

WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN NEW YORK



NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

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

4.24% Nation's GDP **5.4 M** Jobs



The national arts and culture sector was a **\$1.17 trillion industry** in 2023 (4.24% of the nation's GDP), representing **5.4 million jobs** (3.35% of nation's workforce), and total compensation of **\$553.9 billion**.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Endowment for the Arts (2025). Data collected for 2023.

NEW YORK ARTS FACTS

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

7.58% State's GDP **482 K** Jobs



The New York arts and culture sector was a **\$165 billion industry** in 2023 (7.58% of the state's GDP), representing **482K jobs** (4.92% of New York's workforce), and total compensation of **\$66 billion**.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (2025). Data collected for 2023.

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"

Source: Americans for the Arts, 2023. Arts & Economic Prosperity 6.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NON-PROFIT ARTS INDUSTRY ONLY & THEIR AUDIENCES

Western New York Region, Westchester County, & Long Island Combined

\$893.7 M Economic activity annually

15,366 Jobs supported by economic activity

In 2022, the impact of this economic activity generated **\$236 million** in total tax revenue to federal, state, and local governments.

89.9% of audiences agreed with the statement
"This arts activity/venue is inspiring a sense of pride in this neighborhood or community"

88.4% of audiences agreed with the statement
"My attendance is my way of ensuring that this activity/venue is preserved for future generations"

Source: Americans for the Arts, 2023. Arts & Economic Prosperity 6, Western New York Region, Westchester County, & Long Island

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Federal Appropriation FY25 **\$207 Million**

Congress allocated **\$207 million** to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for FY25, maintaining level funding through a **Continuing Resolution (CR)**. 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, 2025.

PUBLIC FUNDING RECEIVED FOR NEW YORK ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

State Appropriation FY25 **\$87,283,651**

NEA Grant FY25 **\$1,094,700**

568 Direct NEA Grants FY24 **\$17,991,349**

Source: NEA, SBA, NASAA, 2025.

NEW YORK ARTS HIGHLIGHTS

IN THE EMPIRE STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US



The Albany Symphony Orchestra's summer festivals along the Erie Canal bring together as many as 23,000 fans from diverse communities across the state, celebrating our industrial and artistic innovation.

THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) preserves and expands the rich and diverse cultural resources that are the heritage of New York's citizens. NYSCA was established in 1960 through a bill introduced in the NY State Legislature by State Senator MacNeill Mitchell, with backing from Governor Nelson Rockefeller.

Executive Director: Erika Mallin

Chair: Katherine Nicholls



Council on the Arts

Learn more [here](#).

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

- I ❤️ New York's [New York State bucket list](#) details must-see cultural attractions.
- Catch a show from Broadway to Buffalo with [this comprehensive guide](#).
- Learn all about New York museums [here](#).

CNY Arts

www.cnyarts.org

New York State Arts Teachers Association

www.nysata.org

ARTS NYS' primary purpose is to strengthen the arts throughout New York State by building the visibility of the arts as one of the key industries in the state, providing technical assistance and professional opportunities to arts administrators, marketing the arts, leading efforts to increase funding for the arts and to strengthen the role of the arts in education, healthcare, community and economic development and other areas of civic life.

President: Elizabeth Reiss

Vice President: Jen Swan-Kilpatrick

Executive Director: Liz Lane



Learn more [here](#).

Join [here](#).

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE

New York State has 10 Arts Regions with wonderful offerings:

- **Western New York.** Did you know Buffalo is a hotspot for NYS arts? Head to contemporary art haven AlbrightKnox Art, then, check out Frank Lloyd Wright's Darwin Martin House and hear JoAnn Falletta—the first female conductor of a major U.S. orchestra—conduct the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.
- **Finger Lakes.** Grab your camera and head to the George Eastman Museum, the world's oldest museum dedicated to photography. In September, head to the Rochester Fringe Festival, a showcase of 500+ events, many free, for nearly 80,000 fans.
- **Central New York.** Visit the first museum to dedicate itself to the collection of American arts. The Everson Museum of Art is home to

almost 11,000 works, which you can discover within an architectural wonder designed by I.M. Pei.

- **Southern Tier.** Try your hand at glassmaking at the Corning Museum of Glass, an international tourist destination which draws more than 500,000 annually to New York's Southern Tier.
- **Mohawk Valley.** Hear opera stars at the Glimmerglass Festival in Cooperstown on picturesque Lake Otsego – and while you're there, slow down with a taste of 19th century rural life at the nearby Farmers Museum.
- **North Country.** Jump right into the history of the American Revolution at Fort Ticonderoga, and admire your mountain surroundings at the Adirondack Experience.
- **Capital Region.** Listen to the Grammy-winning Albany Symphony Orchestra

or stop by the Saratoga Performing Arts Center for their annual jazz festival.

- **Hudson Valley.** Take in 500 acres of modern an contemporary large-sculpture al fresco at Storm King Art Center in New Windsor, then catch a classic at the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival.
- **Long Island.** Get a jump on Oscar season at the Hamptons International Film Festival, then head to the Herzog & de Meuron-designed Parrish Art Museum to view modern and contemporary American art.
- **New York City.** Broadway lights are brighter than ever, with Second Stage's new Helen Hayes Theatre, a home for new American plays and diverse voices. Venture out of Manhattan for innovative fare at BAM or to Queens' Museum of the Moving Image.

4/2024



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