A 2017 Tennessee Arts Commission Report found Tennessee:

Added 4.1% of $15.3 billion to the state economy from arts and cultural productions

Employed more than 92,000 in arts and cultural industries, with wages and benefits totaling more than $6.4 billion

Since 2016, the National Endowment for the Arts distributed more than $8.1 million in Tennessee including these grants to UT Knoxville:

- $75,000 for creation of artworks responding to the Great Smoky Mountain wildfires of 2016
- $15,000 for Clarence Brown Theatre's production of "Alabama Story"
- $10,000 for recording project of composers underrepresented in Western music

According to a 2017 Survey of Public Participation in the Arts, conducted in partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau, 48% of adults attended live music, theater or dance performances. Since 2016, the National Endowment for the Arts distributed more than $8.1 million in Tennessee including these grants to UT Knoxville:

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