

# New Mexico's State Arts Agency

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new mexico arts



Agency Overview and Rural Arts Program Initiatives  
Presented to the Economic & Rural Development & Policy Committee

September 4, 2025



# New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs

## Statewide Services

NM Arts; NM Historic Preservation Division; NM State Library; Office of Archaeological Studies

## Museums/Cultural Centers

Museum of Indian Arts & Culture; Museum of International Folk Art; National Hispanic Cultural Center; NM Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum; NM History Museum; NM Museum of Art; NM Museum of Natural History & Science; NM Museum of Space History

## Historic Sites

Bosque Redondo Memorial @ Ft. Sumner; Coronado; Ft. Selden; Ft. Stanton; Jemez; Lincoln; Los Luceros; Taylor Mesilla



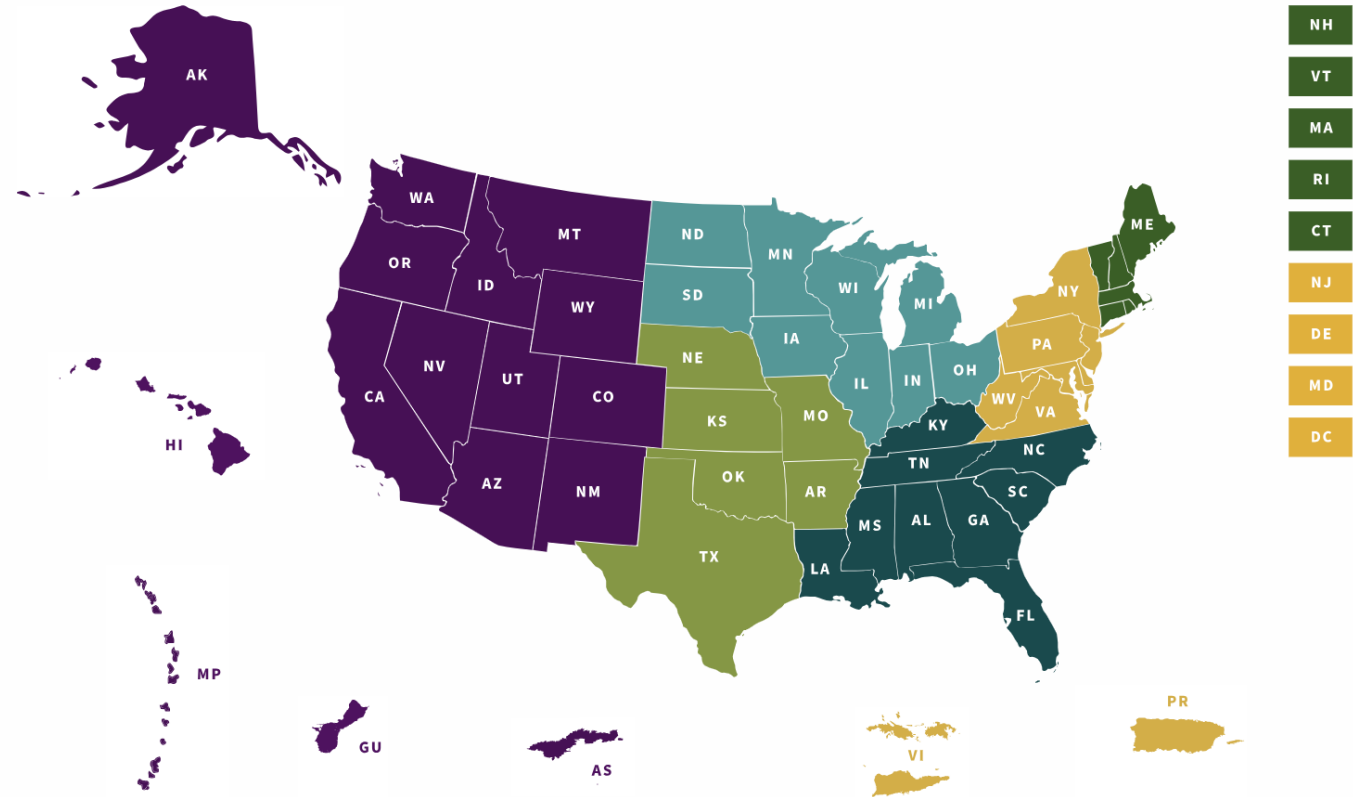
public support for the arts since 1965

# New Mexico Arts Division



- New Mexico's federally authorized state arts agency (SAA)
- Established by state statute in 1965 (Ch. 18, art. 5 NMSA 1978)

*State arts agencies were created by legislatures and governors to promote the arts and reduce barriers to cultural participation. State arts agencies ensure that every community in America receives the cultural, civic, economic, and educational benefits of the arts.*





# New Mexico Arts Programs

- Grants and Funding Opportunities
  - Arts in Social Service
  - Arts Learning In Schools
  - Community Arts
  - Traditional Folk Arts Projects
  - Folk Arts Apprentice Program
  - Arts & the Military Mini Grants
  - Colleges, Universities, and Government Entities
  - Local Arts Councils & Service Organizations
- Art in Public Places
- NM State Poet Laureate
- Poetry Out Loud
- Artist in Residence
- Governor's Arts Awards
- Arts & Cultural District Program (EDD-Mainstreet)
- DCA Coloring Book (NMSL, DCA Educators)
- State Arts Commission & NM Music Commission





# New Mexico Arts Programs



**National Arts  
& Health Day**  
July 26, 2025

#ArtsHealthDay25



## FY26 New Initiatives

- Arts & Health Pilot Program Grants
- America 250/NM 1776 (NM Semi-Quincentennial Commission)
- ACD Grant Program (CID & Mainstreet)
- Expanded Folk Arts Apprentice Program (CID)
- Route 66 Centennial (DOT)
- Route 66 Mural Project (NMHM)
- AFTACON in Albuquerque
- Santa Fe UNESCO Creative Cities 20th Anniversary
- Blue Bus Shelter Public Art Project (RTD)
- WoW Van Project (NMA & MRD)
- Public Art Task Force (CID)
- Community Kitchen (SHS & NRGNHA)



# FY25 Program Statistics

## Regular Grants Program

- \$1,170,958 in grants (57% state GF and 43% NEA)
  - 200 nonprofits and local gov't orgs & 3 folk art apprenticeships
- 33% of the funds went to 73 organizations in rural New Mexico
- 76% serve Native, Hispanic, and other historically underserved communities
- NMA grants supported 436 full-time arts jobs and 928 part-time arts jobs in the state
- Programs supported by NMA grants served more than 4,000,000 people including 780,000 children
- Over 15,000 artists participated, and more than 6,000 volunteers donated nearly 150,000 hours of their time
- In FY25, NMA investments in arts and culture leveraged more than \$40,000,000 in total cash expenditures by grant recipients



# Art in Public Places Info Session



## FY25 Program Statistics

### Art in Public Places Program (AIPP)

*Created in 1986 by state statute (Ch. 13, art. 4A NMSA 1978); 1% of state capital outlay over \$100,000 for eligible new construction or major renovation of public buildings is set aside for public art.*

- Facilitated the acquisition of **335 public artworks** a total of just under **\$2.8 million**
- Placed public artworks in **22 New Mexico counties** **19 of which are considered rural.**
- Worked with **Navajo Nation and 7 NM Pueblos** to secure public artworks for tribal government buildings.
- Through AIPP, **71 public art contracts with artists from tribal cultural backgrounds totaling \$900,050.**



## NMA Program FY25 Additional Highlights

- New Mexico Epic Poem project workshops - Poet Laureate & NMA Director traveled to 13 rural communities in 13 different counties across the state. (29 of 33 counties visited over the 3-year program.)
- 8-week free artist professional development workshop in partnership with the National Hispanic Cultural Center.
- Arts & the Military mini grants - 10 projects across the state including Otero Arts' month-long Veteran's Arts Showcase.
- Rural Artist Residence program at Los Luceros Historic Site.
- 2025 Poetry Out Loud program; state winner from Montezuma placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at the national competition in Washington DC.





# Arts & Economy in New Mexico

## ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NON-PROFIT ARTS INDUSTRY ONLY & THEIR AUDIENCES

Statewide

**\$740.9 M** Economic activity annually  
**9,381** Jobs supported by economic activity

In 2022, the impact of this economic activity generated **\$106.1 million** in total tax revenue to federal, state, and local governments.

**\$43.39** per person per event is spent by **LOCAL** attendees, not including the cost of admission.

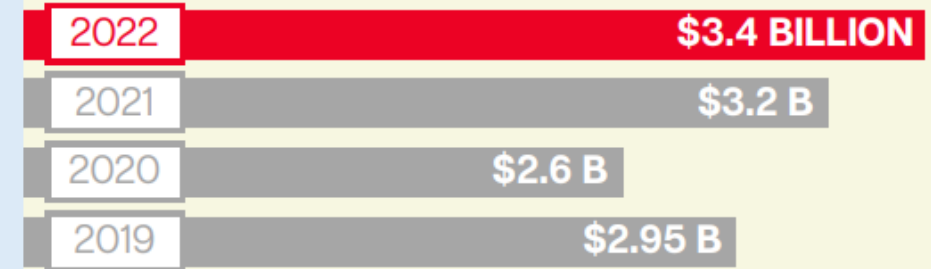
**\$121.74** per person per event is spent by **NON-LOCAL** attendees, not including the cost of admission.

Source: Americans for the Arts, 2023. [Arts & Economic Prosperity 6](#), State of New Mexico.

## NEW MEXICO ARTS FACTS

### FOR-PROFIT & NON-PROFIT ARTS & CULTURE SECTORS REPRESENT

**2.69%** State's GDP      **26,215** Jobs



The New Mexico arts and culture sector was a **\$3.4 billion** industry in **2022** (**2.69%** of the state's GDP), representing **26,215 jobs** (**2.98%** of New Mexico's workforce), and total compensation of **\$1.9 billion**.

Source: [U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis](#) & [National Assembly of State Arts Agencies](#) (2024). Data collected for 2022.

## Key Social Impact Statistics - NM

- **89.5%** of arts and culture attendees agree that the activity or venue where they were surveyed *“is inspiring a sense of pride in this neighborhood or community.”*
- **87.0%** agree that *“I would feel a great sense of loss if this activity or venue were no longer available.”*
- **82.0%** agree that the venue or facility where they were surveyed is *“an important pillar for me within my community.”*



**New Mexico Arts, with support from our many statewide, regional, and national partners, continues to serve New Mexicans in rural communities with our regular programming and multiple new initiatives for FY26.**

**Thank You!**



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