

Policy Research and Analysis

The Office of Policy Research & Analysis (OPRA) supports the Chairman and NEA staff with statistical and other information about the agency's applications and awards, including grantee and applicant profiles, the distribution of awards by state and artistic discipline, and analysis of overall trends in NEA funding. The Office's Research Division issues periodic reports on larger issues affecting artists and arts organizations that are distributed to Congress, the arts community, and the public. These reports and analyses help shape changes in the NEA's grantmaking policies.

One of OPRA's major projects is a geographic database that provides a comprehensive picture of the broad reach of NEA-supported activities. In FY 2000, NEA's 1,900 grants and awards resulted in an additional 7,600 indirect activities via touring, education, and outreach programs. In all, more than 3,600 different cities and towns throughout the country benefited from NEA grants through activities such as dance company tours, symphony and opera presentations in schools, poetry readings in libraries, and traveling exhibitions of works by major visual artists.



In 2000, OPRA's Research Division published the following reports and notes:

Report #40: *More than Once in a Blue Moon: Multiple Job Holding by American Artists.* This report examines artists' employment, specifically multiple jobholding or moonlighting, over three decades with comparisons to other professional occupations.

Report #41: *The Geography of Participation in the Arts and Culture.* This report uses data from the 1997 *Survey of Public Participation in the Arts* to investigate geographic variations in participation rates in arts and culture.

Report #42: *Age and Arts Participation, 1982–1997.* Based on the *Survey of Public Participation in the Arts* conducted in 1982, 1992, and 1997, this study examines the aging of arts audiences and the role that age plays in predicting arts attendance.

Note #75: *The Arts in the GDP.* Data from the

Bureau of Economic Analysis show that consumers spent \$9.4 billion on admissions to performing arts events in 1998. This total was \$2.6 billion more than consumers spent at movie theaters and \$1.8 billion more than spending at spectator sports events.

Note #76: *Artist Employment in 1999.* Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that more than 2 million people were employed (in primary jobs) as artists in 1999—a gain of 76,000 workers over the 1998 figure.

In FY 2000, the Research Division partnered with the National Center for Charitable Statistics and the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies to develop the Unified Database of Arts Organizations (UDAO). Grant makers, policy analysts, researchers, and arts organizations can use the UDAO to gain critical information such as economic impact studies and studies of revenue sources.