

AT A GLANCE

- The arts are a significant industry in Minnesota, generating more than \$1.2 billion in economic activity each year.
- Minnesota is home to more than 1,500 nonprofit arts organizations and 40,000 artists.
- Together, the Minnesota State Arts Board and the state’s 11 regional arts councils serve residents and communities in all 87 Minnesota counties.
- Activities supported by the Arts Board and the regional arts councils during the FY 2014-2015 biennium served a combined audience of nearly 24 million children and adults.

PURPOSE

The Minnesota State Arts Board stimulates and encourages the creation, performance, and appreciation of the arts. It serves as an adviser, resource, and policy maker by distributing grants and other forms of assistance for artistic activities; it also serves as the fiscal agent for legislative appropriations to eleven regional arts councils.

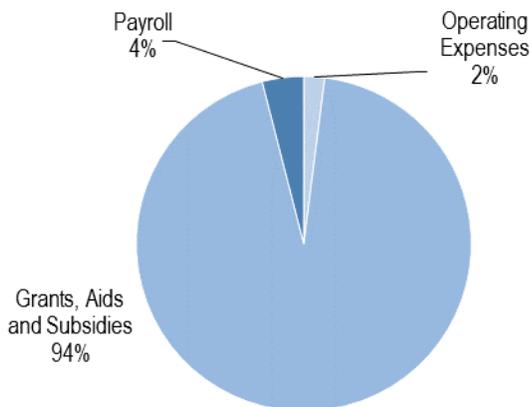
The purpose of the arts is to inspire, enlighten, connect, and challenge individuals. They give us new experiences, and help us understand and imagine the world from another person’s point of view. However, the arts also produce tremendous secondary benefits that help Minnesota achieve many of its most important public goals.

Research shows that the arts increase academic achievement. Nontraditional learners or at-risk students often become high achievers in arts learning settings; this success becomes a bridge to learning in other areas. The arts stimulate 21st century work skills, including creativity, which will be an important characteristic of jobs and the workforce of the future. Arts bring people together. Residents of a community often understand their new immigrant neighbors better after seeing a traditional play. A struggling downtown begins to “hum” with new energy on the evenings the community arts center offers a concert. Towns celebrate their identity and heritage through annual arts festivals. Artists and arts participation build social capital—the social bonds and civic engagement needed in a healthy, thriving society. As it stimulates the arts and the many benefits they provide, the Arts Board helps achieve the following statewide outcomes:

- **A thriving economy that encourages business growth and employment opportunities**
- **Minnesotans have the education and skills needed to achieve their goals**
- **Strong and stable families and communities**

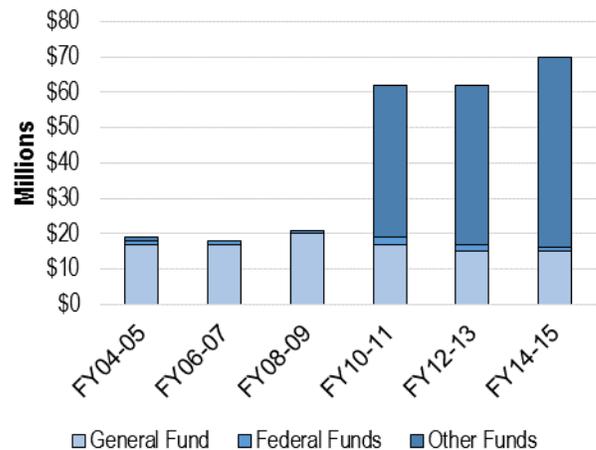
BUDGET

**Spending by Category
FY 15 Actual**



Source: BPAS

Historical Spending



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

The board receives an appropriation from the State’s general fund, and from the State’s arts and cultural heritage fund (ACHF). Proceeds of the ACHF may be spent only “for arts, arts education, and arts access and to preserve Minnesota’s history and cultural heritage.” The board also receives an annual state partnership grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

STRATEGIES

The Arts Board provides financial support and other services to enable Minnesota and its residents and communities to reap the many benefits the arts provide. To accomplish its mission, the board is pursuing the following long-term goals and strategies:

- The arts are interwoven into every facet of community life
 - Develop strategic relationships and partnerships
- Minnesotans believe the arts are vital to who we are
 - Enhance public understanding of the value of the arts
- People of all ages, ethnicities, and abilities participate in the arts
 - Fully engage with nontraditional and underrepresented participants
 - Transform everyone’s life by experiencing the arts
- People trust Minnesota’s stewardship of public arts funding
 - Provide an accountable arts support system
 - Be responsible stewards of public funds
- The arts thrive in Minnesota
 - Foster visionary, skilled arts leaders and organizations statewide
 - Ensure sufficient resources to sustain the arts and artists
 - Serve as a clearinghouse of information on best practices and successful programs

RESULTS

| <i>Type of Measure</i> | <i>Name of Measure</i> | <i>Previous</i> | <i>Current</i> | <i>Dates</i> |
|------------------------|---|-----------------|----------------|--|
| Quantity | Number of persons who benefit from funded activities | 20,563,917 | 23,664,929 | 2008-09 biennium, 2014-15 biennium (a) |
| Quantity | Percent of Minnesotans who attend arts activities | 67% | 76% | 2001, 2014 (b) |
| Quantity | Number of grant applications reviewed (top number) and grants awarded (bottom number) | 633 381 | 1,487 558 | 2009, 2015 (c) |

- a) Comparing the biennium just prior to creation of arts and cultural heritage fund to a recently completed biennium.
- b) Data source: Minnesota State Survey, University of Minnesota
- c) Comparing the fiscal year just prior to creation of arts and cultural heritage fund to a recently completed fiscal year

The Arts Board’s authorizing statute is M. S. 129D.01-129D.05 [<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=129D>].