



ARTS NC 2023 LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS

H497: \$3,500,000 increase in recurring funding for all NC Arts Council grants. Increase to \$10.8 million would equal \$1 per capita (currently \$7.3 million)

Per capita appropriation is 86¢ for NC Arts Council in FY23

- o State Agency funding **southeast regional average: \$1.13¹**
- o Florida: **\$2.74¹**, South Carolina: **\$2.19¹**, Tennessee: **\$1.45¹**, Alabama: **\$1.29¹**
- o **North Carolina is not competitive** to attract talent and businesses.

The NCGA stabilized the arts industry with investment from CARES & ARPA funds.

- o NC Arts Council awarded **62% more direct grants** in FY23 than before COVID-19².
 - o **39% of that increase** was to grantees that had **never received NCAC funding**.
 - o Many of those new grantees are from **rural and underserved communities**.
- o Increased funding is needed by FY25 to **avoid a "fiscal cliff"** and maintain responsible arts support.
- o The funding increase in FY23 **only matched rising inflation** since before the pandemic.

The North Carolina Arts & Culture sector in 2021, according to the US Bureau of Economic Analysis:

- o Generated **\$20.2 billion** (3.1% of the State GDP)
- o Supported **125,636 jobs** (\$2.6% of NC employment)
- o Provided **\$10.5 billion** in compensation.

The NC Arts Council:

- o Serves all **100 counties** supporting diverse geographies and communities.
- o Provides **industry leadership** that is crucial for support of the arts sector statewide.
- o Has **50+ years of experience** which enabled them to adapt quickly to the crisis of the last several years and administer funding, training, and expertise where needed.

H498: Provide all K-5 students with both Music and Visual Arts.

1 of every 20 K-5 public school students is not enrolled in Music and Visual Art³.

- o Local Education Agencies (LEAs) would be **directed to provide both Music and Visual Art³**:
 - o Instruction by a **certified Music/Visual Art teacher**,
 - o **For no less than 30 minutes** every five instructional days, and
 - o To no more than a **standard classroom size** for each grade level.
- o Of the more than 630,000 K-5 public school students, **96% are enrolled in Music and 94% in Visual Art³**.
- o Arts classes increase student engagement which can **improve behavior, learning loss and mental health⁴**.
- o NCGA passed **SL-2018-2** and **already provides roughly \$250 million for Program Enhancement Teachers** (Music, Visual Art, P.E., etc.) for K-5 students. (1 teacher for every 191 students)³

H136: Arts Proficiency Endorsement for High School Diplomas Passed the House 114-0. Action needed in the Senate

- o Awarded to **high school graduates** who:
 - o Complete **four art credits with a 3.0 GPA** or higher
 - o Engage in **40 hours of extra-curricular arts activities**.
- o **Low-income students** who participate in the arts throughout high school are **five times less likely to drop out and twice as likely to obtain a college degree⁵**.
- o **Creativity is considered the most important skill** for employees by 72% of business leaders.⁵
- o There is **no allocation needed** to implement the Arts Diploma Endorsement.
- o Extra-curricular arts activities may include **local arts businesses and nonprofits**.

(1) National Association of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) (2) NC Arts Council, NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (3) NC Department of Public Instruction, State Education Directors of Arts Education (SEDAE), and Quadrant Research (4) Investigating the Causal Effects of Arts Education, Daniel H. Bowen & Brian Kisida, 2022 (5) Americans for the Arts, Arts Education Navigator, Facts and Figures