Arts and Cultural Production Imports and Exports 1998-2015

[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 2015, the arts netted a $21-billion-dollar trade surplus.**
- The arts have outperformed the overall United States Balance of Trade, increasing its surplus tenfold from 2006 to 2015, 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. Following are selected Arts and Culture industries and their trade balances in 2014:
  - Movies and TV shows: +$11.9 billion
  - Independent artists, writers and performers: +$0.8 billion
  - Design services: +$6.5 billion
  - Sound recording: +$0.49 billion
  - Performing Arts: +$0.12 billion
  - Jewelry and Silverware: -$5.7 billion