NEFA has collected and analyzed data on the cultural nonprofit organizations of New England for over 30 years. In 2002, NEFA created CultureCount as a data warehouse for this information, and added data for individual artists and creative businesses.

NEFA periodically expands upon the CultureCount data through surveys and commissioned analysis. The following charts demonstrate the most recent data available (from 2007, before the changes of the economic downturn of the latter part of 2008). A web version of this handout is available at www.nefa.org/nefanonprofitcharts. Additional data will be added as it becomes available.

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Methodology used by Greg Wassall for this analysis was developed with Doug DeNatale in New England’s Creative Economy: The State of the Public Cultural Sector – 2005 Update (available on NEFA’s website; see the Appendix on page 7 for a direct link).
Chart 1: Number of Cultural Nonprofits by State

The total number of cultural nonprofits in New England is 19,183.
For all New England states but Maine, the largest group of nonprofits is that which is not required to report financial data to the IRS (Registered Non-Filer).

To learn more about the four different nonprofit types (Registered Filers, Registered Non-Filers, Embedded, and Unincorporated), see the Appendix on page 7.
Income (both contributed and earned) is tracked next to spending including salaries for a single fiscal year. All types of cultural nonprofits are included for each state.

- The total revenue for all cultural nonprofits in New England is $4.5 billion.
- The total expense is $3.6 billion.
The total number of cultural nonprofits in New England is 19,183.
More than half of these are historical societies, libraries, or performing organizations that are part of the Registered Non-filer group.

To learn more about the four different nonprofit types (Registered Filers, Registered Non-Filers, Embedded, and Unincorporated), see the Appendix on page 7.
The total revenue for all cultural nonprofits in New England is approximately $4.5 billion.
The Registered Filers of all of these disciplines account for 91% of this revenue.
• The total expense for all cultural nonprofits in New England is approximately $3.6 billion.
• Museums lead all disciplines in both expenses and revenue, though they aren’t the highest in number (see Chart 3).
• Salaries make up around 20% of all expenses on the whole.
Appendix

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION TYPES

» Registered Filers have a budget above $25,000, file a Form 990, and represent the most formally organized cultural non-profits.
» Registered Non-Filers have a budget below $25,000 and appear within the official list of federally registered non-profits (Internal Revenue Service Business Master File), but would not be expected to file a Form 990.
» Embedded Organizations are housed within a larger parent organization and are not registered as a separate entity.
» Unincorporated Organizations are organizations that either do not meet the legal requirements or fall below the revenue threshold for filing as a federally registered nonprofit.

DATA SOURCES

DEFINITIONS
Using the NCCS IRS Form 990 data extract, total expenditure is the sum of program, fund-raising, management, and general expenses, as well as payments to affiliates, plus the following expenses which are deducted from revenues on the Form 990: expenses incurred while earning rental income, selling assets, staging special events, and selling goods (i.e., cost of goods sold); total revenue is gross receipts from all sources of income with no expense deductions made.

RESOURCES
NEFA research publications may be found at www.nefa.org/who_we_are/publications#creative_economy.

Citing NEFA’s Work
NEFA provides this information as a free service to the public; please credit the New England Foundation for the Arts when citing this research.

Contact
If you have questions about this research, email research@nefa.org.
Post your comments on this study on the NEFA Network (www.nefa.org/research_arts_culture_sector/nefa_nonprofit_charts)