



# Imagine

**an Arizona where everyone can experience the arts**

*The Arizona Commission on the Arts is committed to fostering an Arizona where people broaden, deepen and diversify their engagement with the arts, as creators, audiences and supporters, in ways that are satisfying and integral to their lives.*



**Arizona  
Commission  
on the Arts**

# enhancing Quality of Life

The Arizona Commission on the Arts is an agency of the State of Arizona whose mission is to create opportunities for all Arizonans to participate in and experience the arts. To that end, we deliver grants and support to cultivate sustainable arts communities and promote statewide public access to arts and cultural activities.

Support is provided to organizations and programs across the arts spectrum, from community youth theatres to professional ballet companies, world-renowned museums to local craft showcases, international prize-winning novelist lectures to classroom poetry slams. Our grants also provide funding and resources to bolster arts education in schools, delivering arts learning programs to youth in urban, suburban and rural areas around the state.

Together these efforts inspire creativity, grow local economies, revitalize communities and enhance the quality of life for all Arizonans.



CONDER/Dance, Tempe

**Cover Images, clockwise from left:**  
*Knight Rise* by James Turrell, 2001, Commissioned by the Scottsdale Public Art Program for the Nancy and Art Schwalm Sculpture Garden, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art; photo by Edwin Benoit • Canyon Country Guitar Retreat, Project of Brad Richter, Page • Western Apache Basket from Original Collection, Heard Museum, Phoenix • Mollie Blay, preschool painting class • *Dia de las Muertas* Event, Desert Botanical Garden, Papago Park; photo by Adam Rodriguez • Vases by Jeremy Briddell, Tempe



Art Car Class, Yavapai College, Prescott; photo by Juanita Hull-Carlson

## 92%

of Americans say that the arts are important to quality of life in their communities.

Harris Poll



Accordion by Stacey Wong, Tempe



Conductor George Hanson, Tucson Symphony Orchestra

## To best serve all Arizonans, the Commission maintains working partnerships with:

- Arts organizations (nonprofit, unincorporated and commercial)
- Arts service organizations
- Community development sectors
- Convention and visitors bureaus
- Cultural organizations
- Education community
- Government agencies
- Individual artists
- International, national and local arts associations
- National and local accessibility organizations
- National and local corporations
- Public policymakers
- Rural economic development interests
- Social service organizations
- State and local governments

# Cultural Awareness

*connecting*

Arizona is home to an array of cultures that enrich our communities with their histories and traditions. Each year, the Commission provides funding and professional support to over 50 arts festivals across the state. These festivals celebrate diverse communities and cultures, and allow artists and craftspeople to share their creativity and heritage with hundreds of thousands of Arizonans and out-of-state visitors. Festivals continue to serve as a primary cultural tourism attraction for a multitude of reasons: they are family friendly, they celebrate community and traditions, they promote cultural understanding, and they showcase the arts in ways that encourage participation by all who attend.



Poetry Out Loud State Champion  
2008, Erik Hollis, Tucson;  
photo by Joe Jankovsky



Sound in the Ground Series, Mesa Arts Center



Mesa Contemporary Arts Gallery, Mesa Arts Center  
photo by Harrison Hurwitz

*Arts education makes a tremendous impact on the developmental growth of every child and has been proven to level the "learning field" across socio-economic boundaries.*

**James S. Catterall,**  
UCLA Imagination Project



Uniform Series: Football by R. Eric McMaster, Phoenix

# engaging Community Involvement

The arts are an integral ingredient in establishing and maintaining healthy communities. People who participate in the arts are more inclined to participate in other forms of public engagement, and public engagement fosters civic health and community pride. It is a fact that people who attend arts and cultural events are more likely to give of their free time as volunteers, donate money to charities and vote in higher numbers.

For these reasons, the Commission maintains partnerships with state and local governments, public policymakers, social service organizations, Arizona schools districts and community development organizations. Through these relationships, we generate initiatives that support the pivotal role of the arts in neighborhoods, healthy economies and education.



*Dia de los Muertos Event,  
Desert Botanical Garden, Papago Park;  
photo by Adam Rodriguez*



Phoenix Art Museum

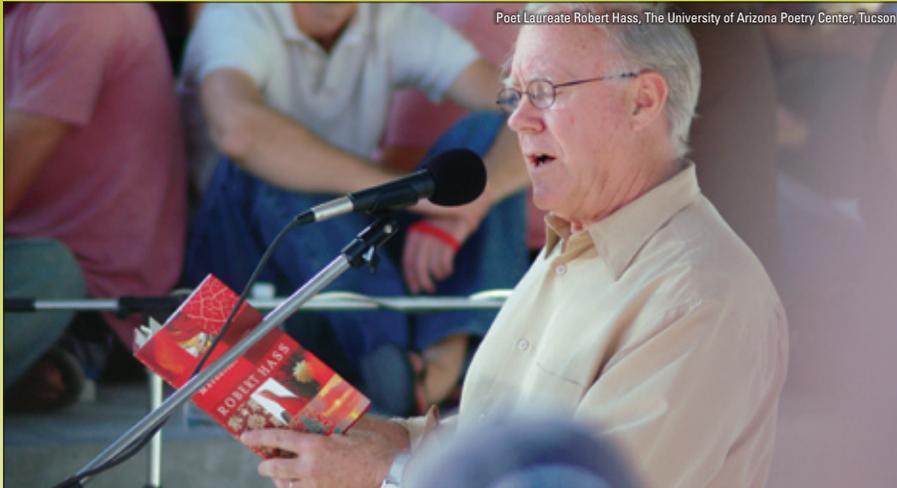
## 50%

of U.S. adults  
participate in cultural  
tourism annually.

Travel Industry Association  
of America



Maya Azucena, Tucson



Poet Laureate Robert Hass, The University of Arizona Poetry Center, Tucson

## 90%

of Americans admit  
they regularly sing in  
their cars.

Safety Report: Are Drivers Too Busy  
Singing To Use their Turn Signals?  
automobile.com

# 7 million

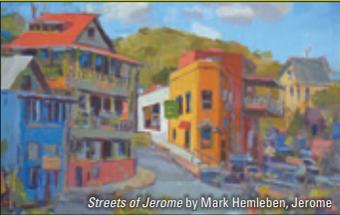
Average number of people in all Arizona counties  
who participate in Arts Commission-sponsored  
activities and programs each year.

# Economic Impact

*investing*

Arizona residents and businesses invest their time, material assets and intellectual capital in our state, and expect access to artistic and cultural amenities for their families and employees. The same is true of people who live in or move to rural Arizona communities. The Commission invests funds and expertise which help to revitalize rural communities by creating partnerships with convention and tourist bureaus and local businesses, providing consultant services and actively participating in rural economic initiatives.

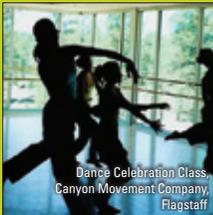
Through the Commission, the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts make strategic investments of public dollars to support our state's arts industry, helping Arizona communities to attract and retain skilled workers and creative businesses. This public investment leverages additional contributions from the private sector, increasing the sustainability of Arizona's arts and culture industry and thereby promoting statewide economic growth.



Streets of Jerome by Mark Hemleben, Jerome



son Jazz Society; photo by Bill Josh Young



Dance Celebration Class,  
Canyon Movement Company,  
Flagstaff



Go Dog Go, Childsplay, Tempe

## \$166.2 billion

Amount generated nationally in economic activity every year by the nonprofit arts and culture industry.

Arts and Economic Prosperity III, Americans for the Arts

*The arts have been and continue to be an important part of Arizona's culture. By igniting the mind, the arts can spark new ways of thinking, communicating and doing business.*

**Janet Napolitano**, Governor of Arizona

**Artists and organizations look to the Commission as a trusted resource thanks to our:**

- Accessible research materials
- Comprehensive website
- Consultant services
- Expert staff and personalized service
- Free quarterly field publications
- Open public grantmaking processes
- Skills-building opportunities for artists, administrators and educators
- Teaching Artist Roster program
- Year-round statewide workshops and convenings



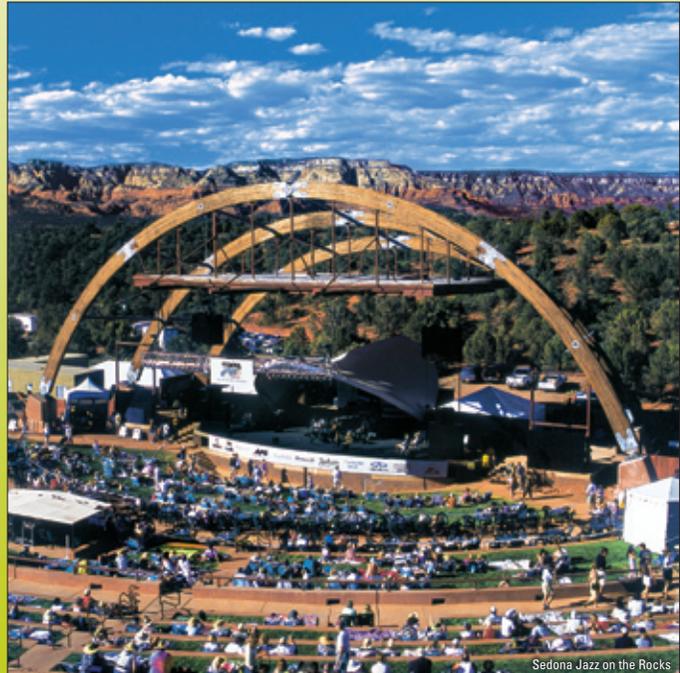
Lynn Uraquides Elementary School, Opening Minds through the Arts, Tucson

**85%**

of Arts Commission-sponsored projects reach Arizona's youth and students each year.

The Western United States has seen the greatest growth in artists by state. The artist population grew by 11.6% from 1990 to 2000.

Artists in the Workforce 1990-2005, National Endowment for the Arts



Sedona Jazz on the Rocks



Fatal Attraction, Stray Cat Theatre, Phoenix and Tempe; photo by Becca Priddy

*No amount of skillful invention can replace the essential element of imagination.*

**Edward Hopper**

## Opportunities

The Commission provides Arizona's arts community with year-round opportunities for professional and creative growth. Our website serves as the focal point for information about calls for artists, competitions, grant and residency opportunities, conferences, professional development and arts jobs.

Each year, statewide Commission-led workshops address practical topics such as sound business practices for individual artists, skills-building for teaching artists and classroom teachers, effective grantwriting practices and sustainability for organizations. In addition, we host the annual Southwest Arts Conference, which brings more than 500 Arizona arts professionals together for learning and networking. This conference has served the arts community for over 30 years and continues to evolve to serve the changing needs of the field.

*creating*

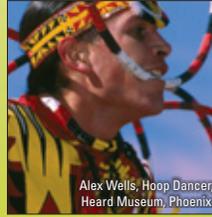
# 38 million

Number of Americans employed in the creative sector,  
or 30% of all employed people.

The Value of the Performing Arts in Ten Communities,  
Performing Arts Research Coalition



Rick O'Leary, Bullhead City



Alex Wells, Hoop Dancer,  
Heard Museum, Phoenix



Arts for All, Tucson

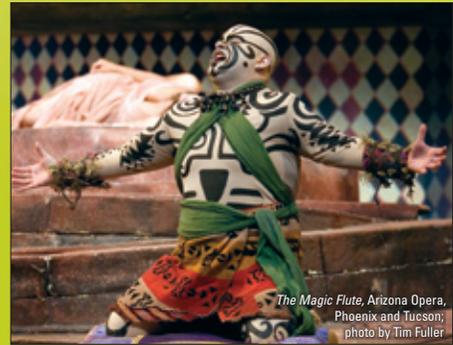
## 86%

of adult Americans  
participate in the arts  
on average each year.

Harris poll



Crowns, Arizona Theatre Company,  
Phoenix and Tucson;  
photo by Tim Fuller



The Magic Flute, Arizona Opera,  
Phoenix and Tucson;  
photo by Tim Fuller

## *delivering* Programs and Services

To sustain statewide professional support for the arts, the Commission maintains an arts-based program staff experienced in Visual Arts, Literature, Performing Arts, Arts Learning and Individual Artist Services. These staff members support discipline-specific artists and arts organizations so that the arts industry — from informal to professional to innovative and experimental — can achieve its goals. We also maintain staff dedicated to strengthening State and Local Partnerships, with programs such as local arts development, consultant services, community cultural inventories, cultural tourism and rural arts initiatives.

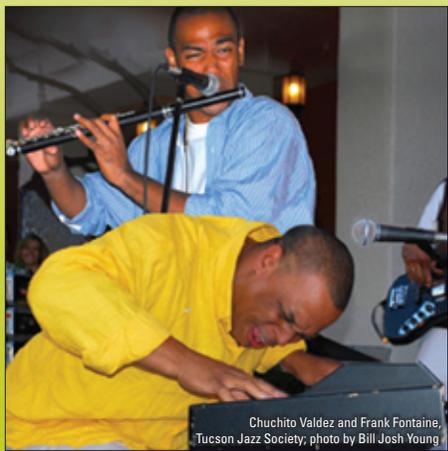
With technical assistance provided by Commission staff, affiliated consultant services and our resource-rich website, constituents have direct access to vital information about their artistic disciplines, organizational development, grants preparation, marketing, fundraising, board development, participation building and other guidance and counsel.

# 1.6 million

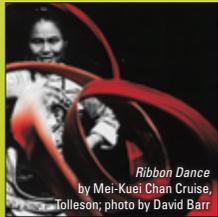
Average number of Arizona students reached by Arts Commission-sponsored activities and programs each year.



*The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Southwest Shakespeare Company, Mesa



Chuchito Valdez and Frank Fontaine, Tucson Jazz Society, photo by Bill Josh Young



*Ribbon Dance* by Mei-Kuei Chan Cruise, Tolleson, photo by David Barr



*Limonada* by Matthew Garcia, Tempe



## The Commission supports the arts with the following grants:

- General Operating Support Grants (for organizations)
- Discipline-specific Project Grants (Dance, Music, Visual Arts, Literary Arts, Theatre and Multidisciplinary)
- Arts Learning Project Grants (for schools, after-school programs and community organizations)
- Festivals Grants
- Arts Link to Tourism and the Economy Grants
- Artist Project Grants (for individual artists in all disciplines)
- Professional Development Grants (for artists, educators and administrators)
- Sudden Opportunity Grants
- Consultant Services Grants
- Step Into Arts Learning Grants

## supporting Grants

The Commission is perhaps best known for the funding it provides to every county of the state. We award nearly 750 grants each year, with priority given to underserved communities. These grants provide support to statewide nonprofit arts organizations, local arts agencies, festivals, community and service organizations, schools, afterschool programs and individual artists.

Grants are reviewed during open public meetings led by Governor-appointed Commissioners, by panels comprised of volunteer experts and experienced practitioners from around the state who assess proposals according to the published criteria for awards.

# 93%

of Americans believe the arts are vital to providing a well-rounded education.

Harris poll



*Broadway Underpass Murals*  
by State Representative Steve Farley,  
Project of Tucson Pima Arts Council

*The Commission maintains a juried listing of Arizona artists from all artistic disciplines. The purpose of the **Teaching Artist Roster** is to identify and promote quality artists who maintain careers as teaching and professional artists, and who have particular expertise in engaging schools and communities in arts learning experiences. For artists, the roster is an invaluable marketing tool; for schools and organizations who hire teaching artists, the roster signifies both quality and dependability.*



*Pale Carved Orb* by Nicholas  
Bernard, Scottsdale



Reagan and Jaymee, Painting Class,  
Free Arts of Arizona,  
photo by Marilyn Murphy

## *promoting* Lifelong Learning

The Commission supports the philosophy of Arts Learning—the concept of learning in, through and about the arts—and is committed to making the arts fundamental to education, in programs that serve PreK-12 students, classroom teachers, teaching artists, arts specialists and administrators in school, out-of-school, and in summer/intersession programs. We are also steadfast in our support of lifelong learning in the arts for adults, and work to ensure that education is a component of all agency programs.

Our programs and grants support arts organizations and schools in their efforts to provide access to quality arts learning experiences statewide. In addition, we provide a multitude of programs to enhance the skills of educators and teaching artists, to develop strategies and tools for teaching with and about the arts.

*The Arizona Commission on the Arts and our partner in arts advocacy, Arizona Citizens/Action for the Arts, are committed to promoting public value for the arts in neighborhoods, communities, towns and cities, in the state legislature and with our federal leaders. The Commission and Arizona Citizens/Action for the Arts provide tools and resources to help individuals, organizations and schools develop their arts advocacy skills and integrate advocacy into daily life.*



Ib Andersen Choreography,  
Ballet Arizona, Phoenix;  
photo by Rosalie O'Connor



Helen S. Schaefer Building,  
The University of Arizona  
Poetry Center, Tucson

## *Leading* The Arts in Arizona

One of 56 state and jurisdictional arts agencies, the Arizona Commission on the Arts supports a statewide arts network. The agency is governed by a 15-member Governor-appointed Commission and a professional staff, grounded in the arts. Our staff includes practicing artists, skilled administrators and education specialists who serve in local and national arts leadership roles.

We receive and administer funds from the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts and direct this funding to programs that contribute to the growth and stabilization of the arts, impact student learning, nurture and develop artists' craft and skills, preserve the rich traditions of Arizona communities, and encourage participation by citizens of all ages and abilities.



Arizona  
Commission  
on the Arts

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Visit us at  
**www.azarts.gov**



NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE ARTS

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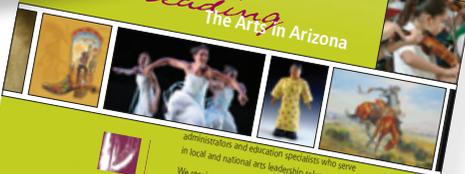


Arizona Commission on the Arts and our arts advocacy, Arizona CitizensAction are committed to promoting for the arts in neighborhoods, towns and cities, in the state

Leaders. The Commission and action for the Arts provide to help for arts



*Leading*  
 The Arts in Arizona



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Cigar Band Front



Cigar Band Back



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<p><b>A</b> <i>Bucking Horse</i> by George Phippen, Phippen Museum, Prescott  <b>B</b> <i>Portrait on Black, Detail</i> by Fernand Léger, Tucson  <b>C</b> <i>La Venganza es Cabarena</i> by Claudio Deciochea, Scottsdale  <b>D</b> <i>Circling</i> by Tom Phillips, Tucson</p>	<p><b>E</b> <i>Senkotsu (Muj Translation Project)</i> by Denise Uyehara, Tucson, photo by Marcell Schapp  <b>F</b> <i>Cowgirl Up</i>, Olsen Chubbuck Museum, Midland  <b>G</b> <i>Integrated Dance</i>, Canyon Mountain Company, Flagstaff  <b>H</b> <i>gente not numbers girl</i> by Angel Olegario Luna, Yuma</p>
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