Arts Facts . . . Arts are an Export Industry
Arts and cultural goods and services trade surpluses reached $26.4 billion in 2014. The arts consistently outperform the overall U.S. Balance of Trade.

Arts and Cultural Production Imports and Exports 1998-2014
[Billions of Dollars]

- The United States has exported more arts and cultural goods and services than it imported since 2006, including during the Great Recession. In 2014, the arts netted a $26.4-billion-dollar trade surplus.
- The arts have outperformed the overall United States Balance of Trade, increasing its surplus tenfold from 2006 to 2014, while the United States goods and services trade has registered a deficit every year over the same period.
- Within the arts industries, some manufacturing-based commodities such as musical instruments, and jewelry and silverware do register trade deficits.
- Selected Arts and Culture Trade Balances in 2014:
  - Movies and TV shows: +$11.7 billion
  - Independent artists, writers and performers: +$0.9 billion
  - Design services: +$6.2 billion
  - Sound recording: +$1.3 billion
  - Performing Arts: +$0.2 billion
  - Jewelry and Silverware: -$3.2 billion

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Arts and Culture Satellite Account, 2017