WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN CALIFORNIA

NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

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

4.4% Nation’s GDP

$1.016 TRILLION Arts & Culture

$945.3 B Construction

$378.4 B Utilities

The national arts and culture sector was a $1.016 trillion industry in 2021 (4.4% of the nation’s GDP), representing 4.85 million jobs (3.2% of nation’s workforce), and total compensation of $504.2 billion.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Endowment for the Arts, 2023 (2021 data collected during the pandemic)

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

National

$166.3 B Economic activity annually

$27.5 B Federal, state, and local government revenue generated

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

Source: Americans for the Arts, Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, 2017 (New data coming Oct 2023)

CALIFORNIA ARTS FACTS

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

7.7% State’s GDP

$261 BILLION Arts & Culture

$124.6 B Construction

$38.3 B Agriculture & Forestry

The California arts and culture sector was a $261 billion industry in 2021 (7.7% of the state's GDP), representing 742,432 jobs (4.1% of California's workforce), and total compensation of $125 billion.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, 2023 (2021 data collected during the pandemic)

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

Statewide

$507.4 B Economic activity annually

Performing and Fine Arts are not recovering as quickly and employment is almost 20% below 2018 levels (pre-pandemic) in California.

Source: 2022 Otis College Report on the Creative Economy

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Federal Appropriation FY23 $207 Million

SBA SVO Grants FY21-22 $13 Billion

Congress allocated $207 million to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in FY23. 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, 2023.

PUBLIC FUNDING RECEIVED FOR CALIFORNIA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

2021-22 Historic Relief Funding to California office of small business advocate CAL-OSBA $150 Million Live Venues Grant Program; $50 million museum grant program, $49.5 million Non Profit performing arts $50 million cultural institution.

2021-22 Single largest appropriation to California Arts Council: $60 million CA Creative Corps

2022-2023: $30 million Cultural Districts Program; $25 million Arts in Parks

November 2022: Prop 28 passes. Historic Ballot measure to allocate approximately $1 Billion to arts education annually

Source: NEA, NASAA, and California Arts Council, 2023
In California, the arts foster real solutions that are deeply needed in society today.

The California Council on the Arts
The mission of the California Arts Council, a state agency, is to advance California through the arts and creativity. Since its founding in 1976, the Arts Council has awarded more than 32,000 grants with a total investment of approximately $400 million.

Executive Director: Anne Bown-Crawford
Chair: Lilia Gonzales Chavez

Create CA
Create CA advocates for high-quality arts education for all students by providing policy expertise and mobilizing a statewide network of advocates and allied partners.

Executive Director: Tom DeCaigny
Chair: Jeannine Flores

California for the Arts
California for the Arts mission is to ensure that the arts are accessible to all Californians; are an ongoing part of the public dialogue and to encourage Californians to care about the arts as a critical component of their own lives and the lives of their communities. We fight for arts resources and policies that benefit our members and all residents of California. Our work and support of civic engagement, arts education, cultural equity and the creative economy, positively impacts every community across the state. Est. 2007

Executive Director: Julie Baker
Chair: Ron P. Muriera

The Arts Now program is a statewide network of arts education advocates who participate in professional development and local arts education coalition building and is a program of Create CA. The goal is to increase public funding for, access to, and participation in arts education, regardless of zip code, race, gender, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status. Arts Now programs are in 43 communities and 26 counties across CA.

California is innovative in its use of the arts to solve social issues. For example, through the Arts in Corrections program, a partnership between the California Department of Corrections And Rehabilitation (CDCR) and the California Arts Council, 22 organizations are working in 34 correctional facilities across the state. Additionally the California Arts Council’s JUMP start program is serving incarcerated youth in the juvenile system, and Reentry Through the Arts programs are supported by their Impact Project grants.

Based in Fresno, with service statewide, The Alliance for California Traditional Arts provides arts programming focused on the underserved field of traditional arts, rooted in cultural heritage and community-based practice. Expressions such as Native American beadwork, storytelling, song writing, African drumming, and American folk guitar and guitar ranchera are intended as familiar and culturally relevant art forms for participants.

Destination Crenshaw is the largest reparative Black art and economic revival program in the country. Ultimately, the project will commission more than 100 works by Black artists who have strong ties to Los Angeles, creating a pipeline of work and jobs for emerging, seasoned and internationally renowned artists. Destination Crenshaw is building community spaces, planting 800 new trees, investing in local businesses, and creating local jobs. When completed in the summer of 2023, Destination Crenshaw’s innovative vision will be a testament to the past, present, and future of LA’s Black community.

California Cultural Districts highlight the cultural legacy of our state’s most valuable resource—its diversity. From larger, urban areas to uncharted rural locations, each district helps grow and sustain authentic arts and culture opportunities, increase the visibility of local artists, and promote socio-economic and ethnic diversity through culture and creative expression. 14 districts serve as California’s inaugural state designated Cultural Districts, highlighting some of the thriving cultural diversity and unique artistic identities within local communities across California.