The Bottom Line: The Financial Health of Arts Organizations in the U.S.

From 2013-2016, the average arts organization’s bottom line declined from an operating surplus equivalent to 2% of budget to an operating deficit of -6%, accounting for depreciation.

Ways We Evaluate the Bottom Line

1. Unrestricted Surplus*
2. Operating Surplus*
3. Using Operating Surplus**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
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-4.2%

Are there alternative ways of operating that can lead to opportunities for greater revenue generation or expense reduction without compromising mission fulfillment?

NCAR’s Bottom Line Report examines organizational bottom lines using data collected from more than 4,800 organizations between 2013 and 2016.

Source: www.mcs.smu.edu/artsresearch2014/reports/bottom-line/Bottom-Line/#/