

## NORTH CAROLINA

**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 North Carolina added **3.1%** or **\$22 billion** to the state's economy.
- North Carolina's arts and cultural industries employed **134,245** workers. These workers earned wages and benefits totaling over **\$11.3 billion**.

## GRANTS TO THE STATE

**Over a five-year period (FY 2019-2023), the NEA distributed \$17,610,982 in federal funds to grant applicant organizations in this state, either directly or through state and regional partners.**

The Arts Endowment awarded **252** direct grants throughout North Carolina over the past 5 years, totaling **\$14,271,296**. These direct grants included:

- The annual Cuccalorus Film Festival
- Traditional music concerts and workshops at the Blue Ridge Music Center
- The American Indian Heritage Celebration and African-American Cultural Celebration

## 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 **93** participating museums in North Carolina.

**Poetry Out Loud** program provided opportunities for an average of **3,230** students per year attending **140** unique high schools in North Carolina to appreciate—through study, memorization, and public recitation— great poetry.

The **NEA Big Read** program generated **124** community events focused on reading outstanding American literature and involving more than **9,144** adults and students in North Carolina.

