

National Endowment for the Arts
Arts Investment Fact Sheet
March 2021

National Endowment for the Arts Appropriations

- Each **\$1 in National Endowment for the Arts grant funds leverages another \$9** from other public and private sources, resulting in \$500 million in matching support.
- The \$167.5 million budget of the National Endowment for the Arts represents just **0.0035%** (less than four thousandths of one percent) of the federal budget.

Everyone Benefits

- The National Endowment for the Arts (Arts Endowment) has an exemplary partnership with states. **Forty percent** of all Arts Endowment program funds—approximately \$49.2 million in fiscal year 2019—are distributed through state arts agencies and regional arts organizations.
- In combination with approximately [\\$402.4 million in state appropriations](#), **the federal-state partnership supports more than [27,000 grants in over 7,600 communities](#) across the United States.**
- Combined, Arts Endowment and state arts agency grant awards **reach all 435 federal congressional districts.**
- **The arts reach rural areas.** States use Arts Endowment and state legislative funds together to address the unique needs of rural areas. [Twenty-three percent](#) of state arts agency grants go to rural communities. Even larger proportions of grants and grant dollars go to rural areas in states with larger rural populations.
- Arts Endowment funding benefits **economically distressed communities.** Forty-two percent of activities supported by the Arts Endowment take place in high-poverty neighborhoods.

Return on Investment

- **The arts are a positive investment.** [The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis](#) reports that [arts and cultural production contributes more than \\$919.7 billion](#) to the nation's economy. This equates to **4.3% of GDP**, which is greater than construction (\$892.7 billion) or transportation (\$696.7 billion).

- **The arts create jobs.** Arts and culture support [5.2 million wage and salary workers](#) and many more independent jobs.
- **The arts create resilient economies that can recover quickly.** [The arts and culture sector can improve—not merely reflect—the health of the broader economy](#). The arts offer economic diversification, which can help communities more rapidly recover from economic downturns.
- **The arts strengthen education.** [Research confirms](#) that the arts cultivate young imaginations and [facilitate success](#) in school, [improving emotional intelligence](#) and enhancing students' [academic achievement in multiple subject areas](#). The benefits of an arts education are [particularly important for at-risk youth](#).
- **The arts have positive health outcomes, especially for military service members.** The [Arts Endowment's Creative Forces](#) initiative now has clinical sites at 13 military bases and 10 community connection sites throughout the country. In 2020, Creative Forces supported approximately **23,000 encounters** and treated **more than 4,000 patients**.

National Endowment for the Arts Funding to Mississippi: What's at Stake

- In its fiscal year 2020, the Arts Endowment provided **\$846,600 in Partnership Agreement funds to the Mississippi Arts Commission**. These critical funds are used in conjunction with state legislative dollars to support grants and services across the state of Mississippi.
- An additional **\$441,100 was distributed to the Mississippi Arts Commission** through the Arts Endowment from the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). These emergency funds were used to support much-needed relief grants for constituents across the state.
- Arts Endowment and state funds **enabled the Mississippi Arts Commission not only to award 213 grants totaling \$1,387,202** in its fiscal year 2019, but also to provide nongrant services to arts organizations, community groups, schools and artists. These grants and services supported access to the arts, jobs, arts education, community well-being and the cultural heritage of the state.
- The Arts Endowment also awards grants directly to arts organizations in each state. In its fiscal year 2020, the **Arts Endowment made 6 direct grants totaling \$140,000 in Mississippi**. In addition to these grants, the **Arts Endowment made 5 direct grants using CARES Act funding in Mississippi totaling \$250,000 dollars**.

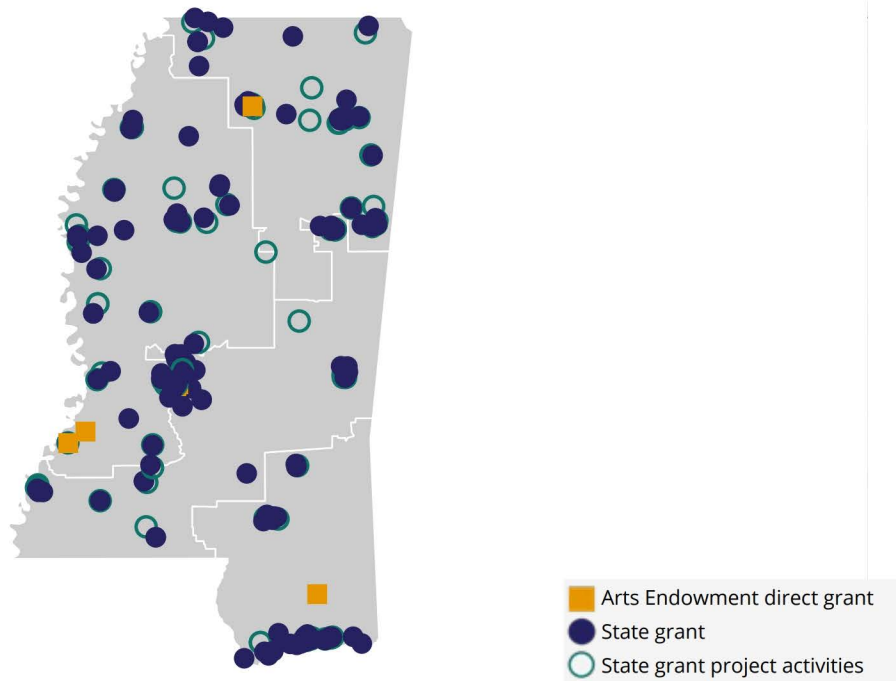
National Endowment for the Arts and Mississippi Arts Commission Grants

In 2019, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Mississippi Arts Commission have awarded grants in every congressional district and 41 counties in Mississippi, totaling \$1,527,202.

Grants and Project Activities

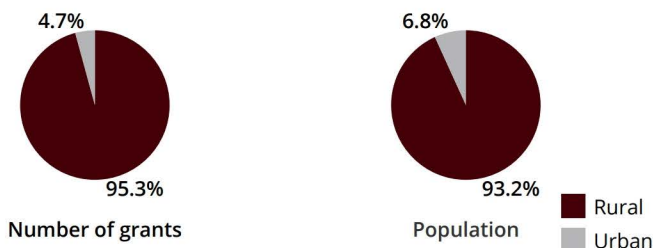
Arts Endowment Direct Grant Making		State Arts Agency Grant Making		Number of project activities
Number of grants	Grant dollars	Number of grants	Grant dollars	
6	\$140,000	213	\$1,387,202	201

Grants and Project Activities by Congressional District

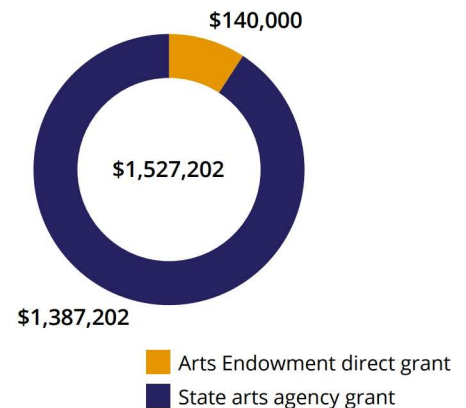


Serving Rural Communities

95.3% of Arts Endowment and Mississippi Arts Commission grants (98.8% of federal and state arts agency grant dollars) went to rural counties in Mississippi in 2019, and Arts Endowment and Mississippi Arts Commission grants reached 34 rural counties.



Arts Endowment and State Grant Making



Sources: NASAA, State Arts Agency Final Descriptive Reports, FY2019; National Endowment for the Arts direct grants, FY2020; US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2019. Geographical boundaries represent U.S. congressional districts for the 117th United States Congress.