

WHY THE ARTS MATTER IN ALASKA



NATIONAL ARTS FACTS

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

4.24% Nation's GDP **5.4 M** Jobs

\$1.17 TRILLION Arts & Culture

\$274.2 B Agriculture & Forestry

\$446.5 B Utilities

The national arts and culture sector was a **\$1.17 trillion industry** in **2023** (4.24% of the nation's GDP), representing **5.4 million jobs** (3.35% of nation's workforce), and total compensation of **\$553.9 billion**.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Endowment for the Arts (2025). Data collected for 2023.

ALASKA ARTS FACTS

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

2.15% State's GDP **13,291** Jobs

\$1.5 BILLION Arts & Culture

\$499 M Agriculture & Forestry

\$1.06 B Utilities

The Alaska arts and culture sector was a **\$1.5 billion industry** in **2023** (2.15% of the state's GDP), representing **13,291 jobs** (3.73% of Alaska's workforce), and total compensation of **\$1.03 billion**.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis & National Endowment for the Arts (2025). Data collected for 2023.

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.

Source: Americans for the Arts (2023). [Arts & Economic Prosperity 6](#).

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NON-PROFIT ARTS & CULTURE INDUSTRY AND AUDIENCES

Fairbanks North Star Borough, AK

\$45.6 M Economic activity annually

701 Jobs supported by economic activity

In 2022, the impact of this economic activity generated **\$4.6 million** in total tax revenue to federal, state, and local governments.

Source: Americans for the Arts, 2023. [Arts & Economic Prosperity 6](#), Fairbanks North Star Borough, AK.

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Federal Appropriation FY25 **\$207 Million**

Congress allocated **\$207 million** to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for FY25, maintaining level funding through a **Continuing Resolution (CR)**. 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](#), 2025.

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

PUBLIC FUNDING RECEIVED FOR ALASKA ARTS & CULTURE SECTOR

State Appropriation FY25 **\$917,200**

NEA State Grant FY25 **\$878,797**

NEA Direct Grants FY24 **\$520,000**

Source: [NEA](#), [SBA](#), [NASAA](#), 2025

6/4/2025

ALASKA ARTS HIGHLIGHTS

IN THE LAST FRONTIER THE ARTS UNITE US AS ALASKANS



The biggest state with the fewest people needs the arts to bring people together. The arts support the collaboration of many nonprofit organizations serving the many diverse communities of the state.

THE ALASKA STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

represents, supports and advances the creative endeavors of individuals, organizations and agencies throughout Alaska. The Council works in concert with the Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation (AACF), which was established in 2001. The AACF provides funding for some of the Council's projects.

Executive Director: Andrea Noble



[Learn more here.](#)

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT

- Check out the many arts centers and community festivals, including the Spenard Jazz Fest [here](#).
- Plan a cultural trip among the art galleries and museums [here](#).
- Discover how the state is rich in art and crafts created by indigenous communities [here](#).

Juneau Arts & Humanities Council
www.jahc.org

Denali Arts Council
www.denaliartscouncil.org

ALASKA ARTS EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

The Alaska Arts Education Consortium (AAEC) is non-profit partnership of school districts, organizations, agencies and individuals committed to preparing and supporting educators. AAEC advances teaching and learning in and through the arts across Alaska.

Executive Director: Barbara Short
Co-Chairs: Robin Child & Peggy Azuyak



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

THE ARTS ARE EVERYWHERE

- In **Anchorage**, the Anchorage Museum tells the story of the North—a story that weaves social, political, cultural, scientific, historic and artistic threads. Explore the full diversity of Alaska Native cultures, including masterworks of Alaska Native art and design from the collections of the Smithsonian Institution.
- Go south to **Seward**, and you can take in the Seward Music and Arts Festival with fabulous art, live music, and dance performances. Local Alaskan artisans and food vendors are featured. It is a family-oriented festival with children's activities and artist's projects throughout the weekend; including the creation of a mural-in-a-day by members of the Seward Mural Society.
- Further down the coast in **Ketchikan**, timed for the winter holidays, the Ketchikan Arts & Humanities Council's Winter Arts Faire showcases the creations of local artists, which make for great gifts. More than 80 artists exhibit their work here, so you could easily fill all of your holiday wish lists with local, handmade gifts.
- Up in **Fairbanks**, you can take a riverboat tour that combines colorful river history, Alaska Native traditions and the beauty of Alaska's Interior. Alaskan culture bearers will share their culture as you stroll through an Athabaskan village. The Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival offers over 200 workshops and 100 performances held all over Interior

Alaska in music, visual arts, dance, writing, theatre, healing arts & culinary arts.

- Way up in **Nome**, the Alappaa Film Festival showcases films that highlight many aspects of living in the Arctic: traditional dance and string stories, nature and climate change, scientific research, wildlife, and more. Recent selections have focused on children of the Arctic, traditional Inuit tattooing, and growing up in Alaska from indigenous perspectives.

As of 4/11/2023



JOIN THE ARTS ACTION FUND FOR FREE TODAY!

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