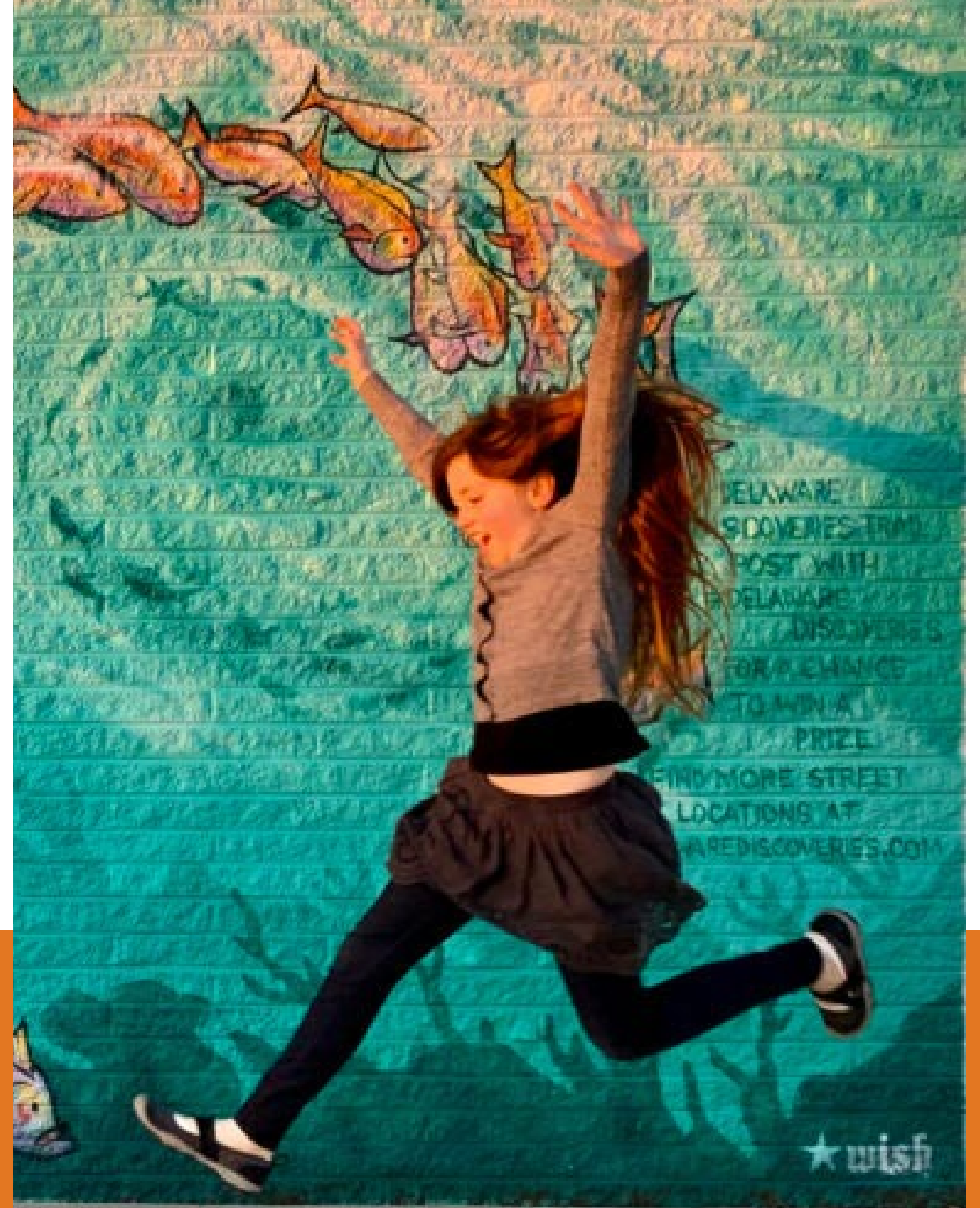


DIVISION OF THE ARTS

March 2, 2026





We keep the First State vibrant

The Delaware Division of the Arts, a branch of the Delaware Department of State, is committed to supporting the arts and cultivating creativity to enhance the quality of life in Delaware.

Why state arts agencies are important

State arts agencies were created by legislatures and governors to promote the arts and reduce barriers to cultural participation. **Every state and U.S. jurisdiction has a designated arts agency** because:

America's communities need the arts.

America's democracy needs the arts.

America's economy needs the arts.

America's spirit needs the arts

America's children need the arts.

America's well-being needs the arts.

America's heritage is embodied in the arts.

**CREATE PLAN
RECOMMENDATIONS
THAT THE DIVISION
HAS STARTED ON**





In Process CREATE Plan Connections

7

Create fair pay guidelines for artists, creatives, and professionals in the creative industries

17

Advocate for more pathway courses and associate degrees related to the creative economy

11

Emphasize arts and culture in Delaware's tourism communications

18

Host professional development workshops and lectures

12

Identify additional revenue streams to support Delaware's creative economy

25

Perform an annual marketing campaign promoting DelawareScene.com

Grant Program Re-evaluation Process

Summer 2025

COMMUNITY LISTENING TOUR

Third party consultant Angela Han will conduct listening tours statewide (one-on-one meetings, virtual forums, and survey)



Fall 2025

HISTORICAL DATA ANALYSIS

The research team at the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies will do an extensive review of our grantmaking and return recommendations.

IN REVIEW

Spring 2026

FUNDING FORMULA CREATION

Third party data firm will take learnings and suggestions from prior phases and create a new funding formula for organizational grants.

NOW!

December 2027

UPDATED PROGRAMS LAUNCHED

New guidelines, formulas, and updated grant programs will be launched for **Fiscal Year 2028**. We will share methodology and changes in advance.

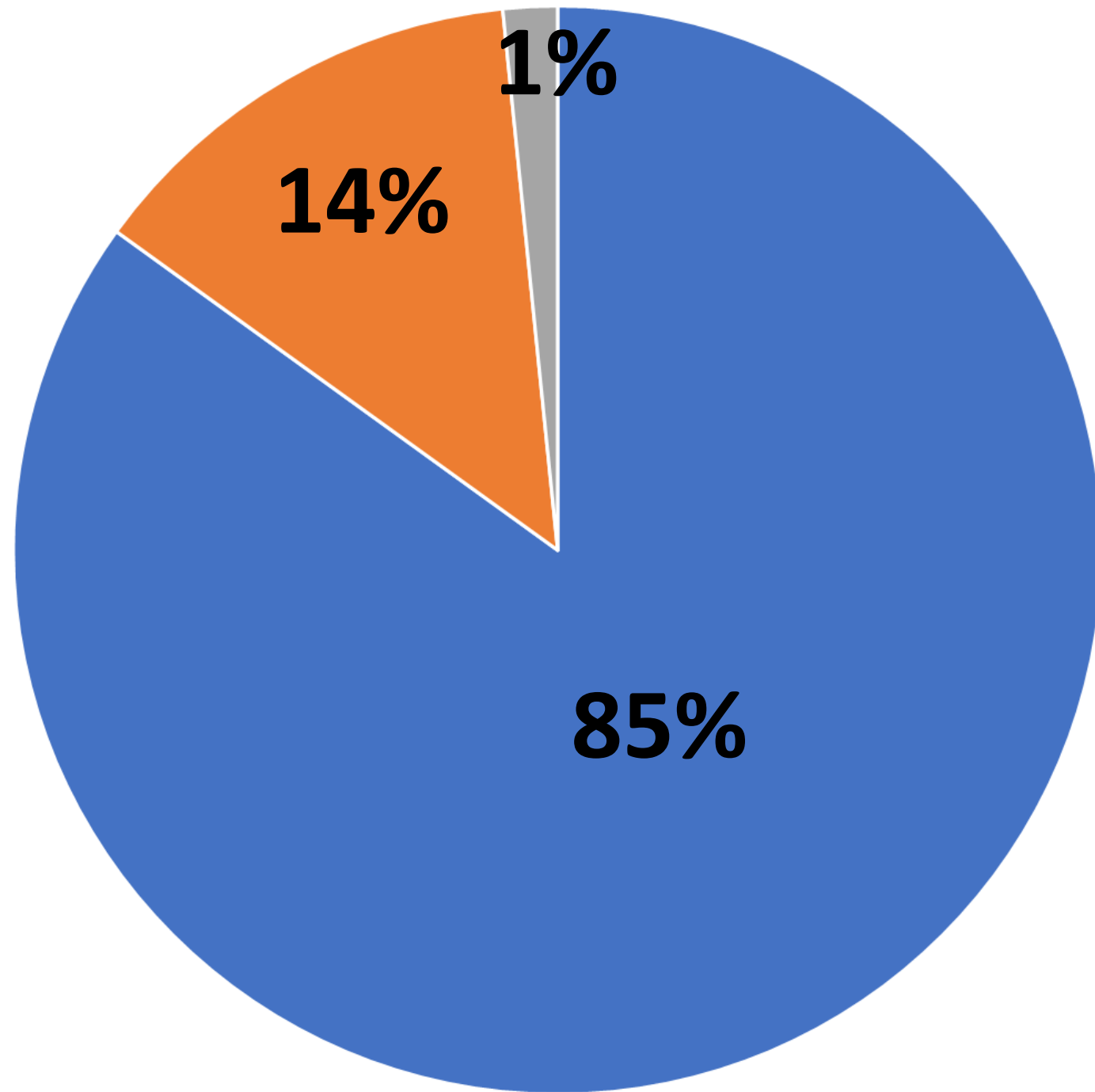
NOW!

2026-2030 Strategic Plan Fieldwork

Plan Launch July 2026

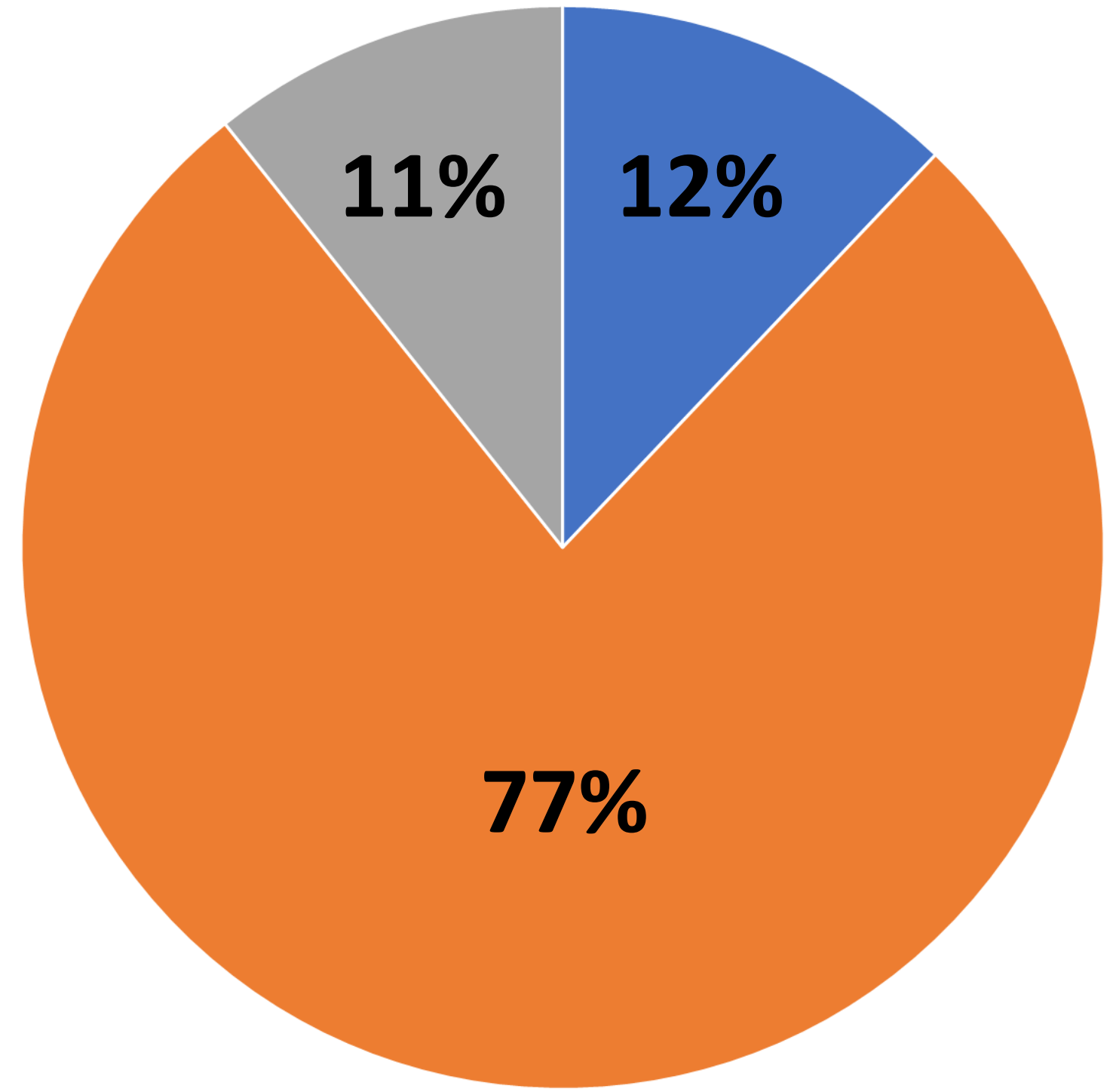
Division FY26 Operating Budget and Expenses

Division Revenue



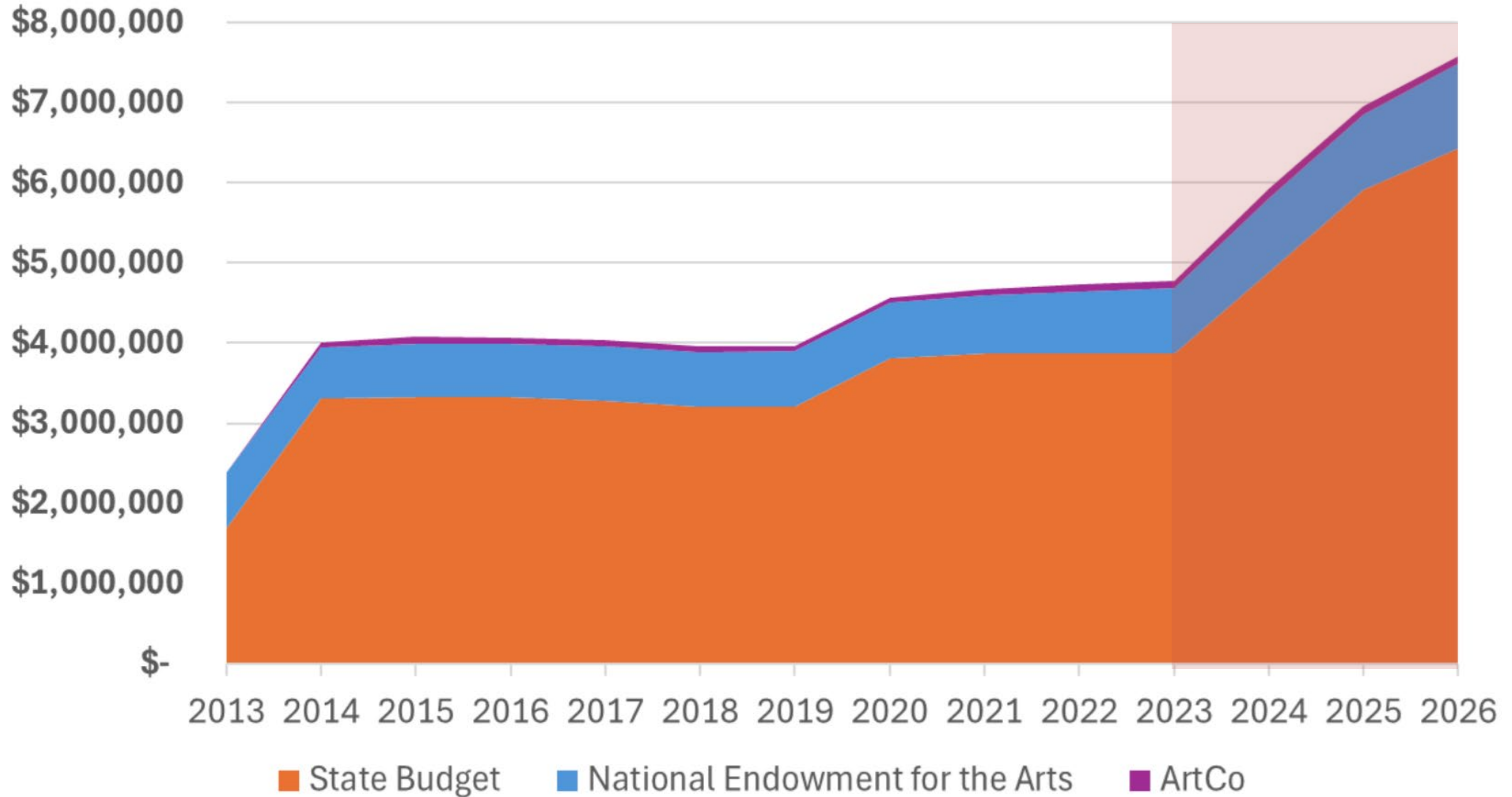
- State Funding
- Federal Funding
- Delaware Community Foundation - ArtCo

Division Expenses



- Overhead
- Grants
- Programs and Services

Division of the Arts Budget



General Operating Support Application History

General Operating Support	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
Rolling Expense Average	\$ 63,591,269	\$ 65,467,917	\$ 71,663,762	\$ 67,465,253	\$ 66,843,210	\$ 69,135,930	\$ 83,171,445
Total Grant Formula Results	\$ 2,964,620	\$ 3,028,670	\$ 3,024,318	\$ 2,954,355	\$ 3,472,970	\$ 3,881,594	\$ 4,391,659
Dollars Granted	\$ 2,467,500	\$ 2,511,000	\$ 2,467,700	\$ 2,467,300	\$ 3,472,970	\$ 3,881,594	\$ 4,391,659
Formula Shorted by	\$ 497,120	\$ 517,670	\$ 556,618	\$ 487,055	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Number of Grants	59	59	61	62	63	63	67
Formula Increased by		\$ 64,050	\$ (4,352)	\$ (69,963)	\$ 518,615	\$ 408,624	\$ 510,065

**Between
FY20 and FY26**

31%

**increase in average
industry
expenditures**

78%

**increase in dollars
granted**

\$500,000

**average increase in
GOS formula
annually**

Total Grant Application Growth

Grant Applications	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	% Growth from 20-26
General Operating Support	59	59	61	62	63	63	67	14%
Arts Stablization Fund	6	7	10	10	13	14	7	17%
Education Resource	17	15	16	14	14	15	13	-24%
Start Up Program	2	2	1	2	5	5	3	50%
Arts Access	38	20	24	26	27	40	33	-13%
Project Support	26	34	30	32	34	42	39	50%
Artist Residency	20	5	8	9	15	17	8	-60%
TranspARTation	19	0	0	37	26	26	22	16%
Individual Artist Fellowship	142	124	133	119	150	197	247	74%
Individual Artist Opportunity	21	30	38	54	44	77	118	462%
Creative Aging	0	0	0	0	11	23	17	N/A
Special Project	16	16	15	29	16	15	8	-50%
Total Applications Received	366	312	336	394	418	534	582	59%

**Between
FY20 and FY26**

124%

**increase in
applications
reviewed**

124%

**increase in
individual artist
applications**

62%

**increase in
community-based
applications**

PROGRAM GROWTH

FY20-FY26





Delaware Arts Summit

In the last several years, the Division has added:



Individual Artist Business Training Sessions

Exploring a partnership with the DSCYF



Delaware Public Art Map



Full length Kaimar Nyckel Mural courtesy of Michael Kaimbach.

From sidewalks to skylines, art transforms Delaware's public spaces

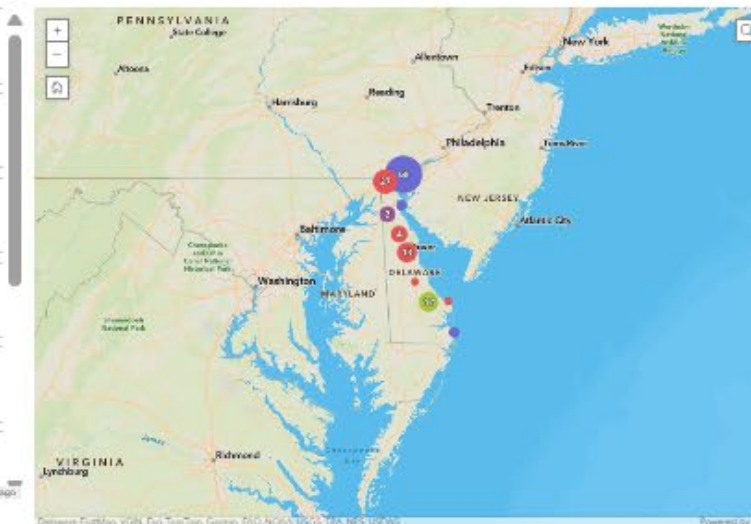
Art isn't confined to museum walls or guarded galleries. It lives in the open, woven into the streets, parks, and buildings that make up our daily lives. A striking sculpture stands outside an office. A vibrant mural transforms a once-blank wall. A hidden gem of creativity appears where you least expect it. Public art is everywhere, shaping our surroundings and inviting us to see the world through a different lens—if we take a moment to look.



Statewide Public Art Map

Find address or place

- Delaware's Constitutional
- Flame and Cross
- Quill and Cube
- Chief Little Owl (III)
Original damaged in 1992, replica carved by Dennis Search, reinstalled 1997-2000
- (Blue Hen)
- Ode to Joy
Last updated: a few months ago



Search Public Art by County



New Castle County

From city streets to scenic parks, public art in New Castle County blends history, innovation, and culture. Explore murals, sculptures, and installations that bring creativity to every corner.



Kent County

Discover how public art adds character to Kent County, where historic charm meets modern expression. Take a closer look at the murals, statues, and community-driven artworks that shape the landscape.



Sussex County

Along the coast and through charming towns, Sussex County's public art reflects its vibrant communities and natural beauty. Find sculptures, murals, and hidden gems waiting to be explored.



 **Delaware**
CreatiVeterans
Creativity, Connection, Growth





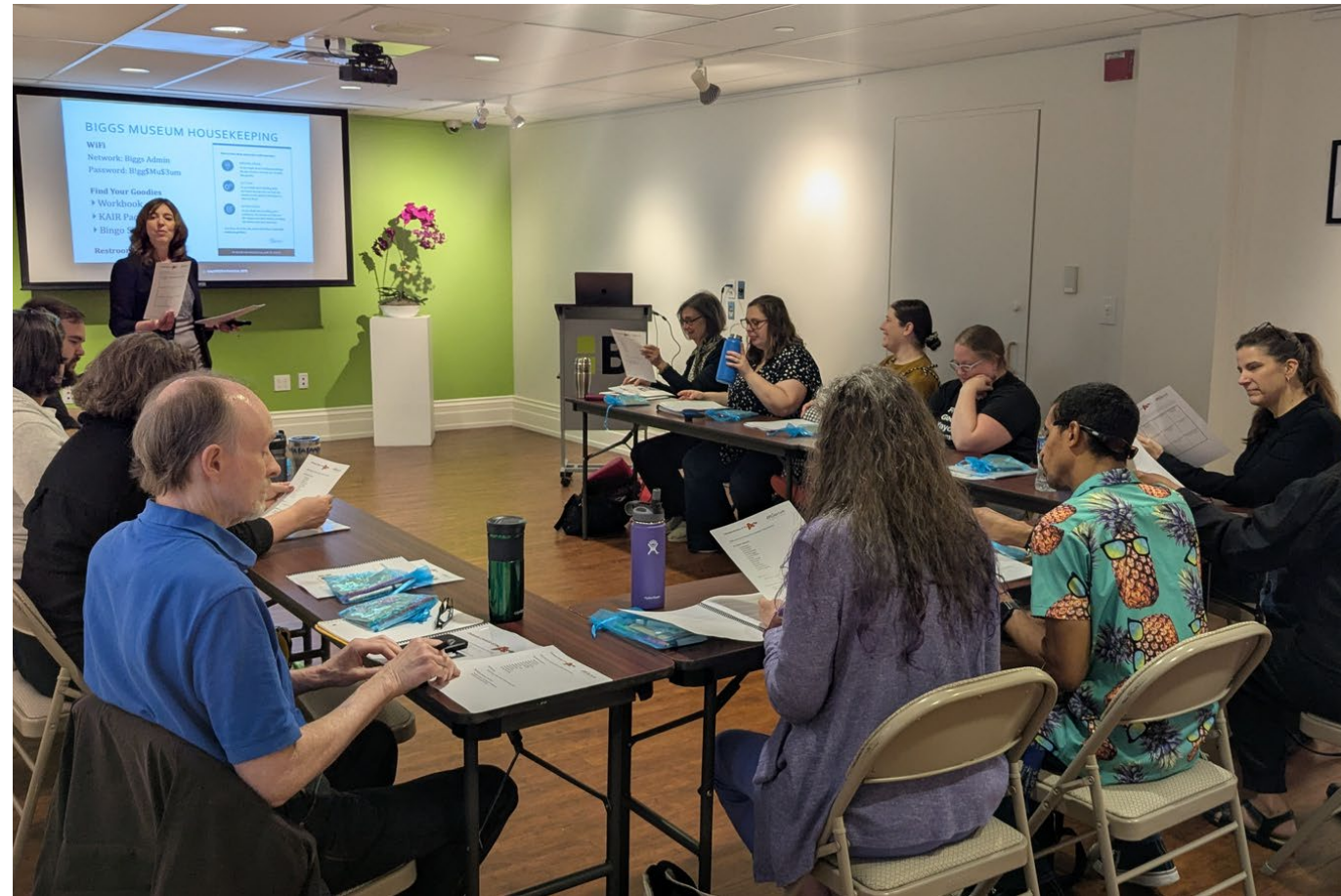
**Delaware
Creative
Aging**



2025 CREATIVE CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

**Presented by: Dr. Elaine Luttrull,
Minerva Financial Arts**

**May 30-31, 2025 at Biggs Museum
and Dover Public Library**



“ It is not often that financial information is geared specifically toward creatives. ”

“ I feel more prepared to make my systems and my creative practice more sustainable after this program. ”



**What's
Next?**



Current Challenges for Creative Economy

Funding and capital constraints (stagnant/shrinking sources; limited grants for individuals)

Strategy and business fundamentals gaps (year-to-year operations; skills gaps including copyright/IP)

Leadership, staffing, and governance strain (leadership/key staff exits; boards not aligned with best practices)

Limited capacity to invest in innovation and workforce development (insufficient capital for iteration and training programs)

Marketing, relevance, and community responsiveness challenges (difficulty implementing meaningful marketing; staying responsive and relevant)

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

With **additional FY2027 staffing and funding capacity**, the Division could embed annual, inflation-aligned adjustments and accommodate new grantees—helping preserve the real value of every dollar invested in Delaware’s creative sector. That added capacity would also allow the Division to make **Delaware Creative Aging, Delaware CreatiVeterans, CreativeKids**, and a dedicated **DelawareScene.com** marketing line permanent—transitioning two proven pilots and a core promotional platform into enduring state-supported activities.

Taken together, these investments would enable the Division to remain a reliable, high-impact funding partner and sustain that effectiveness over time with modest, inflation-aligned growth.

Anticipated
funding needs
related to new
grant formula

Increased
professional
development
opportunities

Increase in
competitive grant
applications

Support for
DelawareScene
Marketing

Financial adoption
of Creative Aging
and CreatiVeterans

Arts and
Innovation
Incubator
Pilot
Continuation

State Arts Agency Staffing Trends

Highlights from the Fiscal Year 2023 Staffing and Compensation Survey

Delaware
8 FTEs



SAA's in our region Median 12 FTEs

Table 3: Number of SAA Employees by Region
Fiscal Year 2023

Region	Min.	Median	Max.
Mid-America	3	10	18
Mid-Atlantic	3	12	35
Midwest	4	7	23
New England	7	8	39
South	4	15	25
West	0	9	35
All SAAs	0	10	39

SAA's in our budget size Median 14 FTEs

Table 4: Number of Employees by Total Agency Revenue Region
Fiscal Year 2023

Revenue	Min.	Median	Max.
Below \$2M	0	7	9
\$2M to \$3M	4	7	13
\$3M to \$5M	3	8	18
\$5M to \$10M	8	14	34
Over \$10M	7	20	39
All SAAs	0	10	39

CREATE Plan Connections

6

Create a full-time government position to represent the interests of the creative economy's self-employed and small businesses

18

Host professional development workshops and lectures

12

Identify additional revenue streams to support Delaware's creative economy

24

Improve the maturity of creative industries-specific marketing practices and knowledge with work-study placements and grants

13

Expand equitable arts funding

25

Perform an annual marketing campaign promoting DelawareScene.com

**THANK
YOU**

