**THE ARTS DRIVE ECONOMIC & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.**

It’s a given that arts and culture create the quality of life necessary to attract and retain residents, businesses, and visitors to Arkansas. It’s well-documented that the arts stimulate significant economic activity and value for the #2 industry in the state - tourism. There’s more:

- **Arkansas Arts & Culture Sector generates $2.9 Billion of the state’s GDP.**
- **82%** Believe the arts are critical to local businesses and the economy.
- **100%** Of Arkansas’ urban/rural renewal and community revitalization projects start with an arts and culture centerpiece to attract businesses, residents and visitors.
- **#1 Pipeline for the workforce of the future (Arts+Technology)**
- **59%** Of UCA Art graduates will leave Arkansas if unable to find paid job opportunities.
- **90%** Believe the arts should be taught in grades K-12 and are essential for a well-rounded education.

_Artworks by Autumn Yeager, Graphic Design for the Arkansas Arts and Corps, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette._

The creative economy is a competitive advantage for Arkansas for attracting and growing new and future talent, innovation and entrepreneurship.

**CONCLUSION from National Governors Association Study: Using Arts and Culture to Stimulate State Economic Development.**

The arts and culture have the potential to offer numerous benefits to state economies. Through the creative industries, states have an opportunity to create jobs, attract investments, generate tax revenues, and stimulate local economies through tourism and consumer purchases. In addition, creative industries are contributing to the contemporary workforce, making creative contributions to industries’ products and services, and infusing culture into community development.

States can use the arts to boost their economies in a variety of ways, from incorporating arts into economic development and community development plans to supporting arts education and promoting arts assets as boosts to cultural tourism.

By investing in the arts and incorporating arts and culture into their economic development plans, states can reap numerous benefits—economic, social, civic, and cultural—that help generate a more stable, creative workforce; new tourism; and more livable communities.

**Sources:** Richard Florida, Heartland Forward.org, and John Hawkins, The Creative Economy: “How People Make Money from Ideas” and the National Governor’s Association Study: Using Arts and Culture to Stimulate State Economic Development.
The Arkansans for the Arts Districts align with the state’s Economic Development & Planning Districts & Arkansas Arts Council Districts

Arkansas Economic Development & Planning Districts

ARKANSAS STATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING DISTRICTS

Arkansas Planning & Development District
Counties: Faulkner, Lonoke, Monroe, Prairie, Pulaski, Saline
902 North Center St. / P.O. Box 300
Lonoke, Arkansas 72085
Phone: 501-970-2751
Website: http://www.epdd.org/

East Arkansas Planning & Development District
Counties: Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Greene, Lawrence, Lee, Mississippi, Phillips, Poinsett, Randolph, St. Francis
2055 King St / P.O. Box 1463
Jonesboro, Arkansas 72403
Phone: 870-932-3657
Website: http://www.epdd.com/

Northwest Arkansas Economic Development District
Counties: Benton, Boone, Carroll, Crawford, Franklin, Madison, Marion, Newton, Sebastian, Washington
818 Hwy 82/45 412 North / P.O. Box 180 Central
Harroom, Arkansas 72001
Phone: 870-741-5404
Website: http://nwaedc.org/

Southeast Arkansas Economic Development District
Counties: Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Cleveland, Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, Lincoln
721 S. Wall Dr / P.O. Box 9905
Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71611
Phone: 870-536-1971
Website: http://southeastarkansas.org/

Southwest Arkansas Planning & Development District
Counties: Calhoun, Columbia, Dallas, Hempstead, Howard, Lafayette, Little River, Miller, Nevada, Ouachita, Sevier, Union
P.O. Box 767
Magnolia, Arkansas 71753
Phone: 870-234-4001
Website: https://www.facebook.com/SouthwestPlanning/

West Central Arkansas Planning & Development District
Counties: Clark, Conway, Garland, Hot Springs, Johnson, Montgomery, Perry, Pike, Pope, Yell
835 Central Avenue, Suite 201 / P.O. Box 21100
Hot Springs, AR 71903
Phone: 501-225-7577
Website: http://www.wcpdd.org/

Western Arkansas Planning & Development District
Counties: Crawford, Franklin, Logan, Polk, Scott, Sebastian
P.O. Box 200
Fort Smith, AR 72901
Phone: 479-785-2551
Website: http://www.wapdd.org/

White River Planning & Development District
Counties: Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren, White, Woodruff
1852 White Dr / P.O. Box 2396
Batesville, Arkansas 72503
Phone: 870-739-5253
Website: http://www.wrpdd.org/

Arkansas Legislative Arts Caucus

Bi-partisan caucus open to all legislators

District 1
Representative Denise Garner
Senator Scott Fitto
Senator Jim Hendren
Senator Bart Hester
Senator Greg Little

District 2
Senator Maxy Irvin
Representative Craig Christopherson

District 3
Representative Monte Hodges
Representative Deborah Ferguson
Senator Ron Caldwell

District 4
Representative Mark Barks
Senator Matt Pitsch

District 5
Representative Les Warren
Senator Breanne Davis

District 6
Senator Joyce Elliot
Representative Carlton Wing
Representative Jamie Scott
Representative Tippie McCullough
Representative Regina Murdock
Senator Will Bond
Senator Linda Chesterfield

District 7
Representative Carol Day
Representative Mathew Shepherd
Senator Larry Teague

District 8
Representative Vivian Flowers
Senator Keith Ingram

*Legislative Arts Caucus Founder

Arkansas State Representative Districts

Arkansas State Senator Districts

DISTRICT MAPS

ARKANSANS FOR THE ARTS

Note that they differ from legislative districts. Arkansans for the Arts is built on this statewide model of representation.
Regional Tourism Associations

Arkansas Delta Byways  
c/o ASU-Jonesboro  
P.O. Box 2050  
State University, AR 72467  
PH: (870) 972-2803 FAX: (870) 972-3201  
www.deltabyways.com

Arkansas's Great Southwest Association  
P.O. Box 1006  
Hope, AR 71802-1006  
PH: (870) 777-7500 or (800) 223-4673  
FAX: (870) 722-2533  
www.agsw.org

Arkansas’ Land of Legends Travel Association  
110 North Pine Street (71601)  
P.O. Box 8768  
Pine Bluff, AR 71611  
PH: (870) 536-8742; FAX: (870) 536-8826  
www.ARLandofLegends.com

Arkansas River Valley Tri-Peaks Region  
301 W Walnut St  
Paris, AR 72855  
PH: (479) 963-2244  
www.arvtripeaks.com

Arkansas' South Tourism Association  
P.O. Box 10245  
El Dorado, AR 71730  
PH: (870) 863-4722  
CELL: (870) 315-2308  
www.arkansassouth.com

Diamond Lakes Association  
P.O. Box 6090  
Hot Springs, AR 71902  
PH: (501) 321-1700; FAX: (501) 321-3551  
www.hotsprings.org

Greers Ferry Lake/Little Red River Association  
P.O. Box 494  
Greers Ferry, AR 72067  
PH: (844) 939-7567  
www.visitgreersferrylake.org

Heart of Arkansas Travel Association  
P.O. Box 1958  
Little Rock, AR 72203  
PH: (501) 833-3068  
FAX: (501) 835-3311  
www.heartofarkansas.com

Northwest Arkansas Tourism Association  
P.O. Box 2865  
Bentonville, AR 72712  
PH: (479) 521-5776  
http://www.northwestarkansas.org/

Ozark Gateway Tourist Council  
2200 Harrison Street, Suite A (72501)  
P.O. Box 4049  
Batesville, AR 72503  
PH: (870) 793-9316 or (800) 264-0316  
www.ozarkgateway.com

Ozark Mountain Region  
P.O. Box 1080  
Flippin, AR 72634  
PH: (870) 404-2741  
www.ozarkmountainregion.com

Western Arkansas' Mountain Frontier  
612 Garrison  
P.O. Box 1668  
Fort Smith, AR 72902  
PH: (479) 783-3111; FAX: (479) 783-6110  
http://www.visitwestarkansas.com