

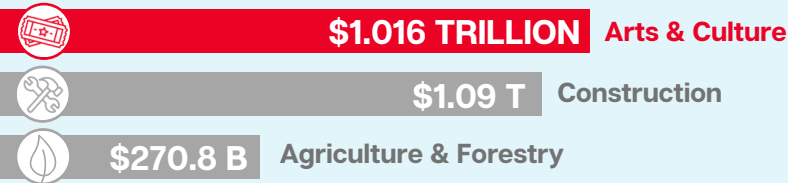
WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN KENTUCKY



NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

FOR-PROFIT & NON-PROFIT ARTS & CULTURE SECTORS REPRESENT

4.31% Nation's GDP **5.2 M** Jobs



The national arts and culture sector was a **\$1.102 trillion industry** in 2022 (4.31% of the nation's GDP), representing **5.2 million jobs** (3.28% of nation's workforce), and total compensation of **\$540.9 billion**.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Endowment for the Arts (2024). Data collected for 2022.

KENTUCKY ARTS FACTS

FOR-PROFIT & NON-PROFIT ARTS & CULTURE SECTORS REPRESENT

2.5% State's GDP **50,526** Jobs



The Kentucky arts and culture sector was a **\$6.5 billion industry** in 2022 (2.5% of the state's GDP), representing **50,526 jobs** (2.45% of Kentucky's workforce), and total compensation of **\$3.2 billion**.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (2024). Data collected for 2022.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NON-PROFIT ARTS & CULTURE INDUSTRY AND AUDIENCES

National

\$151.7 B Economic activity annually

2.6 M Jobs supported by economic activity

In 2022, the impact of this economic activity generated **\$29.1 billion** in total tax revenue to federal, state, and local governments.

Source: Americans for the Arts, 2023. [Arts & Economic Prosperity 6](#).

LOCAL ECONOMIC DRIVER: NON-PROFIT ARTS INDUSTRY ONLY & THEIR AUDIENCES

Statewide

\$79.3 M Program Revenues

\$121 M Contributions & Gifts

\$212 M Total Revenues

Arts audiences spend **\$1.18 billion** annually in addition to admission cost.

Sources: Economic Modeling Specialists International, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, National Center for Charitable Statistics, 2021

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Federal Appropriation FY24 **\$207 Million**

Congress allocated **\$207 million** to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in **FY24**. This amounts to just **62 cents per capita**. Ideally, Congress should index \$1 per capita funding to the NEA.

Source: Americans for the Arts Action Fund, 2024.

FY23 PUBLIC FUNDING AWARDED TO THE KENTUCKY ARTS COUNCIL

State Appropriation FY24 **\$1,839,700**

NEA Grant FY24 **\$964,000**

View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts [HERE](#)

Source: NEA and Kentucky Arts Council, 2024

KENTUCKY ARTS HIGHLIGHTS

IN THE BLUEGRASS STATE THE ARTS INSPIRE US



The history and heritage of the Bluegrass State are rooted in the arts. Kentucky's creative culture is essential to the state's economy, tourism, and community life and the key to a thriving future.

KENTUCKY ARTS COUNCIL

Established in 1965, the KentuckyArts Council is the state arts agency and is responsible for developing and promoting support for the arts in Kentucky. The mission of the Kentucky Arts Council is to foster environments for the people of Kentucky to value, participate in, and benefit from the arts.

Executive Director: Chris Cathers

Chair: Dr. Everett McCorvey



Learn more [here](#).

Kentucky Arts Spotlight

Kentucky-based writer **Ada Limón** was selected as the **24th U.S. Poet Laureate** in 2022. Experience Kentucky's rich literary heritage literary arts by also reading works by Kentucky Poet Laureate and Academy of American Poets Laureate Fellow **Crystal Wilkinson**, nationally bestselling author **Silas House** and the Affrilachian Poets, a grassroots group of poets of color living in the Affrilachian region, founded by Kentuckian Frank X Walker.

KENTUCKIANS FOR THE ARTS

Kentuckians for the Arts is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization made up of arts supporters, artists, arts educators and arts organizations across the state. The vision of the organization is to advance a creative commonwealth, and the mission is to raise awareness of the value of the arts and arts education for all throughout Kentucky.

Executive Director: Philip Shepherd

Chair: Lori Meadows



Learn more [here](#).

Join [here](#).

EXPERIENCE THE ARTS ACROSS KENTUCKY

- The 2023 **Kentucky Visitors Guide** focuses on the great wealth of arts across the Commonwealth.
- As the Birthplace of Bluegrass Music, Kentucky is home to the **Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame and Museum** in Owensboro. Bluegrass music and its history can be experienced across the state including the birthplace of Father of Bluegrass Music and 1982 National Heritage Fellow Bill Monroe in Rosine where the **Jerusalem Ridge Bluegrass Festival** is held annually.
- Kentucky is home to six professional orchestras: **LexPhil** in Lexington; **Louisville Orchestra**; **Orchestra Kentucky** in Bowling Green; **Kentucky Symphony Orchestra** in northern Kentucky; and the **Owensboro Symphony** and **Paducah Symphony** in western Kentucky.
- The Kentucky **Governor's School for the Arts** provides hands-on arts opportunities for high school dancers, actors, instrumental and vocal musicians, creative writers, future architects or visual artists through summer residential programs.
- Equine art from the **Kentucky Horse Park Sculpture Walk** and exhibits at the **American Saddlebred Museum** are examples of the many horse-themed sculptures and murals celebrating Kentucky's long-standing equine industry and traditions.
- Contemporary and traditional folk art and craft are found throughout Kentucky. Home to the **National Quilt Museum**, Paducah is an **UNESCO City of Crafts and Folk Art**. Officially designated as the arts and crafts capital of Kentucky, Berea is home to artist studios, galleries and festivals featuring world class art and craft. The permanent collection at the **Folk Art Center** in Morehead includes over 1,400 pieces of work by self-taught artists and rotating exhibits.
- The unique **Kentucky Crafted** program of the Kentucky Arts Council builds entrepreneurship in the arts through marketing, promotional opportunities and arts business training. The program's more than 150 juried artists are showcased in an annual wholesale/retail market.
- The diverse traditional culture and heritage of the Commonwealth is documented, presented and preserved by the **Kentucky Folklife Program** and organizations including **Asia Institute-Crane House** (named a South Arts Southern Cultural Treasure in 2022), and the **Kentucky Native American Heritage Museum** promote understanding and celebration of living cultural traditions.

As of 4/11/2023



JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!

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