

The Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County and The Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut were the project partners for the Fairfield County study, and were responsible for local implementation and data collection across the County. Both worked closely with the Connecticut Office of the Arts.

Support for the participation of the Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County came from Spinnaker Real Estate Partners, LLC. Support for the participation of the Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut came from Benav Enterprises. Inc., City Center Danbury, and Fairfield County Bank.



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# **Participation in Fairfield County**

Americans for the Arts partnered with 250 local, regional, and statewide organizations that represent the 341 study regions across the nation. To complete this customized analysis for Fairfield County, the Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County, in partnership with the Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut, joined the study as one of the 250 partners.

72 of 311 eligible nonprofit arts and cultural organizations participated in this study - an overall participation rate of 23.2 per cent. The results are based solely on actual survey data collected. No estimates have been made to account for non-participating eligible organizations. Audience-intercept surveying was conducted to measure eventrelated spending by nonprofit arts and culture audiences. In Fairfield County, a total of 791 valid audience-intercept surveys were collected from attendees to nonprofit arts and cultural performances, exhibitions and events during 2016. We thank our partners who assisted with the surveys during their events.

### **Participating Organizations**

Action for Bridgeport Community Development/Library Special Events; Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum; American Chamber Orchestra; Avon Theatre Film Center; Backcountry Jazz; Barnum Museum; Bartlett Arboretum Association; Beechwood Arts; Bridgeport Symphony Youth Orchestra; Brookfield Craft Center; Bruce Museum; Center for Contemporary Printmaking; Center Stage Theatre (Fairfield, CT); Chamber Players of The Greenwich Symphony; Charles Ives Authority for the Performing Arts; Coastal Arts Guild of CT; Connecticut Chamber Choir; Connecticut Society of Portrait Artists; CT Beardsley Zoo; Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County; Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut; Curtain Call; Danbury Cultural Commission; Danbury Music Centre; Darien Arts Center; Discovery Museum; Downtown Cabaret Theatre Company of Bridgeport; Fairfield Museum & History Center; Fairfield Theatre Company; Ferguson Library; Franklin Street Gallery Inc; Greater Bridgeport Symphony Society; Greenwich Arts Council; Greenwich Choral Society; Greenwich Historical Society; Greenwich Symphony Orchestra; Housatonic Community College Foundation; Housatonic Museum Of Art; Intake Organization; Kennedy Center; KEYS (Kids Empowered by Your Support); Klein Memorial Auditorium Foundation; Levitt Pavilion for the Performing Arts; Lockwood Mathews Mansion Museum; Loft Artists Association; Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk; Mendelssohn Choir of Connecticut; Music on the Hill; Music Theatre of Connecticut; NICE Festival; Norwalk 2.0; Norwalk Symphony Society; Pequot Library Association; Quick Center for the Arts; Regional Center for the Arts; Ridgefield Chorale; Ridgefield Symphony Orchestra; Rowayton Arts Center; Shakespeare on the Sound; Silvermine Arts Center; Stamford Museum & Nature Center; Stamford Palace Theatre; Stamford Symphony Orchestra Inc; Stanley L Richter Association For The Arts Inc; Stratford Academy PTA; Stratford Sister Cities Chorus; Westport Arts Center; Westport Cinema Initiative; Westport Country Playhouse; Westport Library; and Westport School of Music.





# ARIS & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY 5

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NONPROFIT ARTS & CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS & THEIR AUDIENCES

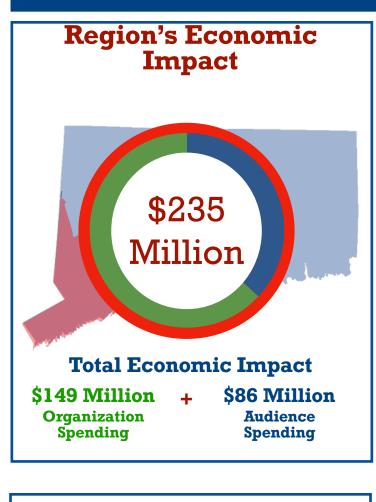
CREATING JOBS. GENERATING COMMERCE. DRIVING TOURISM.

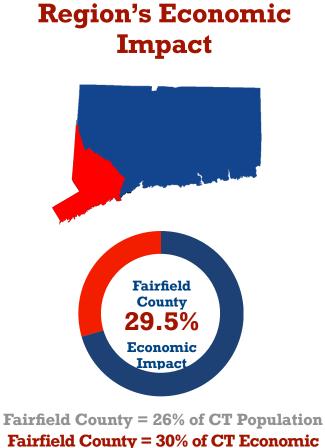
Fairfield County

# CULTURAL ALLIANCE of Fairfield County



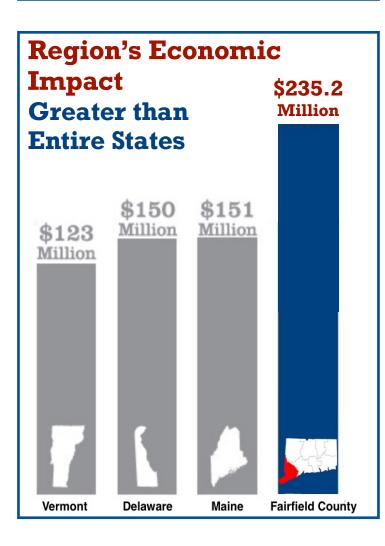


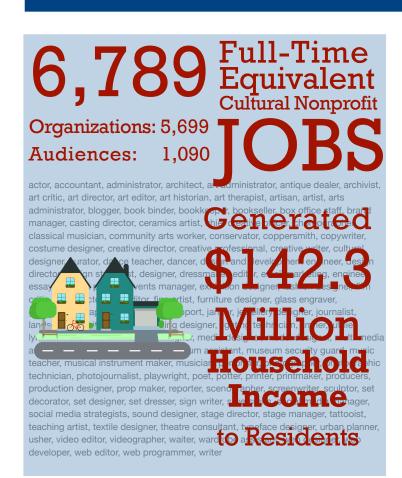




"As a banker, I have visited businesses in almost every city and town in my state. There is a visible difference in places with a vibrant arts community. I see people looking for places to park, stores staying open late, and restaurants packed with diners. The business day is extended and the cash registers are ringing!"

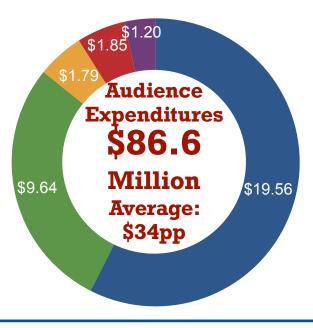
— Ken Fergeson, Chairman, NBC Bank, Oklahoma; Past President, American Bankers Association





Audience Expenditures beyond the price of admission Total Attendance = 2.5 Million Average Expenditure per person:

- Meals & Snacks = \$19.56
- Souvenirs & Gifts = \$9.64
- Ground Transportation = \$1.85





# STATE GOVT REVENUE

Audiences \$3.9 million



LOCAL GOVT REVENUE

Audiences \$2.7 million

#### Organizations \$7.3 million

\*Includes not only income, property, sales, and other taxes, but also license fees, utility fees, user fees, and filing fees. Local government revenue includes funds to city and county government, schools, and special districts. Organizations

This study puts to rest a misconception that communities support arts and culture at the expense of local economic development. In fact, communities that support the arts and culture are investing in an industry that supports jobs, generates government revenue, and is the cornerstone of tourism.

# 82% of Americans believe arts & culture are important to local businesses and the economy Source: Americans for the Arts 2016 survey of 3,020 adults by Ipsos Public Affairs