Government Support for the Arts
Federal, State and Local
1994 to 2011

- **Local** government arts funding declined for a third consecutive year—down 8 percent, from an estimated $765 million to $704 million. 2008 was a high-water mark with nearly $860 million in local government arts funding. (Nationally, this amounts to $2.26 per capita.)

- **State** legislative arts appropriations, which includes line items, also decreased for a third consecutive year—dropping from $293 million to $276 million in 2011 (down 6 percent). State arts funding, which tracks closely with the economy, had record growth in the late 1990’s—reaching a high of $451 million in 2001—followed by a precipitous drop to $281 million by 2004 (38 percent decrease). (Nationally, this amounts to 89 cents per capita.)

- In 2011, the **National Endowment for the Arts** appropriation was $155 million, an 8 percent decrease from $167.5 million in 2010—ending a 10-year upward trend in NEA funding. The NEA’s budget high point was $176 million in 1992. (50 cents per capita.)

Sources: Americans for the Arts, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies. Revised September 2011.