

# **Greenbook**

## **LBO Analysis of Enacted Budget**

### **Ohio Arts Council**

**Keegan Kennedy, Budget Analyst**  
**July 2025**

#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>Quick look.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Agency overview .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Vetoed provision – Percent for Arts Program.....	1
<b>Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 budget .....</b>	<b>2</b>
Operating Expenses (ALIs 370321 & 370602).....	2
Percent for Art Acquisitions (ALI 370603).....	2
Grant programs (ALIs 370502 & 370601) .....	3

Attachment:

Appropriation Spreadsheet

# LBO Greenbook

## Ohio Arts Council

### Quick look...

- The Ohio Arts Council, created in 1965, assists in the development of the arts and the preservation of Ohio's cultural heritage by providing financial assistance and services to Ohio artists and arts organizations.
- The Council's governing body consists of a board of 19 members that is supported by 19 full-time employees.
- Total appropriations: \$28.6 million in FY 2026 and \$28.5 million in FY 2027.
- Nearly 94% of funding is appropriated from the GRF.

Fund Group	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
General Revenue	\$24,650,422	\$25,802,761	\$26,710,595	\$26,781,201
Dedicated Purpose	\$260,455	\$434,631	\$510,000	\$345,000
Federal	\$1,412,602	\$1,351,792	\$1,350,000	\$1,350,000
Total	\$26,323,479	\$27,589,184	\$28,570,595	\$28,476,201
% change	--	4.8%	3.2%	-0.3%
GRF % change	--	4.7%	3.5%	0.3%

### Agency overview

The Ohio Arts Council promotes the visual and performing arts in Ohio through cultural and educational activities and by providing economic assistance in the form of competitive grants to artists, art organizations, and communities. The Council awards grants that support arts learning and education, long-term community vitality, and cultural diversity, among other purposes. It also operates the Riffe Gallery in Columbus and oversees acquisitions for the state's Percent for Art Program, which places artwork in buildings financed by state capital funds.

The Council is governed by a board consisting of 19 uncompensated members, 15 of whom are appointed by the Governor and four of whom are nonvoting legislative members (two appointed by each chamber). The board meets four times per year. An executive director manages the Council's daily operations. The Council's operations are supported by a staff of 19 full-time employees, including an executive director, program coordinators, grants coordinators, and other administrative and support staff.

### Vetoed provision – Percent for Art Program

The bill eliminated the Percent for Art Program, which designates funds for the acquisition, commission, and installation of art for new or renovated public buildings. The Percent for Art Program sets aside up to 1% of state capital funding for new and renovated public

buildings with state capital appropriations of more than \$4 million, to purchase, commission, and install original works of art. Of this 1% set aside, 7% may be used by the Arts Council for administrative costs with respect to the program which is deposited to the credit of the Per Cent for Art Acquisitions Fund (Fund 4B70). The Governor vetoed this program elimination, thus restoring current law. The program will continue to be administered by the Council.

## Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 budget

### Operating Expenses (ALIs 370321 & 370602)

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
<b>GRF ALI 370321, Operating Expenses</b>					
\$2,053,668	\$2,047,783	\$2,464,000	\$2,525,000	\$3,172,595	\$3,243,201
% change	-0.3%	20.3%	2.5%	25.6%	2.2%
<b>Fund 4600 ALI 370602, Arts Council Program Support</b>					
\$255,183	\$373,102	\$236,415	\$277,831	\$345,000	\$345,000
% change	46.2%	-36.6%	17.5%	24.2%	0.0%

These two line items support the Council's operating expenses including payroll and benefits, rent, supplies and maintenance, and equipment costs. Most of these administrative expenses are associated with grant programs, communications to and professional development for the arts community, development of partnerships with local and statewide arts and cultural organizations, research, and executive leadership, which includes oversight and fiscal management.

Line item 370602, Arts Council Program Support, is supported with money appropriated from the Gifts and Donations Fund (Fund 4600), which consists of revenue from intrastate transfer vouchers from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to pay for the operation of the Riffe Gallery, as well as contributions and revenue from other sources that are tied to specific programs. The Riffe Gallery in the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts in downtown Columbus showcases the work of Ohio artists and curators, exhibitions produced by the Riffe Gallery and other Ohio institutions, and the collections of the state's museums and galleries.

### Percent for Art Acquisitions (ALI 370603)

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
<b>Fund 4B70 ALI 370603, Percent for Art Acquisitions</b>					
\$159,183	\$153,360	\$24,040	\$156,800	\$165,000	\$0
% change	-3.7%	-84.3%	552.2%	5.2%	-100.0%

This line item pays for costs related to the Percent for Art Program, which provides for the purchase, commission, and installation of original artwork in new or renovated public buildings. This program sets aside up to 1% of state capital funding for new and renovated public buildings with state capital appropriations of more than \$4 million, to purchase, commission, and install original works of art. Of this 1% set aside, 7% may be used for administrative costs with respect to the program. Eligible expenses for this line item include costs associated with the selection of artists for specific projects, such as travel and other expenses.

### Grant programs (ALIs 370502 & 370601)

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
<b>GRF ALI 370502, State Program Subsidies</b>					
\$19,170,015	\$20,068,268	\$22,186,422	\$23,277,761	\$23,538,000	\$23,538,000
% change	4.7%	10.6%	4.9%	1.1%	0.0%
<b>Fund 3140 ALI 370601, Federal Support</b>					
\$788,451	\$1,413,073	\$1,412,602	\$1,351,792	\$1,350,000	\$1,350,000
% change	79.2%	0.0%	-4.3%	-0.1%	0.0%

These two line items support various grants for arts and cultural programs and are funded by both the GRF and federal grant resources. During the last biennium, the Council awarded approximately \$49 million through more than 2,600 grants, supporting an estimated 42 million arts experiences for Ohioans, including more than ten million for young people and youth benefiting from the arts.

Federal line item 370601, Federal Support, is used to make grant awards funded by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). States are funded based on two primary criteria: (1) consideration of each state's population and (2) a competitive merit-based award in arts education, underserved persons, and folk art. Strict parameters govern how National Endowment for the Arts funds may be used. The budget continues uncodified law that prohibits the line item's funding for administrative costs unless required under the conditions of the federal grant.

**FY 2026 - FY 2027 Final Appropriations  
All Fund Groups - Detail**

**H.B. 96 - Main Operating Appropriations Bill**

Detail by Agency			FY 2024	FY 2025	Appropriation FY 2026	Appropriation FY 2027	FY 2025 to FY 2026 % Change	FY 2026 to FY 2027 % Change
<b>ART Ohio Arts Council</b>								
GRF	370321	Operating Expenses	\$2,464,000	\$2,525,000	\$3,172,595	\$3,243,201	25.65%	2.23%
GRF	370502	State Program Subsidies	\$22,186,422	\$23,277,761	\$23,538,000	\$23,538,000	1.12%	0.00%
<b>General Revenue Fund Subtotal</b>			<b>\$24,650,422</b>	<b>\$25,802,761</b>	<b>\$26,710,595</b>	<b>\$26,781,201</b>	<b>3.52%</b>	<b>0.26%</b>
4600	370602	Arts Council Program Support	\$236,415	\$277,831	\$345,000	\$345,000	24.18%	0.00%
4B70	370603	Percent For Art Acquisitions	\$24,040	\$156,800	\$165,000	\$0	5.23%	-100.00%
<b>Dedicated Purpose Fund Group Subtotal</b>			<b>\$260,455</b>	<b>\$434,631</b>	<b>\$510,000</b>	<b>\$345,000</b>	<b>17.34%</b>	<b>-32.35%</b>
3140	370601	Federal Support	\$1,412,602	\$1,351,792	\$1,350,000	\$1,350,000	-0.13%	0.00%
<b>Federal Fund Group Subtotal</b>			<b>\$1,412,602</b>	<b>\$1,351,792</b>	<b>\$1,350,000</b>	<b>\$1,350,000</b>	<b>-0.13%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>Ohio Arts Council Total</b>			<b>\$26,323,478</b>	<b>\$27,589,184</b>	<b>\$28,570,595</b>	<b>\$28,476,201</b>	<b>3.56%</b>	<b>-0.33%</b>