This map illustrates the impact of GCA on counties throughout the state of Georgia. Each marker represents a type of grant, program, or service delivered to the county in which the marker is located. In FY17, GCA directly and indirectly delivered support to 128 of the state’s 159 counties. A total of 4.4 million individual Georgians directly benefitted from the programs and services delivered by GCA’s grantees.\footnote{1}
GRANT RECIPIENTS

- GCA awarded four types of grants in FY17 - Partner Grants, Project Grants, Arts Education Grants, and Vibrant Communities Grants. A total of $1.2 million was awarded to 184 grantees in 88 counties. The markers identify counties that are home to organizations that directly received grant funds from GCA in FY17.

- 78% of Project, Partner, and Arts Education Program Grant recipients said that they would have had to cut back on the anticipated scope of the project or programming if they had not received the grant.
- 88% of all grantees said they were able to leverage the GCA grant to help raise additional funds.
- 100% of all grantees said that other funders look more favorably on their organization because they are funded by GCA.
- 79% of all grantees said that jobs would have been affected if they had not received the grant.
- 96% of all grantees said that the grant helped them reach new audiences.
- 83% of all grantees said that the GCA grant allowed them to launch a new collaboration or partnership.

GRANT RECIPIENT SERVICE AREAS

- These 95 counties are served by GCA grant recipient organizations based in another county. Grantee organizations include those receiving Partner, Project, and Arts Education Program Grants.

ARTS LEARNING PROGRAMS

- In FY17, GCA continued implementing the recommendations of the Governor’s Arts Learning Task Force with expanded Arts Education Program Grants and reviving the Georgia Teaching Artists Registry with 25 artists. GCA staff also delivered a number of presentations around the state on the Task Force Recommendations, the research results, and GCA arts education programs and resources. GCA staff also conducted site visits to tour K-12 schools with model arts education programs and to observe Georgia teaching artists working with students. In addition, GCA partnered with the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education (GPEE) to host a Critical Issues Forum at the Georgia Film Academy. The theme of the Forum was Arts Learning and the Innovation Workforce. GCA staff also worked closely with the Department of Education on the review and update of Fine Arts Standards and on the development of the state’s ESSA plan.
LITERARY ARTS PROGRAMS

GCA serves the state through a variety of literary arts programs, including Poet Laureate visits; the Poet Laureate’s Prize; Literary Event Grants of Georgia and the Georgia Writers Registry administered by the Georgia Writers Association; and Poetry Out Loud, managed by the Atlanta History Center. Markers for the Poet Laureate’s Prize represent counties where students who submitted poems reside. From the original works of poetry submitted for the prize, Georgia Poet Laureate Judson Mitcham selected one winner and four finalists. Markers for Poetry Out Loud represent counties that are home to participating schools. A total of 17,065 students from 90 schools participated in Georgia’s Poetry Out Loud program in FY17. The Georgia Poetry Out Loud state champ, Samara Huggins, went on to win the National Finals in Washington, DC.

ACKNOWLEDGING ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE & PRESERVING CULTURAL HERITAGE

GCA recognizes significant accomplishments by Georgia artists and arts organizations through two programs – the Governor’s Awards in the Arts & Humanities and The Art of Georgia. The Governor’s Awards in the Arts & Humanities acknowledge career-long contributions by individuals and organizations working in the arts and humanities in Georgia. The Art of Georgia features work by individual artists from throughout the state in a rotating juried exhibition at the State Capitol. The Art of Georgia featured work by 85 Georgia artists.

GCA also preserves and shares Georgia’s artistic heritage through the State Art Collection and the Georgia Traditional Arts Research Collection. Georgia’s State Art Collection is an extensive, vibrant chronicle of work created by Georgia artists from the 1970s to the 1990s. The Collection serves as an educational tool that both disseminates knowledge about the arts and artists of Georgia and preserves the state’s artistic heritage. It is available to view digitally on the GCA website, as well as in the New Georgia Encyclopedia and the Digital Library of Georgia.

Georgia’s Traditional Arts Research Collection contains more than 20,000 individual artifacts, including audio, video, documents, and images collected from the early 1970’s through 2009. In partnership with Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, GCA has led the process to digitize the collection to increase accessibility and exposure. Digitization of the collection was completed in FY16. The Digital Library of Georgia continues to add files from the collection to their online catalog, making the collection available to anyone with internet access. In FY17, GCA began work on a series of digital exhibits to share work in the collection through the New Georgia Encyclopedia.

GCA LOCAL CONSULTATIONS

The staff at Georgia Council for the Arts travels throughout the state to participate in Tourism Resource Team visits, Tourism Workshops, Grant Workshops, speaking engagements, trainings, conferences, site visits, events, webinars, meetings, and numerous other convenings – all to support the growth and development of the arts in Georgia.

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1 The change in GCA grantee total audiences served from previous fiscal years is due in large part to a recent adjustment in how audience data is counted and reported to the NEA.