Twenty Years of Government Support for the Arts
Federal, State and Local
(1994 to 2013)

- **Local** government arts funding reversed a four-year decline with a modest increase to an estimated $727 million in 2013*—up 3 percent from $706 million in 2012. 2008 was a high-water mark for local government arts funding, reaching $858 million before a recession-driven decline. ($727 million = $2.31 per capita)

- **State** legislative arts appropriations also increased for the first time in four years—rising from $260 million to $279 million** in 2013 (7 percent increase). 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—which was followed by a precipitous drop to $281 million by 2004 (38 percent decrease). ($279 million = 88 cents per capita)

- **Federal** appropriations to the National Endowment for the Arts were $146 million in 2012, a 6 percent decrease from $155 million in 2011, and the second consecutive annual decrease. The NEA’s 2013 budget is currently operating under a continuing resolution setting funding at the previous year’s level of $146 million. Additionally, one-time only sequestration cuts could further reduce this funding level by approximately $7 million in FY 13. ($146 million = 46 cents per capita)

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**Arts Facts . . . Government Arts Funding**
After four consecutive years of decline, local and state government arts funding both show modest growth in 2013. NEA funding remains flat at $146.2 million, pending the outcome of the FY2013 continuing resolution.

*Estimated; **Includes line item appropriations; ***Pending outcome of FY2013 continuing resolution and sequestration
Sources: Americans for the Arts, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, 2013.