Arts Facts . . . Private Sector Philanthropy
Giving to the arts by individuals, foundations, and corporations grew 8.7 percent to $19.51 billion in 2017—representing 4.76 percent of all charitable giving and the sixth consecutive year of growth in contributed dollars.

Private Giving to Arts, Culture & Humanities: 2007 - 2017
[Billions of Current Dollars]

Private Giving to Arts, Culture & Humanities as Percent of Total Philanthropy (2007 - 2017)

- In 2017, private sector giving to the arts, culture, and humanities—by individuals, foundations, and corporations—was $19.51 billion, up 8.7 percent (6.5 percent when adjusted for inflation) from a revised $17.95 billion in 2016. This marked the sixth consecutive year of growth and makes 2017 the highest arts contribution year ever, even when adjusted for inflation.

- The percentage of all charitable giving going to the arts in 2017 was 4.76 percent. This was a fractional decrease from 4.81 percent in 2016. Maintaining a strong and steady share of overall philanthropy demonstrates relevance of the arts sector. Even small changes can have significant financial implications.

- Private contributions to all charities were up 5.2 percent (3.0 percent when adjusted for inflation) reaching $410.02 billion in 2016. Giving by corporations to all charities had the largest percentage increase in 2017—8.0 percent (5.7 percent when adjusted for inflation), totaling $20.77 billion.