

# Ontario Arts Year-at-a-glance

A selection of statistics demonstrating the annual impact of Ontario's arts sector, including the reach of public funding for the arts through the Ontario Arts Council (OAC). Compiled by the OAC Research Section (January 2022).

**\$78.6 million**

Total OAC grants

**3,488**

Total number of grants awarded by OAC

**12,056**

Total number of grant applications submitted to OAC

**1,312**

Number of OAC grants to arts organizations

**\$68.2 million**

Total in OAC grants to organizations

**2,176**

Number of OAC grants to individual artists

**\$10.4 million**

Total in OAC grants to individual artists

**\$5.34**

Total public support to the arts through OAC per Ontarian<sup>1</sup>

**51,364**

Total number of public arts activities offered by OAC's annually-funded arts organizations\*

**24.7 million**

Total public attendance at arts events offered by OAC's annually-funded arts organizations\*

**81,418**

Total number of arts education activities for people of all ages presented by OAC's annually-funded arts organizations\*

**4.7 million**

Total number of participants of all ages in arts education activities offered by OAC's annually-funded arts organizations\*

**2.0 million**

Total number of these 4.7 million arts education participants who are children or youth\*

**44,751**

Number of artists employed by OAC's annually-funded arts organizations\*

**60,047**

Total number of people who volunteered at OAC's annually-funded arts organizations\*

**1.7 million**

Number of hours worked by volunteers at OAC's annually-funded arts organizations\*

**\$729.4 million**

Total expenditures of OAC's annually-funded arts organizations\*

**206**

Total number of Ontario communities where resident artists and arts organizations received OAC grants

**86%**

Percent of Ontarians 16 years or older that attended a live arts event or performance in 2016<sup>2</sup>

**54%**

Percent of Ontarians 16 years or older who personally participated in artistic activities (such as singing, dancing, visual art, creative writing, etc.) in 2016<sup>2</sup>

**67%**

Percent of Ontarians 16 years or older who used the Internet to engage with the arts online in 2016<sup>2</sup>

**288,306**

Arts and culture jobs in Ontario – **4.1%** of total Ontario employment<sup>3</sup>

**\$27.5 billion**

Direct economic impact of arts and culture in Ontario – **3.3%** of Ontario's GDP<sup>3</sup>

## Sources:

**All data cited are most recent available.** Unless otherwise noted, the source for all figures is OAC's grants database for the year 2020-2021.

\* Reflects actual data for 2018-2019 for 485 organizations from 2020-2021 OAC operating applications/CADAC

<sup>1</sup> Based on Ontario population of 14,734,014 as of July 2020 (Source: Statistics Canada, Table 17-10-0005-01)

<sup>2</sup> *Arts and Heritage Access and Availability Survey 2016-2017*. Environics Research Group, March 2017

<sup>3</sup> *Provincial and Territorial Culture Indicators, 2019*. (product perspective) Statistics Canada, May 2021.

For further information contact us at [info@arts.on.ca](mailto:info@arts.on.ca) or visit the Research & Impact section of our website at [www.arts.on.ca](http://www.arts.on.ca).



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