



TALKING POINTS FOR ARTS CUTS IN 2017

(Updated with “Arts & Economic Prosperity 5” released in June 2017)

IMPACT OF THE ARTS IN DELAWARE. The arts mean business in the state! They are the best reflection of quality of life and the means of retention and recruitment of talented people seeking for a place to live. The Arts & Economic Prosperity 5 from Americans for the Arts indicate that the arts in Delaware:

- \$150 million industry
- Support 4,000+ full time jobs (among top 10 DE employers)
- Generate \$10.5 million dollars in local and state revenue
- 3.5 ROI (with current State Arts Budget)
- Attendees spend an average of \$30.24/person beyond admission
- Cultivate an entrepreneurial environment for Delaware’s new economy

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE CUTS TAKE PLACE? \$550,000 cut representing a nearly 20% cut in state funding for arts programming. This could have devastated impacts on many fronts across the state.

- Will jeopardize direct employment in the arts (arts administration, marketing and support services, artists)
- Will result in reduced public arts programming, negatively impacting ancillary businesses and downtown economic activity which in turn, will reduce revenue for the state
- Will negatively impact arts education programming services to schools serving 250,000 annually
- Will undercut advances made in providing arts programming for healthcare initiatives, creative aging, special needs population, early childhood development, and downtown redevelopment

The sector understands the need to reduce the state’s expenditures, but if the goal is a 4.5% reduction, the arts should not be subject to a disproportionate cut, particularly since the arts clearly contribute jobs, economic activity, and a quality of life that attracts businesses and residents to Delaware. The arts demonstrate a positive return on investment for the state as the Arts & Economic Prosperity Report clearly indicates.

IMPACT OF OWN ORGANIZATION. Please include here how your organization, cause or activity and explain how it brings quality of life to Delaware. *-Please be succinct-*