nation's artists are now unemployed, and 12,000 organizations doubt they will survive the crisis. **Americans for the Arts leads the four premier national studies tracking the human and financial impacts of the COVID-19 crisis on the arts and we encourage all artists and arts organizations to add their impact to these ongoing studies at ArtsActionFund.org/Covid-19ArtsImpactResearch.**

- Nationally, financial losses to nonprofit arts/cultural organizations are an estimated \$12.5 billion as of mid-August 2020. A full 96% have cancelled events and lost an estimated 354 million admissions. An astonishing 67% expect this crisis to have a “severe” impact on their organization and nearly one-third have reduced artistic workforce.
- Artists/creatives are among the most severely affected segment of the nation's workforce. 63% have become fully unemployed and the average financial loss per artist/creative worker is \$22,200. Nationally, they expect to lose \$50.6 billion in income in 2020.
- This new study is designed to strengthen our understanding of the mental health impacts on the general public of sheltering in place, social distancing, and isolation—and to determine if certain activities buffer against those ill effects (including the arts). Participate in the survey at bit.ly/SocialDistancingArtsSurvey.
- Our CARES Act Arts Funding Tracker measures the success of the arts sector in securing federal CARES Act relief funding. Results to date are based on 3,600 respondents. Share your experience at ArtsActionFund.org/CaresActFundingTracker.

COVID-19 Resource Center

The Americans for the Arts Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resource and Response Center has become the most comprehensive one-stop online service for arts organizations and artists during this pandemic. Hundreds of thousands of visitors have discovered timely resources, news articles, research studies, and action items posted daily at bit.ly/COVID19ResourceResponseCenter.

The Resource Center is easy to navigate within the following themes:

FOR ORGANIZATIONS: Are you an arts and culture organization? Arts agency? You'll find federal relief information, relief funds, helpful webinars and other resources geared to organizations.

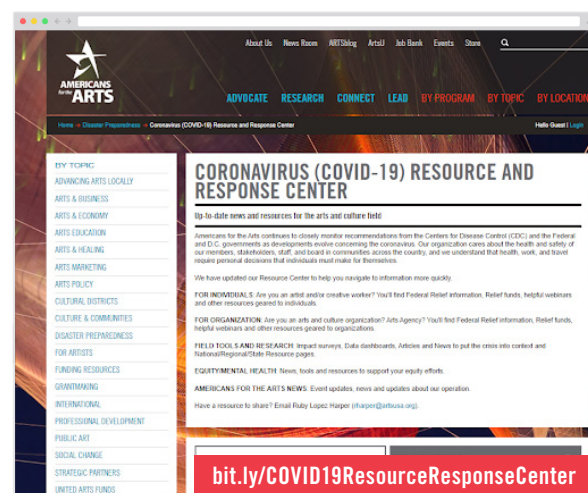
FOR INDIVIDUALS: Are you an artist and/or creative worker? Find federal relief information, relief funds, helpful webinars and other resources geared to individuals.

FIELD TOOLS AND RESEARCH: Your one-stop shop for all things data, research and context—Arts Agency Action Kit (is your agency budget under threat?), impact surveys, data dashboards, articles and news to put the crisis into context, and national/regional/state resource pages.

EQUITY/MENTAL HEALTH: News, tools and resources to support your equity efforts.

REOPENING AND RESOURCES: National, state, county, and local resource lists, and state guidances and phased reopening plans.

AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS NEWS: Event updates, news and updates about our operation.



Americans for the Arts Action Fund is the advocacy arm of Americans for the Arts. We engage citizens in ensuring that all Americans have the opportunity to appreciate, value, and participate in the arts. Arts Action Fund members are citizen activists who are committed to helping make certain that arts-friendly public policies are adopted at every level of government and in the private sector. Arts Action News is delivered four times a year to supporters of the Arts Action Fund. Executive Director, Nina Ozlu Tunceli. www.ArtsActionFund.org.