

SUPPORT FOR ARTS EDUCATION

Supporting lifelong learning in the arts is a top priority for state arts agencies. By supporting arts education in the schools, state arts agencies foster young imaginations, address core academic standards, and promote the critical thinking and creativity skills essential to a 21st century work force. State arts agencies also support after-school/out-of-school arts programs, early childhood arts learning, the arts in higher education and many programs that teach the arts to adults and seniors. To achieve these diverse arts education goals, state arts agency grants and services take many forms.

- Grant funding:** State arts agencies invest more than \$71 million in arts education. More than a third of all state arts agency grants (over 8,800 grants) have a significant arts education component. These grants support a wide range of activities, including performances, exhibitions, residencies (both school and non-school), instruction, and curriculum development. Other types of grants support the design of assessment and evaluation tools and fund professional development programs. About 15% of arts education grants awarded are in the form of operating support—flexible dollars that can be used to support operations in accordance with an organization’s specific needs.

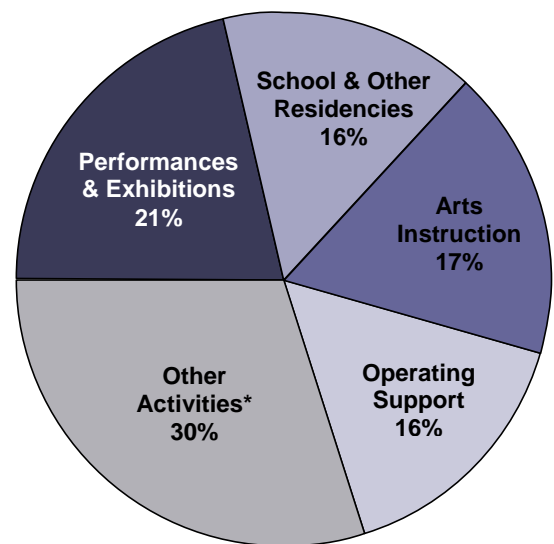
Grant dollars awarded:	\$71,782,799
Share of all SAA grant dollars:	30%
Number of grants awarded:	8,881
Share of all SAA grants:	40%
Number of communities receiving an SAA grant for arts education:	2,904

- Services:** State arts agencies provide extensive training and services to complement grant programs. Some services are geared toward teaching artists and arts organizations, offering training focused on classroom management or teaching techniques. Others are tailored to schools and educators, to help them connect with resident teaching artists, provide training on how to use artists in educational settings, or illustrate how the arts can integrate with other core subjects and advance educational outcomes.

- Research:** State arts agencies lead state-level efforts to assess and monitor the status and condition of K-12 arts education. In conjunction with other partners, state arts agencies also encourage high quality, evidence based research; ensure that research is designed to inform policy; and communicate research results to decision makers and the public.

- Partnerships and collaborations:** State arts agencies cultivate program and policy collaborations with many different partners. These partners include state departments of education, statewide arts education networks, statewide arts advocacy organizations, after-school alliances, institutions of higher education and teacher associations.

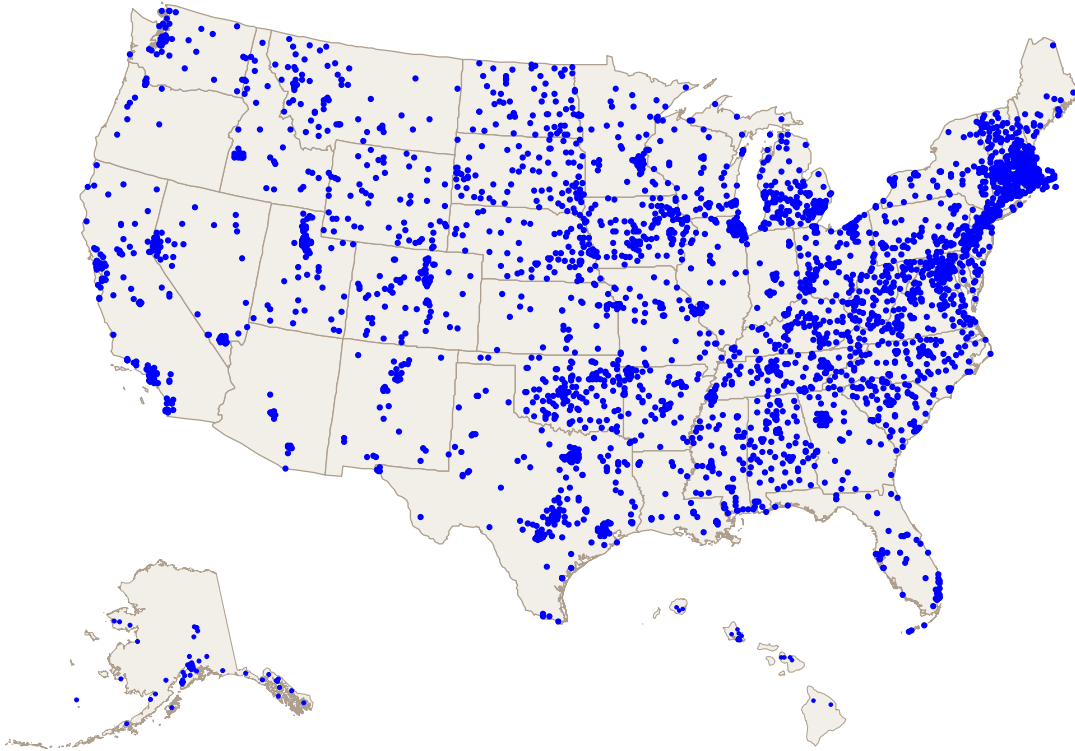
Arts Education Activities Funded by State Arts Agencies



* Other activities include professional development, festivals, commissions, apprenticeships, curriculum development, etc.

For a concise summary of research on arts education for children, see [Critical Evidence: How the Arts Benefit Student Achievement](#). For state-by-state information about state arts agency arts education programs, consult the [SAA Arts Education Profiles](#).

State Arts Agency Grants for Arts Education Grant Award Sites



Symbols indicate ZIP codes of at least one (and sometimes more than one) grant award recipient.

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

The National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) represents the nation's state and jurisdictional arts agencies and serves as a clearinghouse for data and research about public funding and the arts. This report draws on data from state arts agencies' final descriptive reports of grant-making activity submitted annually to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and NASAA. NASAA's collection of grant-making statistics is supported in part through a cooperative agreement with the NEA. For more information on the work of state arts agencies, call 202.347.6352, email nasaa@nasaa-arts.org or visit www.nasaa-arts.org.

National Assembly of
State Arts Agencies
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