

KEY FINDINGS

The Economic Impact of Arts and Culture

THE REGIONAL ARTS & CULTURE COUNCIL AND

Americans for the Arts conducted a study of 183 nonprofit arts organizations in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties. Their combined spending in 2016 was **\$214.4 million**, and they employed **7,992 FTE**.

More than **3.9 million** people attended an arts event in 2016, and spent an average of **\$22.35** per person as a result of attending the event, above and beyond the cost of admission, for a total of **\$116 million**. For example, when patrons attend a cultural event, they may pay to park their car, eat dinner in a restaurant, shop in nearby stores, and pay a babysitter when they get home. Non-local attendees may spend the night in a hotel. These dollars generate commerce for local businesses.

The combined spending of arts organizations and their audiences totaled \$330.4 million. This spending supports 11,505 full-time equivalent jobs in the region and generates more than \$27.7 million in local and state government revenue. Investments in arts and culture pay fantastic dividends for the greater economy and help fund other vital public services.

More than **15%** of all attendees were visitors from outside the area, contributing more than **\$32 million** to local hotels, restaurants, retail shops and other local companies. Almost **80%** of these visitors reported that their primary reason for travelling was *specifically* to attend that arts and culture event.

BY THE NUMBERS



\$214.4 million
Arts organization
expenditures



\$116 million
Spending by
audiences



\$330.4 million
Total economic
impact



11,505
Full time jobs



\$14 million
State government
revenue

\$13.7 million
Local government
revenue



Regional Arts &
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