

NEWARK ARTS COUNCIL

IMPACT REPORT | 2025-2026

POWERING NEWARK'S ARTS & CULTURE ECONOMY

PHOTOS BY KB VISUALZ STUDIOS & TONY TURNER PHOTOGRAPHY



WHO WE ARE + WHAT WE DO

Newark Arts Council champions Newark artists and creative entrepreneurs, who have long powered the city's cultural and economic prosperity, so they can remain rooted, recognized, and resourced as Newark grows.

Through grant funding, professional development, creative opportunities, and space to showcase their work, Newark Arts Council has invested in Newark's arts and culture economy for over 45 years. We empower artists to shape the city's growth, build sustainable careers, and lead thriving creative communities.

3 PILLARS:

- ARTISTS & CREATIVE ENTREPRENEURS
- ARTS EDUCATION & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
- CREATIVE PLACEMAKING + CULTURAL DISTRICT GROWTH



NEWARK'S MOMENT



Cities with vibrant arts scenes encourage residents to stay in the city instead of spending elsewhere. Visitors drawn by arts and cultural events are more likely to shop locally and use services nearby.

This can help capture more of Newark's \$6 billion in resident retail spending power that currently leaks outside city limits.

- Newark's cultural + economic momentum
- Growing creative sector + demand for space/opportunity
- The gap Newark Arts fills (access, infrastructure, funding pathways)

OUR MODEL

- We fund artists
- We produce platforms & programs
- We activate spaces + bring partners
- We build pipelines (youth → emerging → working artists)
- We generate economic activity (commissions, vendors, local spend)





BY THE NUMBERS

- **30+** Partners/sponsors leveraged
- **371+** Grants awarded
- **500+** Events/programs produced
- **2500+** Artists served annually
- **15K+** Annual Attendance
- **37K+** Youth/students reached
- **300K+** Dollars circulated to artists/vendors in 2025
- **\$1M+** In ArtStart Grants awarded to artist-led community projects

FLAGSHIP PROGRAMS

Newark Arts Festival (NAF)

Platforming Newark artists, driving cultural tourism, citywide activation

ArtStart Grants

Direct funding + support for Newark-based artists/creatives

ArtSpace and Express Newark Residencies: Galleries + Exhibitions

Year-round visibility + professional development opportunities

ArtSource Creative Services

Creative economy workforce + earned revenue model

Youth / Education Programs

Art access + pipeline-building



PARTNERSHIPS & TRUST

Through cross-sector collaboration with Newark Arts Council and partners across business, education, development, and tourism, arts and culture become a catalyst for economic growth, community connection, and shared prosperity.



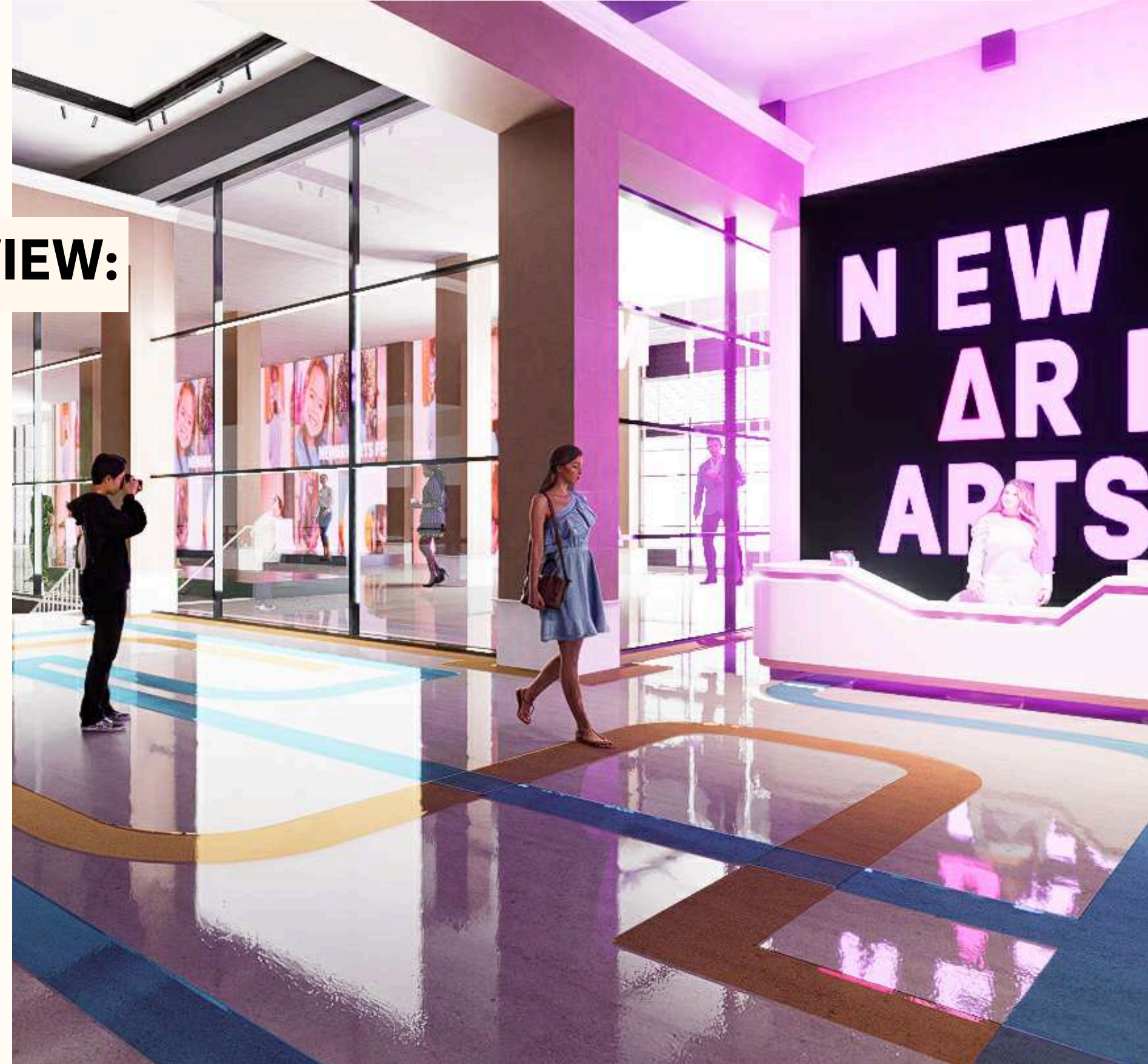
THE FUTURE: DNA / DREAM AT NEWARK ARTS

DREAM AT NEWARK ARTS (DNA) OVERVIEW:

- 100,000+ sq ft creative hub at 707 Broad Street
- Studios, makerspace, gallery/program space, black box theater, HQ

WHY IT MATTERS:

- Affordable space
- Workforce development (film/TV alignment)
- Long-term creative economy infrastructure



WHAT WE NEED

01

General Operating Support
(stability + capacity)

02

Direct Artist Support + Grants

03

Arts Education + Youth
Pipeline

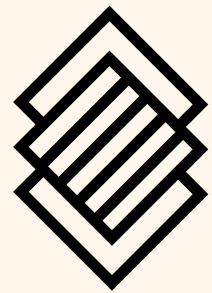
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Festival + Public
Programming

05

Space + Infrastructure (DNA
/ facilities)

ROI: WHAT YOUR GIFT MAKES POSSIBLE



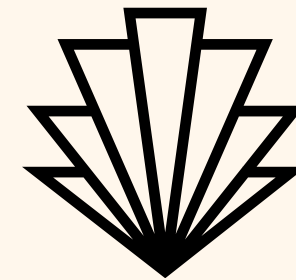
\$10K

Supports 5
artists / 5 youth
workshops



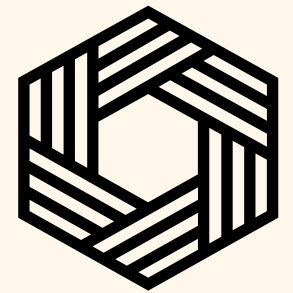
\$25K

Funds 5-10
microgrants /
public programs



\$50K

underwrites a
major activation
/ cohort



\$100K+

Anchors a
signature
initiative

CONTACT US

Newark is a nationally recognized arts city, and Newark Arts is building the infrastructure that sustains, scales, and connects its creative economy.

Let's talk:

- Schedule a visit
- Sponsor
- Stock Gifts/Donor Advised Funds
- Multi-year support
- Introductions to aligned funders

Executive Director: Lauren LeBeaux Craig - lauren.craig@newarkarts.org
Director of Development: Regina Barboza - regina.barboza@newarkarts.org

www.newarkarts.com
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THANK YOU

