

KENTUCKY

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 Kentucky added **2.5%** or **\$6.5 billion** to the state's economy.
- Kentucky's arts and cultural industries employed **50,526** workers. These workers earned wages and benefits totaling over **\$3.2 billion**.

GRANTS TO THE STATE

Over a five-year period (FY 2019-2023), the NEA distributed \$14,325,071 in federal funds to grant applicant organizations in this state, either directly or through state and regional partners.

The Arts Endowment awarded **140** direct grants throughout Kentucky over the past 5 years, totaling **\$9,683,483**. These direct grants included:

- The development and production of an audio play for young audiences by Denmo Ibrahim
- Voices Inside: The Northpoint Prison Writing and Performance Project
- The Appalachian Media Institute's Summer Documentary Institute, a paid media arts internship program for high school students in rural communities

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 **21** participating museums in Kentucky.

Poetry Out Loud program provided opportunities for an average of **2,263** students per year attending **45** unique high schools in Kentucky to appreciate—through study, memorization, and public recitation— great poetry.

The **NEA Big Read** program generated **262** community events focused on reading outstanding American literature and involving more than **33,274** adults and students in Kentucky.

