NEA GRANTING

#savetheNEA

NEA Budget in Total Federal Appropriations

Eliminating the NEA will not balance the federal budget. The NEA receives a mere 0.004% of the total federal budget—less than half of one hundredth of one percent.

0.004% →

Populations Served



25% of the grants to rural areas



45% of the grants to arts educations projects



54% of the grants to low-income communities

Underserved rural areas, low-income communities, and schools would suffer disproportionately from reductions in government arts funding. By using a combination of state and federal funds, state arts agencies award more than 25% of their grants to rural areas, 54% to low-income communities, and 45% to arts education projects.

NEA Direct Grants to State & Regional Agencies

The NEA awards 40% of its grants to states through their state and regional arts agencies. This sending out of funds from Washington, D.C. enables local communities to address their own self-defined needs and priorities and allows decisions regarding how to allocate NEA funds to be made at the state level.

40% of grants →
allocated to
states and
regions

\$47 million in FY 2017

NEA Dollars Matching Funds

Every NEA grant dollar leverages more than \$9 in matching funds and other contributions. Loss of federal leadership for the arts will have a significant negative effect throughout the arts ecosystem.



\$9
Leverages Matching Funds

\$1	\$1	\$1
\$1	\$1	\$1
\$1	\$1	\$1



Talking Points

- 1. Eliminating the NEA would impact arts access in every state in our nation. Residents in every U.S. Congressional District benefit from NEA grants. NEA funds leverage additional support from a diverse range of private sources and stimulate arts support from businesses, foundations, and individual donors.
- 2. Through an exemplary state-federal partnership, 40% percent of the NEA's grant funds (\$47 million in FY17) are allocated to states and regions. This sending out of funds from Washington, D.C. enables local communities to address their own self-defined needs and priorities and allows decisions regarding how to allocate NEA funds to be made at the state level.
- 3. NEA programs address top policy priorities for lawmakers and citizens alike. Through its Creative Forces Military Healing Arts program, the NEA has built meaningful partnerships with the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to help heal our wounded warriors.
- 4. Underserved rural areas, low-income communities, and schools would suffer disproportionately from reductions in government arts funding. By using a combination of state and federal funds, state arts agencies award more than 25% of their grants to rural areas, 54% to low-income communities, and 45% to arts education projects.
- 5. Every NEA grant dollar leverages more than \$9 in matching funds and other contributions. Loss of federal leadership for the arts will have a significant negative effect throughout the arts ecosystem.
- 6. An entirely private arts funding model will leave many communities with limited access to arts funding. Overall philanthropic giving in the United States is geographically disproportional, with rural areas receiving a minuscule amount of foundation grant dollars.
- 7. Eliminating the NEA will not balance the federal budget. The NEA receives a mere 0.004% of the total federal budget—less than half of one hundredth of one percent.

