

# WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN CONNECTICUT



## NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

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

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



**\$1.102 TRILLION** Arts & Culture



**\$1.09 T** Construction



**\$920.5 B** Transportation

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.

## CONNECTICUT ARTS FACTS

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

**4%** State's GDP      **54,741** Jobs



**\$12.8 BILLION** Arts & Culture



**\$8.6 B** Construction



**\$7.6 B** Transportation

The Connecticut arts and culture sector was a **\$12.8 billion industry** in **2022** (4% of the state's GDP), representing **54,741 jobs** (3.17% of Connecticut's workforce), and total compensation of **\$6 billion**.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Endowment for the Arts (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.

**88.5%** of audiences agreed with the statement "This arts activity/venue is inspiring a sense of pride in this neighborhood or community"

**87%** of audiences agreed with the statement "My attendance is my way of ensuring that this activity/venue is preserved for future generations"

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

Statewide

**\$954.1 M** Economic activity annually

**16,667** Jobs supported by economic activity

In 2022, the impact of this economic activity generated **\$275 million** in total tax revenue to federal, state, and local governments.

**87.5%** of audiences agreed with the statement "This arts activity/venue is inspiring a sense of pride in this neighborhood or community"

**85.7%** of audiences agreed with the statement "My attendance is my way of ensuring that this activity/venue is preserved for future generations"

## 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.

## PUBLIC FUNDING RECEIVED FOR CONNECTICUT ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

State Appropriation FY24      **\$8,215,358**

NEA State Grant FY24      **\$1,021,100**

31 Direct NEA Grants FY23      **\$1,835,100**

Source: NEA, SBA, NASAA, 2024

4/2/2024

# CONNECTICUT ARTS HIGHLIGHTS

IN THE CONSTITUTION STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US



**RiseUp for Arts** has created over 75 murals and place-making projects (and counting) across Connecticut since 2015 working with 40+ local artists and partnering with 100s of communities, organizations and hosts.

**THE CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF THE ARTS (COA)** - founded in 1965, COA is a State Arts Agency within the Department of Economic and Community Development. The state arts office directly serves arts organizations, artists, schools, and communities across the state through a range of programs and services, including grant support and professional development opportunities.

**Executive Director: Elizabeth Shapiro**  
**Chair: Jack Rosenberg**



Learn more [here](#).

## BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

- You will find Connecticut arts and culture experiences through the CT Office of Tourism [here](#).
- This [survey](#) was done in Connecticut with 1,000 residents and their thoughts on funding increases for the arts and culture.
- Explore Connecticut's rich artistic heritage [here](#) or CT's mention in the NY Time's top 52 cities to visit in the world [here](#).

Connecticut Arts Alliance (CAA)  
[www.ctartsalliance.org](http://www.ctartsalliance.org)

CT Cultural Heritage Arts Program (CCHAP)  
[www.chs.org/connecticut-cultural-heritage-artsprogram](http://www.chs.org/connecticut-cultural-heritage-artsprogram)

Connecticut Art Education Association  
[www.ctarteducation.net](http://www.ctarteducation.net)

Connecticut Arts Administrators Association, Inc. (CAAA) [www.ctaaa.net](http://www.ctaaa.net)

## CONNECTICUT ARTS ALLIANCE

Founded in 2008, Connecticut Arts Alliance is a statewide non-profit organization that works to build political, financial, and grassroots support to ensure that arts are a vital part of life for everyone in Connecticut.

**Executive Director: Brett Thompson**  
**President: Denise Santisteban**

# CT ARTS ALLIANCE

Learn more [here](#).  
Join [here](#).

## THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE

Visit the **Norwalk Art Space** and meet up and coming resident artists in their studios and grab something sweet or savory at their **café**, then head over to the **Wall Street Theater** for a movie, concert or show.

Follow the coast to **New Haven** where a myriad of arts experiences await. Take in the world-class collection at **Yale Art Gallery**, explore experimental contemporary art at **ArtSpace** or attend the **International Festival of Arts & Ideas**, a 15-day annual festival that brings thousands together each summer for performances and dialogue with great artists and thinkers from across the world.

Take a leisurely drive north along the Connecticut River to **East Haddam** to take in a musical at the Tony award winning **Goodspeed Musicals**.

Take in a show at **Hartford Stage** or **TheaterWorks** where you'll find live theater of the highest quality in intimate settings.

Take in dinner and a show at the **Infinity Music Hall & Bistro** in **Norfolk** and while meandering through the Litchfield Hills be sure to swing by **Five Points** in **Torrington** and learn about their Launchpad program that supports recent art graduates of local universities.

Don't forget Connecticut's quiet corner, known for its antique shops, but also filled with hidden gems such as the **Performing Arts of Northeast Connecticut** in **Pomfret Center** and the **Silver Circle Gallery** in Putnam.

Then travel south to **New London** for a mural walk experience in the heart of downtown where you can visit the **Hygienic Art Galleries** and many other eclectic shops and restaurants.



**JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!**

E-MAIL US: [ArtsActionFund@artsusa.org](mailto:ArtsActionFund@artsusa.org)

VISIT US: [ArtsActionFund.org](http://ArtsActionFund.org)

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