



Provide critical funding to arts & culture orgs

Strengthen Washington's creative sector with strategic grants for arts and culture nonprofits

OPERATING BUDGET REQUEST

FY26: \$2,740,000

FY27: \$4,490,000

Ongoing funding

Washington's creative economy generated \$70.2 billion—over 9% of our state GDP—in 2022. While the state has steadily increased funding for arts and culture across Washington, additional funding is necessary to meet the urgent needs of the sector.

Critical support where it is needed most

Lingering pandemic impacts and rising costs have forced essential community-based cultural institutions to cut staff, reduce hours, and limit services across the state.

ArtsWA seeks funding to fortify and empower our state's creative economy through strategic, high-impact grants, administered by its existing suite of programs: Grants to Organizations, Arts in Education, Creative Districts, and Wellness, Arts and the Military. Additional grants will support accessibility improvements to cultural facilities, services, and activities.



Above: The Northwest Girls Choir onstage, an ArtsWA grantee.
Upper right: attendees at Short Run Seattle, an ArtsWA grantee.



What does this fund?

ArtsWA will use these monies to:

- » Directly support arts and culture nonprofits statewide by funding Grants to Organizations at \$1,000,000 in FY26 and \$2,500,000 in FY27.
- » Foster arts education opportunities by dedicating \$500,000 to grants from ArtsWA's Arts in Education program.
- » Invest directly in local creative economies through operating grants from ArtsWA's Creative Districts program.
- » Expand the impact of ArtsWA's Wellness, Arts, and the Military program through increased granting capacity.
- » Promote statewide arts engagement with Community Accessibility grants for facility upgrades, interpretation services, and more.

The investment

This investment will support nonprofits, expand arts education, bolster local creative economies, increase military wellness grants, and improve accessibility statewide through targeted grants.