



WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN MAINE



NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

ARTS SECTOR'S PERCENTAGE OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 4.2% OF NATION'S GDP

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that nationally the arts and culture sector is a **\$764 billion industry**, representing 4.2% of the nation's GDP—a larger share of the economy than construction (4.1%) or education services (1.1%).

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2015.

\$764 BILLION Arts & Culture Sector

\$763 BILLION Construction

\$208 BILLION Education Services

BONUS: U.S. exports generate a \$24.1 billion arts trade SURPLUS.

MAINE ARTS FACTS

THE MAINE ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR REPRESENTS 2.5% OF STATE'S GDP

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that the arts and culture sector contributes **\$1.5 billion** to Maine's economy, representing 2.5% of the state's GDP—a larger share than some other industries in the state.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2015.

\$1.5 BILLION Arts & Culture Sector

\$2.2 BILLION Construction

\$0.8 BILLION Education Services

BONUS: In 2015, ME arts and culture jobs grew by 2.6% while the national average was 2.1%.

NUMBER OF ARTS-RELATED BUSINESSES AND JOBS (Commercial & Nonprofit Arts Organizations Combined)

Nationally **673,656 businesses** employ **3.48 million people** who are involved in the creation or distribution of the arts. Based on Dun & Bradstreet data, this means that 3.9% of all businesses and 1.9% of all employees are connected to the creative industries.

Source: Americans for the Arts, *Creative Industries*, 2017.

673,656 & **3.48M** ARE INVOLVED IN THE
BUSINESSES & JOBS CREATION OR DISTRIBUTION
OF THE ARTS

In Maine, **2,582 arts-related businesses** employ **10,445 people**.

- In Cumberland County, **866 Arts-Related Businesses** employ **4,390 people**.
- In Androscoggin County, **130 Arts-Related Businesses** employ **737 people**.
- In Penobscot County, **201 Arts-Related Businesses** employ **665 people**.

Source: Americans for the Arts, *Creative Industries*, *Maine report*, 2017.

2,582 & **10,445** ARE INVOLVED IN THE
BUSINESSES & JOBS CREATION OR DISTRIBUTION
OF THE ARTS

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS & THEIR AUDIENCES

Nationally, the nonprofit arts industry alone generates **\$166.3 billion in economic activity** annually that supports **4.6 million jobs** and generates **\$27.5 billion** in federal, state, and local government revenue.

- Spending by arts audiences generated **\$102.5 billion** to local businesses.

Source: Americans for the Arts, *Arts & Economic Prosperity 5*, 2017.

ART IS A \$166.3 BILLION DRIVER OF OUR NATIONAL, STATE & LOCAL ECONOMY.

In 2015, nonprofit arts organizations in the state generated **\$150.6 million in economic activity** annually that supported **4,190 jobs** and generated **\$12.3 million** in state and local government revenue.

- In Portland specifically, nonprofit arts groups generated **\$46.6 million** in economic activity. Audiences of 1.0 million people added another \$29.0 million in related spending for a total of **\$75.6 million** for the city in 2015, and this generated **\$8.6 million** in local and state government revenues and **2,372 in FTE jobs**.

Source: Americans for the Arts, *Arts & Economic Prosperity 5*, *Maine* and *Portland* reports, 2017.

THE ARTS ARE A \$150.6 MILLION DRIVER OF OUR STATE ECONOMY.

PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS & ARTISTS

Q So how much is the federal government investing in the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)?

A Congress has proposed allocating **\$155 million to the NEA in FY 2019**, which has been relatively level for the last several years. This amounts to just **47¢ per capita**, yet the nonprofit arts industry generates over \$13 billion in federal tax revenue back to the treasury. Imagine what nonprofit arts groups could generate with \$1 per capita!

Source: Americans for the Arts Action Fund, 2019.

Read: "Funding The Arts Is Good For The Nation," *The Hill*, 2015.

Q What about Maine—how much does state government budget to the Maine Arts Commission each year?

A The state allocated **\$918,203** to the Maine Arts Commission. In FY 2018, the Maine Arts Commission also received **\$741,300** in federal NEA funds, which the Council re-granted to dozens of cultural organizations through the state. Another 17 nonprofit arts organizations received direct grants from the NEA totaling **\$430,000**.

Source: NEA and NASAA, 2017.

Read: "The Jobs in New England's Creative Economy and Why They Matter," New England Foundation for the Arts, 2017.

GDP

JOBS

ECONOMICS

FUNDING

“Maine is a unique place that is rich in the arts and culture. From Maine’s beaches, to the mountains, to downeast and north to Aroostook, you can experience all the arts bring to make this state special. Maine’s artists and arts organizations are its lifeblood and are a critical component of our economy.”

—Julie A. Richard, Executive Director, Maine Arts Commission



MAINE ARTS FACTS

IN THE PINETREE STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US

Many Maine communities, such as Belfast, Winter Harbor, Portland and Skowhegan have evolved into arts communities that impact the economy, drive investment, and showcase artists that have influenced art throughout the country and world.

THE MAINE ARTS COMMISSION supports and promotes the arts and culture sector throughout Maine and has done so since its development in 1965. Through its partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, the Commission distributes up to \$500,000 in grants annually. The Commission administers the State’s Percent for Art program and manages Art in the Capitol, Maine Excellence in Arts Education, Poetry Out Loud and the Congressional Art Competition, just to name a few of its programs. Its 501c3 support and advocacy organization – ArtsEngageME – was created in 2018 to help further the Commission’s mission.

> Learn more [here](#).

MEET SOME MAINE ARTS ADVOCATES

- Maine boasts two Co-Chairs of the arts and cultural caucuses in Congress. **Senator Susan Collins** (R) is the Co-Chair of the Senate Cultural Caucus and **Congresswoman Chellie Pingree** (D) is the Co-Chair of Congressional Arts Caucus.
- The Maine Arts Commission’s Executive Director, **Julie Richard**, serves as the State Captain and on the State Arts Action Network Council for Americans for the Arts. She was also instrumental in the creation of ArtsEngageME, the state’s first advocacy and support organization for the arts.

ARTS IN MAINE

- In September 2018, ArtsEngageME in partnership with the Maine Arts Commission launched the first-ever Maine Arts Awards. See who was honored [here](#).
- See a comprehensive list of Maine Arts Organizations and Artists [here](#).
- Visit Maine can direct you to music festivals and live theater [here](#).
- The Maine Art Museum Trail will lead you to 9 museums and 80,000 works of art [here](#).

MAINE ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

ArtsEngageME: www.artsengageme.org

Union of Maine Visual Artists: www.umvaonline.org/

Maine Alliance for Arts Education:

www.maineartsed.org

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE!

- From the south, stop in **Ogunquit** to experience the Ogunquit Playhouse and the Ogunquit Museum of American Art.
- Stop in **Portland** for the First Friday Art Walk and experience all this arts-rich city has to offer including, but not everything: the Portland Museum of Art, Portland Stage, the Portland Symphony Orchestra, Opera Maine, FOKO, ChoralArt, Portland Ballet, and the list goes on...
- Head up I-95 to **Lewiston** and check out the Bates Dance Festival, The Public Theatre and the exhibits in LA Arts’ gallery.
- Drive toward the coast and stop in **Rockland** to see the many galleries and museums including the Farnsworth Art Museum which boasts numerous works by the Wyeths in

its collection and the new Center for Maine Contemporary Art. Right up the street visit Bay Chamber Concerts in **Rockport** and the **Camden** International Film Festival in Camden, on your way to Waterfall Arts in **Belfast**.

- Don’t forget to stop in **Bar Harbor** to see the Abbe Museum, Maine’s only museum dedicated to Wabanaki art, history and culture - while enjoying the sites of Acadia National Park. Don’t forget to stop at the “quiet side” of Acadia – the Schoodic Peninsula and take in a workshop provided by Schoodic Arts for All in Winter Harbor.

- Drive all the way **Downeast** following the Maine Sculpture Tour on your way to **Eastport** for the TIDES Institute and Eastport Arts Center’s many programs and take in the Pirate

Festival while you are there.

- Then go all the way north to see the Reed Gallery at UMaine in **Presque Isle** – which is also one of the stops on the Langlais Art Trail that stretches from Portsmouth, NH through Maine. Keep going north to the Musee Culturel du Mont-Carmel in Lille to experience French classic architecture as well as an extensive collection of Acadian and Quebecois artifacts.

To View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts in Maine, Click Here.

MAINE ARTS NEED YOU!

JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!

E-MAIL US: ArtsActionFund@artsusa.org

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To download this fact sheet, “Why the Arts Matter in Maine” with corresponding resource links visit www.ArtsActionFund.org/ME.