

Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is the independent federal agency that works to give people across America the opportunity to participate in and experience the arts. The NEA is the only funder, public or private, that provides access to the arts in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories.

DELAWARE

Nationwide, COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on the arts. Thanks to historic investments, the NEA is helping the arts and cultural sector to recover, rebuild, and reopen. In 2022:

- Arts and cultural production in Delaware added **1.3%** or **\$1.1 billion** to the state's economy.
- Delaware's arts and cultural industries employed **8,971** workers. These workers earned wages and benefits totaling over **\$0.6 billion**.

GRANTS TO THE STATE

Over a five-year period (FY 2019-2023), the NEA distributed \$9,274,986 in federal funds to grant applicant organizations in this state, either directly or through state and regional partners.

The Arts Endowment awarded **33** direct grants throughout Delaware over the past 5 years, totaling **\$6,081,338**. These direct grants included:

- A touring community production of "Twelfth Night" by William Shakespeare, presented in Spanish and English
- A touring production of "Romeo and Juliet" to non-traditional venues such as homeless shelters, criminal justice facilities, and mental health centers
- Integration of sensory-friendly resources for patrons with autism or other sensory-related disabilities and their families into seasonal programming at the Grand

NEA NATIONAL INITIATIVES IN THE STATE

In addition to offering direct grants, the NEA supports national initiatives benefiting people across the country. Over the past five years:

Blue Star Museums program provided free admission to thousands of active military personnel and their families at **26** participating museums in Delaware.

Poetry Out Loud program provided opportunities for an average of **1,099** students per year attending **41** unique high schools in Delaware to appreciate—through study, memorization, and public recitation— great poetry.

