



NEBRASKA CULTURAL ENDOWMENT
Arts + Humanities
LIVELIHOOD

OVERVIEW

The Nebraska Cultural Endowment (NCE) is a 501c3 Nebraska nonprofit corporation which sustains Nebraska as a vibrant and culturally significant state by raising private endowment contributions, matched by public investment, to support arts and humanities programming statewide.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

It is thanks to our Nebraska Legislature and private donors that NCE remains the **only public-private cultural trust** in the country which supports both the arts and humanities.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE

Through this nationally-unique partnership, private contributions to the Nebraska Cultural Endowment are **invested in perpetuity and matched**, dollar-for-dollar, by the State of Nebraska.

CURRENT

While maintaining the current \$21 million corpus, earnings from these private and public investments support the statewide educational projects and programs of the Nebraska Arts Council (NAC) and Humanities Nebraska (HN). Of the \$21 million, \$10.5 million is held by the State of Nebraska and \$10.5 million is managed privately by the NCE. Over **\$13 million has been distributed** since the NCE's inception.

FUTURE

Under current legislation, the NCE can match up to an additional \$5 million in donations to NCE's private endowment. **It is the NCE's goal to continue growing these funds through cash and estate gifts.**

IMPACT

The Nebraska Cultural Endowment expands the programs and projects of the Nebraska Arts Council and Humanities Nebraska, who collectively support a great number of cultural activities in Nebraska, including **\$5,778,815 in grants and programs between 2017 and 2018**. These programs created **over 6,000,000 cultural interactions** across Nebraska. **35% of this support comes from the NCE.**

NCE's impact reaches **all 93 counties and each of the state's 49 legislative districts**, providing access to cultural programming that would otherwise be cost-prohibitive.

Through the Nebraska Arts Council, the NCE supports statewide arts education including underwriting school buses for Nebraska students to experience cultural field trips. NCE and NAC also provide annual operating support to cultural institutions like the Omaha Symphony, Opera Omaha, the Lied Center for Performing Arts, the Sheldon Museum of Art, and the Museum of Nebraska Art, among many others.

Through Humanities Nebraska, the NCE funds grants and programs statewide that explore history and culture, enhance children's and veterans' literacy, and nurture civic engagement and civil discourse. Such programs include Prime Time Family Reading Time, Nebraska Warrior Writers, Capitol Forum on America's Future, and a humanities Speakers Bureau.

The Nebraska Arts Council and Humanities Nebraska are able to provide complete program data and answer any question about their grants, programs and services upon request.



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2014-2018 NAC/HN GRANTS & PROGRAMS IN NEBRASKA BY POPULATION					
	Amount	% of Grants & Programs		2018 Population	% of Population
Lincoln Metro	\$ 2,514,037	18.70%	Lincoln Metro	331,519	17.18%
Omaha Metro	\$ 5,429,055	40.39%	Omaha Metro	975,454	50.56%
Greater Nebraska	\$ 5,500,146	40.91%	Greater Nebraska	622,327	32.26%
TOTAL	\$ 13,443,238		TOTAL	1,929,300	

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

- a. 1998 Initial Set-Aside of \$5 million (appropriated all at once)
 - i. Legislature adopted Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund (CPEF) 42-1.
 - 1. Income of the CPEF supports Nebraska Arts Council (70%) and Nebraska Humanities Council, d.b.a. Humanities Nebraska (30%).
 - ii. Nebraska Cultural Endowment (NCE) formed to raise endowed contributions in order to access the income of CPEF. (1:1 requirement)

- b. Second \$5 million set-aside (2009-2016, appropriated over time)
 - i. Unanimous Legislative approval.
 - ii. NCE required to raise endowed contributions to match principal additions to, and drawdowns of earnings from, the CPEF.
 - iii. Appropriations were interrupted and modified as a result of economic downturns and resulting state budget issues.
 - iv. \$5 million private principal match requirement met at the end of 2016.

- c. Third \$5 million set-aside (enacted 2016)
 - i. Unanimous Legislative approval.
 - ii. NCE required to raise endowed contributions to match principal additions to, and drawdowns of earnings from, the CPEF.
 - iii. Appropriations scheduled in annual transfers of \$500,000 to CPEF for 10 years (2017-2026).
 - iv. Temporarily suspended in 2017 and 2018 due to state fiscal situation.
 - 1. Adjusted 10-year timeframe to 2019-2028
 - v. The first two transfers of \$500,000 are included in the 2019/2020 biennium state budget.

CONTACT

Kyle Cartwright, executive director, at **402-430-1328** or **kyle@nebraskaculture.org**

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions regarding the NCE or how you can play a role in ensuring that current and future generations have access to vital arts and humanities programming.

*Together, we are cultivating a legacy for the arts and humanities in Nebraska.
 Please join us.*