The Creative Sector and Covid-19 Relief

Arts organizations, artists, and the broader creative workforce are a powerful component to the nonprofit sector, are essential to the economy, vitality, and well-being of the communities they serve, and they must be supported by all forms of pandemic relief.

Federal Arts Policy Asks

Prior to COVID-19, the arts sector...
- Contributed $877.8 billion to the nation’s GDP
- Arts organizations, artists, and the broader creative workforce are a powerful component to the nonprofit sector, are essential to the economy, vitality, and well-being of the communities they serve, and they must be supported by all forms of pandemic relief.

Due to COVID-19...
- Directly employed 5 million workers
- Due to COVID-19...
  - Nonprofit arts organizations took a $9.1 billion loss
  - $10.4 billion loss in event-related audience spending
  - $27.5 billion in annual government revenue
  - $50 Billion lost wages by creative workers and artists

Federal Arts Policy Asks

- Provide and extend economic relief for arts organizations
- Protect artists and other workers in the gig economy
- Support ongoing creative sector activity
- Encourage communities to support and engage in the arts
- Invest in safe arts infrastructure
- Include the arts in reopening plans
- Encourage community arts support
- Provide eligibility for arts facilities in infrastructure investments to renovate, refurbish, and adapt to post-COVID-19 public health protocols.
- Use arts-based approaches to public works and community development initiatives
- Keep supporting the creative sector
- Include the arts sector in consideration of public health and workplace safety policies
- Ensure the arts are considered in business interruption insurance and liability policy discussions
- Approve substantial funding for the NEA, NEH, and IMLS as they administer COVID-19 relief
- Bolster federal funding for arts education
- Integrate provisions from the CREATE (S. 650) and PLACE (S.3232) Acts to boost creative economy workforce

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Further details on our federal policy requests to Congress are available by clicking here. Want to take action now? Click here!

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