



FACTS ABOUT THE OHIO ARTS COUNCIL

The Ohio Arts Council (OAC) is a state agency that provides voice and leadership through the arts to enrich lives and build vibrant, creative communities. With funds from the Ohio Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts, the OAC provides financial assistance to artists, arts organizations, schools and other entities engaged in cultural programming to strengthen Ohio culturally, educationally and economically.

The OAC board is composed of 15 voting members appointed by the governor and four non-voting members, two each from the Ohio Senate and the House of Representatives. The board is responsible for final approval of all funding requests. All board meetings are open to the public with agendas posted on the OAC website prior to each meeting.

The OAC executive director and staff members assist artists, schools and a wide range of organizations by guiding them through the application process and by working with panel consultants to arrive at the funding recommendations presented to the OAC board.

Jeffrey A. Rich was named chair of the OAC board in May 2011 by Governor John Kasich. Barbara S. Robinson, who served as chair of the board for 13 years, is chair emeritus.

Julie S. Henahan is the fifth executive director of the agency, hired by the OAC board in September 2006. Ms. Henahan is a long-tenured member of the staff with more than 27 years of experience as an arts administrator. From 1994 to 2002, Ms. Henahan served as the OAC grants office director where she was responsible for the development of all procedures and policies related to the grant review process and managed the agency's internal accounting of state and federal subsidy funds. She is currently a board member for the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, as well as a member of its National Standard Working Group.

OHIO ARTS COUNCIL BUDGET

The OAC receives biennial appropriations from the Ohio General Assembly, and in FY2012/2013 funding for the OAC is \$17,211,408. This funding represents a 30.5 percent increase over the final 2010/2011 appropriation of \$13.2 million. The agency budget is less than 1/32 of 1 percent of the total state budget of \$55.8 billion (FY2012). Based on the FY2012 budget, Ohio's annual per capita spending on the arts is just \$0.66, ranking the OAC 28th in per capita funding among the 50 states and six territories.

In FY2011, the OAC awarded \$4.6 million in grants to Ohio artists, schools and organizations producing or presenting arts programming. The OAC received \$14.7 million in requests for support, but was only able to fund 31 percent of the dollars requested. A total of 1,165 applications were submitted to the agency in FY2011, of which 623 were funded.

State Fiscal Year	Appropriated General Revenue	Biennial Total	Percent Change from Previous Biennium
2013	\$ 9,605,704		
2012	\$ 7,605,704	\$ 17,211,408	+30.5
2011	\$ 6,594,290		
2010	\$ 6,594,290	\$ 13,188,580	-38.16
2009	\$ 10,059,904		
2008	\$ 11,265,529	\$ 21,325,433	-5.1

NEA FUNDING

The OAC receives federal support from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). NEA funding for FY2013 is \$980,000. For the third year in a row, Ohio was awarded the second-largest NEA grant in the nation. Funding has been authorized by the NEA for specific programs, including the State Arts Plan, Arts Education, Arts in Underserved Communities, Folk Arts Partnership and Poetry Out Loud.

OVERVIEW OF RECENT NEA FUNDING

NEA State Arts Plan Grant FY2013	\$633,400	OAC fiscal year: July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013 Total NEA funds awarded to OAC \$980,000
Other NEA Grants to OAC FY2013	\$346,600	
NEA State Arts Plan Grant FY2012	\$690,400	OAC fiscal year: July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012 Total NEA funds awarded to OAC \$1,018,100
Other NEA Grants to OAC FY2012	\$327,700	
NEA State Arts Plan Grant FY2011	\$728,200	OAC fiscal year: July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011 Total NEA funds awarded to OAC \$1,141,600
Other NEA Grants to OAC FY2011	\$413,400	
NEA State Arts Plan Grant FY2010	\$731,900	OAC fiscal year: July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010 Total NEA funds awarded to OAC \$1,377,000*
Other NEA Grants to OAC FY2010	\$645,100	
NEA State Arts Plan Grant FY2009	\$689,800	OAC fiscal year: July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009 Total NEA funds awarded to OAC \$971,500
Other NEA Grants to OAC FY2009	\$281,700	

* includes one-time funds from the NEA through the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009*.

IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC FUNDING

An important feature of OAC funding is that most grants are awarded on a matching basis. That means arts council funding (public dollars) must be matched on a 1:1 basis by other resources—public or private—thus requiring organizations to leverage new sources of income that results in a broadening of their bases of financial support, addressing local needs, and expanding the reach and impact of state arts funding across Ohio. OAC grants are matched by \$84 to every one OAC dollar (FY2011).

The OAC offers support through a wide range of programs for organizations and individuals, including the Arts Learning programs of Arts Partnership, Artist in Residence and Artist Express, and the Individual Artist programs of Individual Excellence, Traditional Arts Apprenticeships and Artists with Disabilities Access. The Project Support program supports new organizational applicants as well as innovative Creative Economy partnership grants. The Building Cultural Diversity program supports organizations rooted in culturally specific communities. The OAC also provides essential operating support for Ohio arts and cultural institutions of varying sizes through its Sustainability and Arts Access programs.

Other significant agency programming occurs through the OAC's Riffe Gallery, located in downtown Columbus, and Ohio's Percent for Arts Program. Agency outreach projects include sponsorship of the annual Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio and the ArtsinOhio.com statewide arts and cultural events calendar.