

WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN ARKANSAS



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



\$270.8 B Agriculture & Forestry



\$457.4 B Mining

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.

ARKANSAS ARTS FACTS

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

2.1% State's GDP **33,243** Jobs



\$3.5 BILLION Arts & Culture



\$5 B Agriculture & Forestry



\$980 M Mining

The Arkansas arts and culture sector was a **\$3.5 billion industry** in **2022** (2.1% of the state's GDP), representing **33,243 jobs** (2.5% of Arkansas' workforce), and total compensation of **\$1.9 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.

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

Statewide

\$306.4 M Economic activity annually

4,800 Jobs supported by economic activity

In 2022, the impact of this economic activity generated **\$49.4 million** in total tax revenue to federal, state, and local governments.

91.6% of audiences agreed with the statement "This arts activity/venue is inspiring a sense of pride in this neighborhood or community"

85.6% 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, Arkansas.

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 ARKANSAS ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

State Appropriation FY24 **\$1,425,904**

NEA State Grant FY24 **\$821,300**

12 NEA Direct Grants FY23 **\$1,063,800**

Source: NEA & NASAA, 2024

As of 3/25/2024

ARKANSAS ARTS HIGHLIGHTS

IN THE NATURAL STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US AS ARKANSANS



Crystal Bridges is the world's premier art museum dedicated to American art. Attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors each year, the extraordinary artworks, collected by Walmart heiress Alice Walton, is housed in an architectural wonder designed by Moshe Safdie.

THE ARKANSAS ARTS COUNCIL

Established in 1966, the Arkansas Arts Council advances and empowers the arts by providing services and funding for programming that encourages and assists artists in achieving standards of professional excellence. The Arkansas Arts Council also provides technical and financial assistance to Arkansas arts organizations and other providers of cultural and educational programs.

Secretary of Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism:
Shea Lewis



Learn more [here](#).

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

- Arkansas the Natural State lists small arts towns with marvelous arts and craft work [here](#).
- Find out about craft fairs in northwest Arkansas [here](#).
- For the lowdown on arts festivals and county fairs, go to [festivals4fun.org](#).

For a list of arts centers and nonprofit associations go to [CouncilforArtsEducation.org/Arkansas](#)

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra
[arkansassymphony.org](#)

ARKANSANS FOR THE ARTS' purpose is to serve the people of Arkansas as an independent statewide organization providing leadership focused on the promotion and advancement of the creative economy, on transforming policy in arts education, and uniting the state into one voice with a call to action by policy makers to increase investment in the arts.

Executive Director: Hana Mariah Hatta
Chair: Jean Lacefield



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

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE

- In **Little Rock**, the Arkansas Art Center offers art classes, art exhibitions, children's theater, lectures, and tours. An extensive permanent collection features 20th-century and contemporary drawings.
- Arts events in **Rogers** range from Broadway-style productions at Arkansas Public Theatre to traveling exhibitions at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. Also take in exhibitions at Ed Cooley Gallery and shows by the local Trike Theatre, featuring talented local youths. In **Bentonville**, you will find the [Museum of Native American History](#). Here you can see works of art divided between the five eras of Native American History.
- Hot Springs Music Festival** takes place every summer in the Ouachita Mountains of West Central Arkansas. The festival brings together 20 concerts and 250 open rehearsals over a two-week period. Hot Springs National Park is an artistic haven, with over 30 fine art galleries, hundreds of resident artists and home to a celebrated annual documentary film festival.
- If you're in **Eureka Springs** in mid-June, you can catch the Eureka Springs Blues Weekend.
- In **Fort Smith**, catch a festival that's been called "The Best Little Bluesfest in America."
- El Dorado's** Murphy Arts District hosts its annual three day [Musicfest](#) in October.
- In **Fayetteville**, visit the [Walton Art Center](#), which hosts many touring companies of Broadway shows. The Fayetteville Underground in the Historic Downtown Square has a new gallery and adjoining studio spaces.
- The King Biscuit Blues Festival** attracts hundreds of thousands of people from all over the world to the banks of the Mississippi River in **Helena**.

3/6/2024



JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!

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VISIT US: ArtsActionFund.org

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