

State Legislative Roundup

September 2016

Introduction

During states' 2016 legislative session—generally January through June, though each state has its own legislative calendar—NASAA reviewed 250 bills potentially relevant to the arts and state arts agencies (SAAs). From these, we tracked more than 100 legislative proposals that would be meaningful to SAAs if they passed or failed. This review highlights select pieces of legislation to summarize current trends in state cultural policy and to share specific approaches that may interest SAA staff, council members and their constituencies.

To offer a nuanced assessment of the cultural policy landscape, this roundup reviews legislation that was enacted as well as bills that failed or were still under consideration at the time of this writing. It also includes bills that could strengthen the arts, bills that could inhibit support for the arts and bills that would have neutral or difficult-to-predict impact. By presenting a broad cross-section of legislation, NASAA aims to equip state cultural leaders with the knowledge to advance policies that ultimately can be *beneficial* to the arts at the state level.

NASAA employs multiple methods to conduct legislative research, including the use of an on-line tool that tracks the content and status of legislation introduced in every state throughout the year. The perspective of state arts agencies, however, is very valuable in mapping how arts policy is shaped through state legislatures and their many political and procedural forces. If you learn of a bill that is important to your agency or may be significant to other states, NASAA would like to know about it. You can share your legislative leads by contacting NASAA Research Manager [Paul Pietsch](#). If you are interested in initiating legislation in your own state, NASAA can help by identifying sample bills and information on similar efforts in other states.

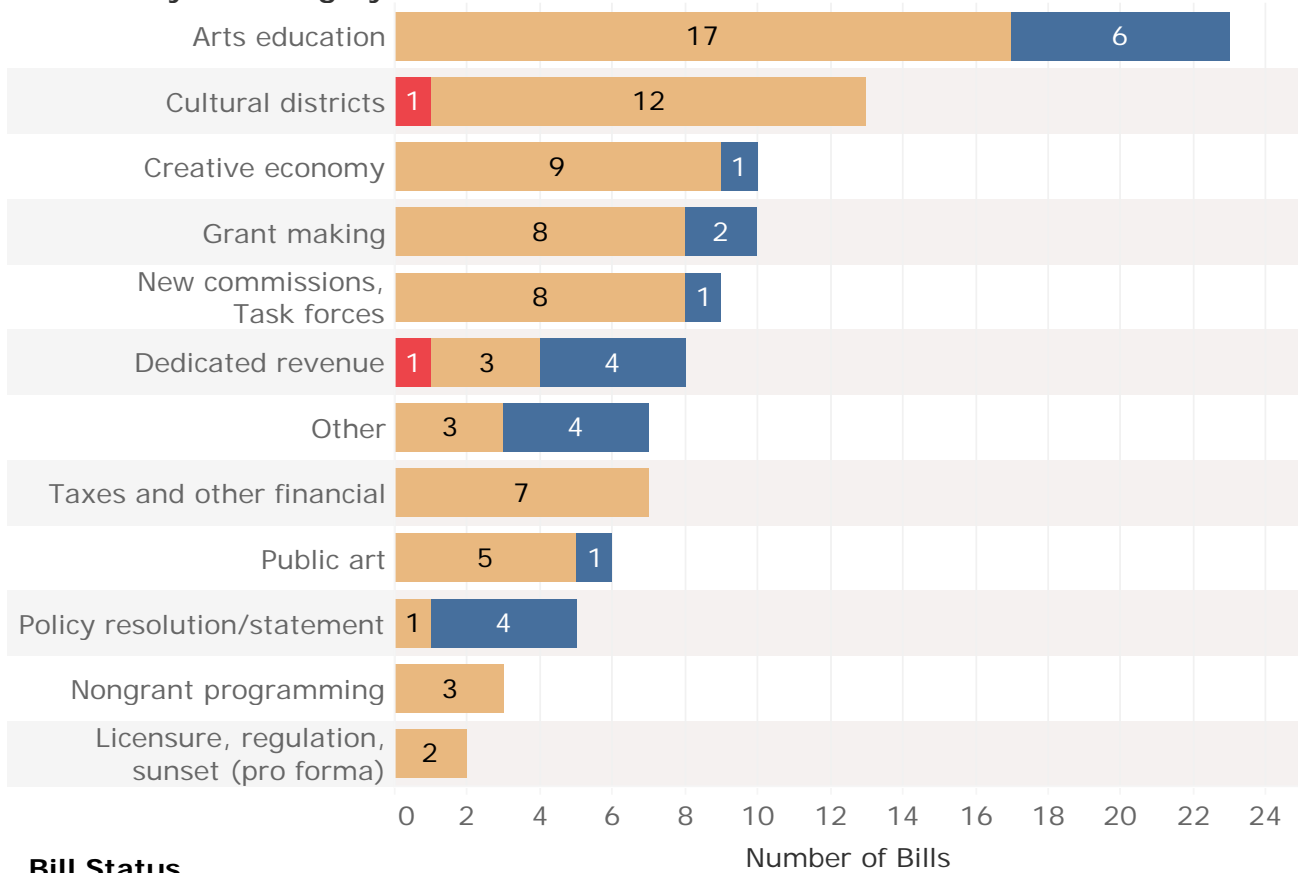
The legislation NASAA tracked this year can be grouped in 12 categories. The first infographic below charts the legislative progress of the various types of bills considered this year, while the second shows the prevalence of issues within six geographic regions of the country.

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Bill Status by Category [Return to TOC](#)

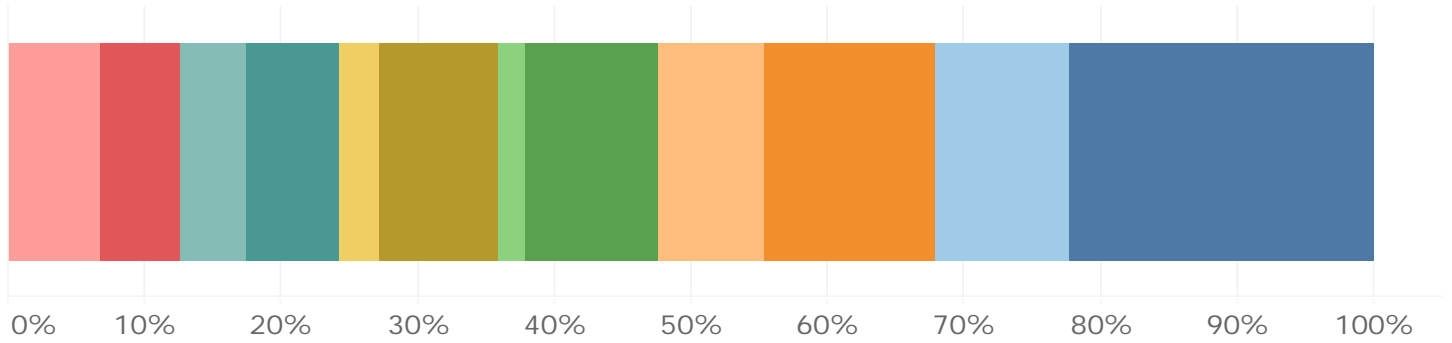
Primary Bill Category



Bill Status

- Enacted
- Stalled, tabled or did not progress
- Vetoed

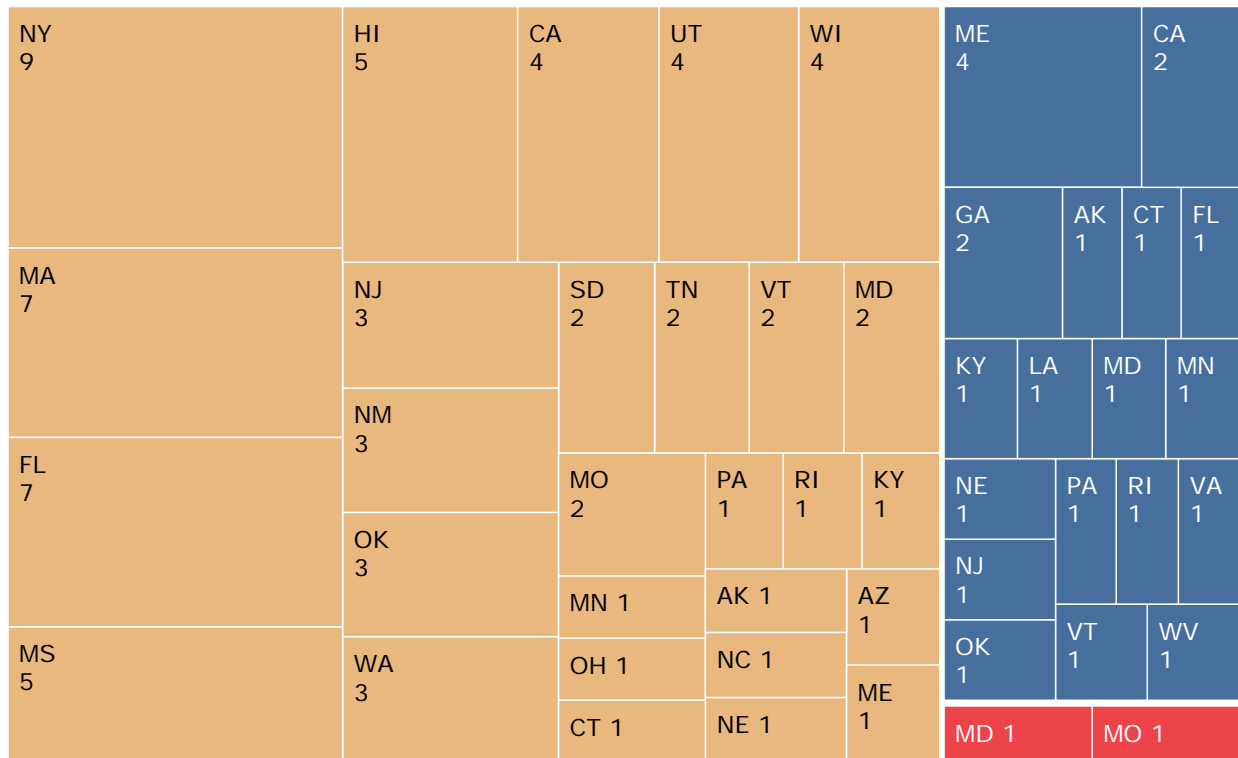
Bill Category Distribution [Return to TOC](#)



Primary Bill Category

- Taxes and other financial
- Public art
- Policy resolution/statement
- Other
- Nongrant programming
- New commissions, task forces
- Licensure, regulation, sunset (pro forma)
- Grant making
- Dedicated revenue
- Cultural districts
- Creative economy
- Arts education

Bill Status by State [Return to TOC](#)



Bill Status

- Enacted
- Stalled, tabled or did not progress
- Vetoed

Highlights of Individual Bills

SAA REVENUE [Return to TOC](#)

Alaska

[S.B. 154—Arts License Plates](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: Signed in June, this law modifies Alaska's arts license plate program by reducing the fee for the special plate from \$150 to \$50 and by tasking the Alaska State Council on the Arts with facilitating a quadrennial competition to select a new design for it.

Connecticut

[S.B. 502—Connecticut Arts Endowment Fund](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: This law, signed in June, amends provisions of the Connecticut Arts Endowment Fund, an investment vehicle for the Connecticut Office of the Arts that is managed by the state treasurer. Previously, the Office of the Arts awarded grants using the investment earnings of the fund. Now, grants will be made from either "(1) the total increase in the market value of the fund, not to exceed five per cent of the market value of the fund, or (2) the total amount of investment earnings of the fund." In addition, the new law reduces the amount of donor contributions an arts organization must receive within a fiscal year—from \$25,000 to \$15,000—to be eligible for a matching grant underwritten by the endowment.

Maine

[L.D. 1490—Arts Endowment Fund](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: This law, enacted in February, authorizes the Maine Arts Commission to administer any endowment fund it creates. Previously, the Commission was allowed to establish an endowment but the state's treasurer was responsible for investing its funds.

Maine

[L.D. 1493—SAA Private Support Organization](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: Signed in February, this law directs the Maine Arts Commission to establish a "private support organization" responsible for organizing and fostering support for the Commission and its programs. The new group must be an incorporated nonprofit organization with the sole purpose of aiding the Commission.

Massachusetts

[H. 4483—Live Theater Tax Credit](#)

Status: In conference committee

Summary: This bill would create a "live theater tax credit" program. Through it, theatre productions with a budget of at least \$100,000 would be eligible for a tax credit equal to 35% of payroll expenditures and 25% of production, performance and transportation expenditures. The credit would be capped at \$5 million. Upon completion of the eligible theatre production, recipients of the credit would deposit an amount equal to 15% of the tax credits they received into the Massachusetts Cultural Council's Cultural Facilities Fund, which is used to address issues related to the work-force development and sustainability of the theatre industry.

Maryland

[S.B. 377—Cultural Arts Preservation Fund](#)

Status: Enacted

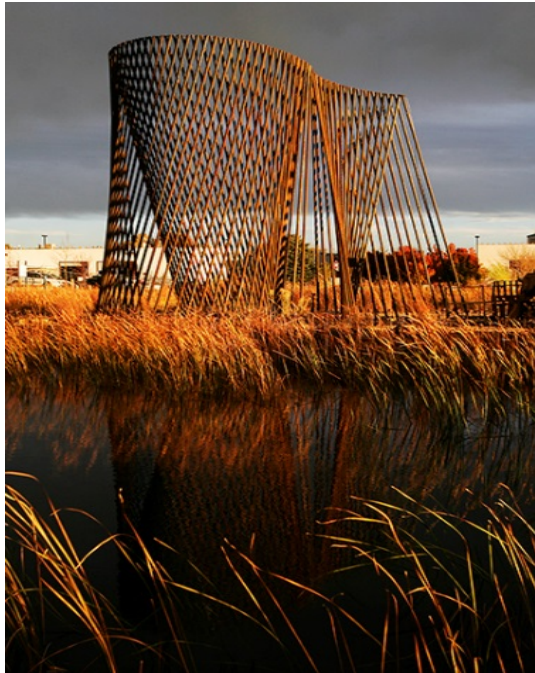
Summary: Enacted in April, this new law amends the policies of Maryland's Special Fund for Preservation of Cultural Arts, which was legislatively created in 2009 to provide "emergency grants" to museums and other cultural organizations. With an annual appropriation of up to \$1 million from the revenue generated by the state's admissions and amusement tax on electronic bingo and electronic tip jars, the Special Fund now will provide "supplemental grants" to organizations that qualify for general operating support grants from the Maryland State Arts Council. The remaining revenue from this tax each year will be allocated to the Council. The new law also grants the governor the authority to transfer any appropriation for the Special Fund to the Council. Finally, the law retroactively increases the Council's budget from its last fiscal year, which positions it to receive a larger budget next year as, by law, each of its annual budgets is to meet or exceed the level of its previous budget.

Nebraska

[L.B. 957—Cultural Preservation Fund](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: This law, passed in March, directs the state treasurer to transfer annually, from 2017 through 2026, up to \$500,000 from the general fund to the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Fund. Earnings from this fund are credited to the Nebraska Arts and Humanities Cash Fund, which is administered by the Nebraska Arts Council.



Energy Dance by Rae Douglass at San Juan College in Farmington, New Mexico. Photo by James B. Hale/Farmington Daily Times

Tennessee

[H.B. 2258](#) and [S.B. 2524](#)—Personalized and Specialty License Plates

Status: In committee at session recess

Summary: These companion bills would have changed state law regarding revenue generated from personalized and specialty license plates. Currently, the Tennessee Arts Commission receives all profits from personalized license plates. The bills would have split these profits evenly between the Commission and the police-salary supplement fund. Regarding specialty plates, they would have evenly divided the amount the Commission currently receives, which is 40% of the total revenue, between the Commission and the police supplement fund.

PUBLIC ART [Return to TOC](#)

Louisiana

[H.B. 216—Percent for Art Allocation](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: Signed in June, this law limits the amount allocated for percent-for-art projects to the lesser of \$450,000 or 1% of the associated capital budget. Previously, 1% of capital budgets for state construction or renovation projects was set aside for onsite public art installations.

Massachusetts

[H. 2928—Art in Public Places Commission](#)

Status: In committee

Summary: This resolution would create a special commission to study art in public places. The proposed commission would be separate from and in addition to the Massachusetts Public Art Commission, which was established by executive order in December 2014. The new commission would be responsible for studying how to increase art in public spaces and to develop guidelines ensuring fair and adequate compensation for artists displaying their work in these locations. The commission would consider possible policy initiatives as well as regulatory and/or statutory changes.

Nebraska

[L.B. 957—Percent for Art Administration and Maintenance](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: This law, enacted in March, directs state agencies receiving a percent for art installation to negotiate with the contracted artist the amount of the overall project budget to be set aside for administrative and installation costs. Furthermore, it changes the amount designated for artwork maintenance from 10% of each project's administrative budget to a "portion" elected by the Nebraska Arts Council. The determined amount will be credited to the Nebraska Arts Council cash fund and drawn down as needed.

Oklahoma

[S.B. 1288—Percent for Art Moratorium](#)

Status: In committee at session adjournment

Summary: This bill would have placed a moratorium on Oklahoma's Art in Public Places program in any fiscal year in which the State Board of Equalization determined that the amount of state revenue available for legislative appropriation had fallen relative to the previous year.

Washington State

[S.B. 6409—Percent for Art Project Design and Administration](#)

Status: Passed senate but still in house at session adjournment

Summary: This bill would have authorized institutions of higher education undertaking a percent for art installation to allocate, during the project's design phase, up to 10% of the overall budget to select the artist and design the artwork to be installed.

Percent for Art Policies and Programs

Percent for art is a policy mechanism for funding public art by setting aside a small portion (typically 1%) of the capital costs of state-owned buildings for the installation of artwork. Currently, 28 states and territories have active percent for art programs. These programs generally are managed by SAAs.

NASAA's [Percent for Art State Policy Brief](#) succinctly summarizes the public benefits of these programs as well as the common components of related state policies.



For more information on individual states' percent for art programs, see NASAA's [Public Art page](#).

CULTURAL DISTRICTS & CREATIVE ECONOMY [Return to TOC](#)

Arizona

[S.B. 1517—Cultural District Program with Tax Exemptions](#)

Status: In committee at session adjournment

Summary: This bill would have established a statewide cultural district program and tasked the Arizona Commission on the Arts with managing it and certifying individual districts. The Commission would have established the criteria for certification. The proposed program also would have exempted artwork sold within certified districts from state retail sales tax; state storage, use or consumption tax; and municipal taxes.

Florida

[H. 1291](#) and [S. 1644](#)—Sales Tax Exemption

Status: H. 1291 died in committee and S. 1644 was withdrawn from further consideration

Summary: These two bills would have exempted from state sales tax the first \$10,000 of the amount paid for an original work of art. The exemption would have been available only for artworks sold for \$1,000 or more.

Massachusetts

[S.B. 2290—Sales Tax Exemptions](#)

Status: In committee

Summary: This "study order bill" extends consideration of a number of bills that were introduced in 2015, including two that would create tax exemptions for sales of artwork. [S. 1545 \(of 2015\)](#) would exempt sales of original works of art taking place in "Artist Enterprise Zones," which would be defined as "an arts overlay district, a state-designated cultural district, or an economic development zone designated...for the economic stimulus of works of art." [S. 1532 \(of 2015\)](#) would exempt sales taking place anywhere in the state.

Missouri

[H.B. 2349](#) and [S.B. 867](#)—Museum and Cultural Districts

Status: H.B. 2349 was in committee at session adjournment and S.B. 867 was vetoed

Summary: These two bills would have updated Missouri's Museum and Cultural District policy, which enables the creation of such districts within federally declared disaster areas "to fund, promote, plan, design, construct, improve, maintain and operate one or more projects relating to one or more museums and cultural assets or to assist in such activity." The current policy also allows local museum and cultural districts to impose, via voter referendum, a district-wide sales tax to support their activities. H.B. 2349 would have transferred responsibility for this taxation from local districts to the state director of revenue. S.B. 867 would have extended the window for establishing local districts from 5 to 10 years following the president's declaration of a federal disaster area.

Certified Cultural District Programs

Cultural districts are geographically defined areas unifying artists, arts organizations, businesses, community groups and other citizens around the nexus of creative activities in effort to encourage economic, cultural and community development. State cultural district programs typically certify individual districts and provide them with technical assistance, branding, financial incentives and other types of support. Currently, 13 states have established statewide programs and two (Arkansas and California) have legislatively enacted policies but have not yet launched a program.

For more information on cultural districts, the creative economy and on creative place making, see NASAA's [Creative Economic Development page](#).

New York

[S. 6271—Cultural Districts](#)

Status: Passed senate

Summary: This bill would create a statewide cultural district program and task the New York State Council on the Arts with managing it and certifying individual districts. The Council would develop the criteria for certification. It also would be responsible for providing technical and marketing assistance to districts and for helping identify grant opportunities and other resources.

Oklahoma

[S.B. 1510—Cultural Districts](#)

Status: In committee at session adjournment

Summary: This bill aimed to establish the Oklahoma Arts Council's statewide Cultural District Initiative as the official state program. The bill was shelved after the Council and the bill's sponsor discussed the successful development of the existing program, which began in 2013, and concluded that it did not require legislative action for continued implementation.

Vermont

[H. 700—Vermont Craft Crawl Festival](#)

Status: In committee at session recess

Summary: This bill would have established the Vermont Crafts Crawl festival, which would have been a weekend-long event including one day of tax-free sales of works of art and craft. The legislation also would have funded the creation of an "interactive Vermont arts mobile app" in order to help "both in-state and out-of-state visitors to create their own Vermont experience centered around Vermont arts and crafts." The bill would have allocated \$160,000 from the Vermont Department of Tourism and Marketing to the festival and the mobile app.

Vermont

[H. 868—Vermont Creative Network](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: This law, enacted in June, codifies the Vermont Creative Network, which is a program the Vermont Arts Council launched in 2015 to cultivate the creative sector and, as a result, to improve quality of life, boost local economies and strengthen the fiber of communities. The new statute establishes the goals, duties and authority of the network, which is a broad coalition of organizations, businesses and individuals committed to fostering creativity. It also directs the Vermont Arts Council to allocate \$30,000 of its fiscal year 2017 legislative appropriation to the work of overseeing and supporting the network.



Artists from around the world are drawn to one of America's first artist colonies at the Rocky Neck Cultural District in Gloucester, Massachusetts. Photo by Kathy Chapman 2010-2012

Washington

[H.B. 2583—Cultural Districts](#)

Status: Passed house but still in senate at session adjournment

Summary: This bill would have created a statewide cultural district program and tasked the Washington State Arts Commission with managing it and certifying individual districts. The Commission would have created the process for certification. It also would have had the authority to decertify districts that failed to comply with statutory requirements.

Wisconsin

[S.B. 483](#) and [A.B. 636](#)—Creative Economy Grants

Status: Failed (insufficient progress by legislative deadline)

Summary: These companion bills would have established a creative economic development grant program to be administered by the Wisconsin Arts Board. Through the proposed program, the Arts Board would have awarded grants of up to \$40,000 to arts groups, local arts agencies, businesses and business-development associations that support creative industries, job creation and/or economic development. The legislation would have appropriated \$500,000 to underwrite the grant awards.

ARTS EDUCATION BILLS [Return to TOC](#)

California

[A.B. 2862](#)—Arts Education Standards

Status: Passed both the assembly and senate

Summary: This bill would require California's superintendent of public instruction to recommend to the State Board of Education revisions to the state's visual and performing arts content standards. The board would be required to adopt, reject or modify the recommendations by January 2019. The standards developed by the National Coalition for Core Arts Standards would serve as the basis for revising California's standards.

Hawai'i

[H.C.R. 168](#) and [H.R. 118](#)—STEM to STEAM

Status: In committee at session adjournment

Summary: These companion resolutions would have requested that the Hawai'i Department of Education "adopt a STEAM [science, technology, engineering, arts and math] curriculum by implementing arts-based courses into the existing STEM curriculum." It also would have urged the department "to encourage middle schools and high schools to incorporate arts education into at least twenty percent of their curriculum."

Hawai'i

[S.B. 2586](#)—Whole Child Education and New Arts Teachers

Status: In committee at session adjournment

Summary: This bill would have mandated that public schools dedicate a percentage of time (to have been determined) to "whole child education," which is defined as "instruction in visual arts, music, theatre, dance, Hawaiian and Polynesian studies, Hawaiian language, native Hawaiian culture, native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and physical education." The legislation also would have appropriated funds to enable schools to hire new teachers for visual arts, drama, dance and music classes.

The Education Policy Environment

Public education is governed by a complex amalgam of federal, state and local policy decisions. The Education Commission on the States notes that more than [1,200 pieces of state legislation](#) affecting public education were enacted between January and August 2016. Requirements for curriculum, instructional standards, assessment and teacher licensing all are typically established at the state level. All of these state policies can affect the quality and quantity of arts education that students receive—and all can become points of contention when limited resources coincide with differing political philosophies about education.

For information on arts education policies across all 50 states, consult the [ArtScan](#) database, a project of the Arts Education Partnership.

Maine

[L.D. 1627—Graduation Requirements](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: Passed in April, this law implements new proficiency-based high school graduation requirements to be phased in over four years beginning in 2020. By 2024, students will have to show proficiency in the arts to graduate. The law also mandates that public and public charter schools have the capacity and provide sufficient opportunity "for all students to study and achieve proficiency in the visual and performing arts" along with all other content areas.

North Carolina

[H. 138—Graduation Requirement](#)

Status: In committee at session recess

Summary: This bill would have modified secondary-school graduation requirements so that all students would have had to earn at least one arts education credit between grades 6 and 12.

New Jersey

[A. 311—Graduation Requirement](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: This law, passed in January, requires public schools to weigh arts courses equally with non-arts courses when calculating students' grade point averages.

New Mexico

[S.B. 135—Arts Education Standards](#)

Status: In committee at session adjournment

Summary: This bill would have mandated adoption of state content and performance standards for arts education. The standards were to be applicable to grades 1 through 12 and were to be "based on nationally recognized standards for dance, media arts, music, theater and visual arts."

New York

[A. 9579](#), [A. 10511](#) and [S. 7541](#)—Career and Practical Education

Status: In committee

Summary: These three bills would create an option for high school students to earn a "career and practical education" diploma instead of the standard diploma. The proposed curriculum would have its own set of requirements and would include "practical arts education," a term not defined by the legislation.

New York

[S. 1148—Arts Education Compliance Assessment](#)

Status: Passed senate

Summary: This bill would direct New York's Commissioner of Education to study whether current arts education standards for public elementary and secondary schools are being met. The study would culminate in a report to the governor and state legislature addressing "steps that should be taken to ensure that all public schools are in compliance with arts education instruction requirements." The report may also recommend revisions to arts education standards in order to encourage student appreciation of the arts, to increase time devoted to arts instruction and to integrate arts education into other topic areas.

Oklahoma

[H.B. 2527—Ending Fine Arts Assessments](#)

Status: Passed senate but still in house at session adjournment

Summary: This bill would have cut the statutory requirement to undertake fine arts assessments of all students in grades 3 through 8. Currently, schools are responsible for reporting the results of these assessments to the State Board of Education.



A middle school student participates in a university art program. Photo courtesy of the Alabama State Council on the Arts

Oklahoma

[S.B. 1380—Reducing Arts Graduation Requirements](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: Signed in June, this law reduces the number of fine arts credits—from two to one—necessary for high school graduation via the "core" curriculum, which is offered to students not planning to undertake higher education.

Pennsylvania

[H.R. 750—Resolution in Support of STEAM Education](#)

Status: Passed

Summary: Passed in March, this resolution designated a STEAM Initiative Week in April. It also supports the philosophy of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) education and urges educators, businesspeople, legislators and other stakeholders "to work together to increase awareness of the value of a solid STEAM education."

Rhode Island

[S.R. 2169—STEAM Education](#)

Status: Reported from committee by session adjournment

Summary: This resolution would have requested the board of education to file a plan with the general assembly by January 2017 "to incentivize the creation and expansion of STEM/STEAM [science, technology, engineering, arts and math curricula] in all Rhode Island elementary and secondary schools."

Utah

[S.B. 98—Minimum Spending on Arts Education](#)

Status: In committee at session adjournment

Summary: This bill would have required school districts, charter schools and public institutions of higher education to spend 3% of their state funding on arts and cultural education.

SAA PROGRAMS [Return to TOC](#)

Hawai'i

[H.B. 2741](#) and [S.B. 2766](#)—Arts in the Military

Status: H.B. 2741 in conference committee and S.B. 2766 in committee at session adjournment

Summary: These companion bills would have created and appropriated funding in support of an arts and military program managed by the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. The goal of the

bills would have been "to encourage relevant programming and partnerships between arts organizations and military bases in the State, military organizations, and veterans' assistance agencies to provide greater access to the arts for active duty military members, veterans, and their families, and to make a significant contribution to the quality of life of the State's military community."

Maine

[L.D. 1504—Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: This law, enacted in March, establishes November 1 of each year as Maine's Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day. The law calls on state and local agencies as well as schools to recognize on this day the "significant contributions veterans have made to the arts and humanities" and to raise awareness about the "talent of those veterans now working in a variety of artistic fields."

Massachusetts

[H. 2927—Poet Laureate](#)

Status: Passed the house

Summary: This bill would create the honorary position of state poet laureate. The poet laureate would serve a two-year term and be appointed by the governor from a slate of candidates recommended by a nominating committee. The nominating committee would include two members of the Massachusetts Cultural Council's board of directors.

Massachusetts

[S. 2236—Musician Laureate](#)

Status: In committee

Summary: This "study order bill" would direct the senate's Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development Committee to investigate a bill introduced in 2015 ([S. 1802](#)) that would create the honorary position of state musician laureate. The musician laureate would serve a two-year term and be appointed by the governor from a slate of candidates recommended by a nominating committee. The nominating committee would include two members of the Massachusetts Cultural Council's board of directors.

Minnesota

[S.F. 2527—Grant Funding](#)

Status: Enacted

Summary: Signed in May, this law amends policies of the Minnesota Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund, proceeds from which support the arts, arts education, arts access and preservation of the state's heritage. With the new law, any organizations or state agencies requesting financial support from the fund must inform the legislative committees overseeing it "whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose." The law also adds a new goal—"to preserve, maintain, and interpret art forms and works of art so that they are accessible to Minnesota audience"—to the Minnesota State Arts Board's Arts Access grant program.

Nebraska

[L.B. 1018—Film Production Grant Program](#)

Status: In committee at session adjournment

Summary: This bill would have appropriated an initial \$500,000 and \$250,000 each year thereafter to the Nebraska Arts Council for a grant program supporting film productions in the state.

New York

[A. 3420](#) and [S. 3339](#)—Grant Funding Must Benefit State Residents

Status: A. 3420 was reported from committee and S. 3339 has passed both the assembly and senate.

Summary: These two bills would prohibit the New York State Council on the Arts from awarding grants to organizations not incorporated in New York or that do not have their principal place of business in the state. Grantees also would be prohibited from using Council funding for any activities undertaken outside the state.

SPECIAL COMMISSIONS [Return to TOC](#)

Kentucky

[H.J.R. 197](#)—Kentucky 225th Anniversary Commission

Status: Passed

Summary: Adopted in April, this resolution creates the Kentucky 225th Anniversary Commission. The commission's responsibilities include recommending activities, programs and events that could be undertaken in celebration of Kentucky's statehood anniversary; coordinating various state, regional and local activities related to the anniversary; educating state residents and the entire nation about Kentucky's history; and seeking philanthropic support for such activities. The commission will exist through June 2017 and is attached to the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet for administrative purposes. It consists of 15 members, including the executive director of the Kentucky Arts Council.

Mississippi

[H.B. 1418](#)—Mississippi Gospel Music Commission

Status: Died in committee

Summary: This bill would have created the Mississippi Gospel Music Commission, which would have been responsible for developing a gospel music trail as well as a marketing plan to promote gospel music and its culture. The executive director of the Mississippi Arts Commission would have sat on the commission.

New Jersey

[A. 993](#)—New Jersey Business and the Arts Commission

Status: In committee

Summary: This bill would establish the New Jersey Business and the Arts Commission within the Department of State. The commission would be responsible for "encouraging government, non-profit, and private sector entities to exhibit works of art and performance art wherever practicable in public and private spaces; encouraging the exhibition of art at visitor destinations, including at restaurants and casinos, and business offices; assisting the New Jersey State Council on the Arts in supporting art in public buildings, pursuant to the 'Public Buildings Arts Inclusion Act'; and encouraging the exhibition of art created by a person or entity from the State." The commission would include the chairman of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts as an ex officio member.

Resolutions

State legislatures pass resolutions to express opinions about a variety of issues, including the arts. Resolutions typically are not binding vehicles for regulation or appropriations. Nonetheless, they can be useful indications of the legislative climate, serving as rallying points for advocates and commending accomplishments in the arts.

Examples of resolutions from 2016 include one passed in [California](#) congratulating the Arts Council on its 40th year as a state agency, another one adopted in [California](#) proclaiming March 2016 to be Arts Education Month, one in [Georgia](#) establishing the Georgia Music Day at the state capitol, one passed in [Rhode Island](#) supporting and promoting arts advocacy, one introduced in [South Dakota](#) honoring the Arts Council's 50th anniversary, and one passed in [West Virginia](#) establishing the West Virginia Arts Day partly in honor of the 50th anniversary of the National Endowment for the Arts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION [Return to TOC](#)

For more information, contact NASAA Research Manager [Paul Pietsch](#).

The National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) is the nonpartisan membership organization that serves the nation's state arts agencies. NASAA helps state arts agencies fulfill their many citizen service roles by providing knowledge services, representation and leadership programs that strengthen the state arts agency community. NASAA also serves as a clearinghouse for data and research about public funding and the arts. For more information on the work of state arts agencies, call 202-347-6352 or visit www.nasaa-arts.org.



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