

WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN MASSACHUSETTS



NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

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

4.4% Nation's GDP **4.85M** Jobs

\$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)

MASSACHUSETTS ARTS FACTS

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

4.2% State's GDP **135,181** Jobs

\$27.2 BILLION Arts & Culture

\$27.2 B Retail

\$23.7 B Construction

\$10 B Transportation

The Massachusetts arts and culture sector was a **\$27.2 billion industry** in **2021** (4.2% of the state's GDP), representing **135,181 jobs** (3.7% of Massachusetts' workforce), and total compensation of **\$15.6 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

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)

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

Statewide

\$ 2.3 B Economic activity annually

\$159 M State and local government revenue generated

Audiences of **29,741,228** people added another **\$879.6 million** in related spending for 2015.

Source: Americans for the Arts, [Arts & Economic Prosperity 5, Massachusetts reports 2017](#)

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](#).

View the Top 10 Reasons to Support the Arts [HERE](#)

PUBLIC FUNDING RECEIVED FOR MASS ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

\$60.1 M in one-time state pandemic recovery relief dollars

\$23.4 M from the FY23 state budget to support Mass Cultural Council programs and services

\$10 M in the FY23 Capital Spending Plan directed to the Cultural Facilities Fund

\$5 M in state casino gaming tax revenues directed to the Gaming Mitigation Program

In FY23, Mass Cultural Council anticipates approving approximately **7,000** grant awards, totaling nearly **\$100 M**, across all grant programs.

Source: [Massachusetts Cultural Council, 2023](#)

MASSACHUSETTS ARTS HIGHLIGHTS

IN THE BAY STATE, THE ARTS UNITE US



The public place-making project “Beyond Walls” in downtown Lynn brought together diverse communities including Puerto Rican, Cambodian, and Dominican residents while the project generated new economic activity.

MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL,

an independent state arts agency, is charged with bolstering the Commonwealth’s creative and cultural sector. Our efforts advance economic vitality, support transformational change, and celebrate, preserve, and inspire creativity across all Massachusetts communities. Mass Cultural Council pursues this mission through a broad range of programs, services, advocacy, and the equitable investment of public resources.

Executive Director: Michael J. Bobbitt
Chair: Nina Fialkow



Learn more [here](#).

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

- Western Massachusetts Scenic Byways can guide you to fabulous music, theater, and arts festivals [here](#).
- MassVacation list venues for great arts and culture throughout the state [here](#).
- CultureTrip can point you towards ten of the best art galleries in Boston [here](#).

The Cultural Equity Learning Community
www.culturalequitylc.org

New England Museum Association
www.nemanet.org

Massachusetts Art Education Association (MAEA) www.massarted.com

MASSCreative

advocates for a well-resourced and equitable creative sector that is essential to the economic and civic vibrancy of Massachusetts. Working with its organizational and individual members, MASSCreative advances the public policy, grassroots advocacy learning, and cross-sector alliances necessary to creating a Commonwealth where art, culture, and creativity are a valued part of everyday life. The organization was founded in 2012.

Executive Director: Emily Ruddock
Chair: Kara Elliott-Ortega



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

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE

- Recognizing the creative sector as an asset in economic development and community-building, the Commonwealth has established **45 cultural districts**. The destinations below represent only a few of the Commonwealth’s cultural offerings.
- In western Massachusetts, see the famous illustrations of the Norman Rockwell Museum in **Stockbridge**, which is near many art galleries in **Adams, Pittsfield**, and **Barrington**. Novelist Edith Wharton’s former estate and lovely gardens are worth a visit in nearby Lenox. The Barrington State Company produces first-rate musicals in Pittsfield. And the Berkshires also has the Berkshire Opera Festival, the Berkshire Playwrights Lab, the Berkshire Theater Group, Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival, and Tanglewood’s amazing schedule of popular and classical music.
- Head east, to **Northampton**, where its Paradise City Cultural District offers

performance venues, museums, galleries, and shops. Visit the Emily Dickinson Museum in nearby **Amherst**, along with the Mead Art Museum, and the UMass Fine Arts Center.

- **Springfield** is the birthplace of basketball and beloved children’s author Dr. Seuss. It is also the home to the Dr. Seuss National Memorial Sculpture Garden, Springfield Symphony Orchestra, CityStage, and the Community Music School.
- The **Worcester** Art Museum’s collection span 51 centuries of Art. The town has many colorful murals, the Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts, and the Worcester County Light Opera Company.
- In the heart of the **Boston** neighborhood, Roxbury, Hibernian Hall offers year-round programming that reflects the cultural heritage of the neighborhood.

- ICA’s Watershed in **East Boston** is a seasonal exhibit space for contemporary art. During the pandemic, it became a food distribution site to address a direct need in the community. A national model of creative youth development, Artists for Humanity employs teens to make art for business clients. On Boston’s famed Avenue of the Arts, Symphony Hall is the venue for America’s favorite orchestra, the Boston Symphony.
- To the southeast, in **New Bedford**, the town’s namesake Symphony Orchestra is one of the oldest regional orchestras in the U.S. The former whaling center has a whaling museum, of course, and many art galleries, the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center, and Your Theater, Inc., a community theater group.

See the [press release](#) announcing the **Mass pandemic recovery grants for both individuals and organizations**.

3/22/2023



JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND **FOR FREE TODAY!**

E-MAIL US: ArtsActionFund@artsusa.org

VISIT US: ArtsActionFund.org

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