

CULTURE

The Arts

The National Cultural Heritage

Broadcasting

Language Policy

Sport

Youth Activities



The Ministry of Education,
Science and Culture in Iceland
January 2002

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Culture

“Culture” is a difficult term to use, partly because its definition is unclear and it is used with a wide variety of connotations. In the context of this Survey it is used mainly to refer to cultural matters that are administered by the Cultural Affairs Office, (one of the Ministry’s two special departments) and that do not fall into the categories of scientific or educational matters. Naturally, the boundaries between these categories are frequently unclear. For example, educational and scientific institutions obviously play a fundamental role in the cultural life of the nation. At the same time, it should be pointed out that in a discussion bounded by this framework, certain important aspects of culture will be neglected, for example those relating to the National Church and other religious denominations. On the other hand, this framework comfortably includes the arts in the traditional sense of the term: music, the theatre, literature, the cinema, the media, and activities directed towards the preservation and transmission of the national cultural heritage. Sports and youth activities are also included in cultural affairs.

Most cultural activities in Iceland are in the hands of individuals and non-governmental organisations, and proceed without official intervention regarding their contents or structure. This applies to the arts, sports and youth activities and various other types of cultural affairs. Examples of state institutions in the field of culture are the National Theatre, the National Gallery and the National Broadcasting Service. The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (hereinafter generally referred to as the Ministry of Culture) has entered into performance management agreements with the institutions that it administers in the field of culture. However, apart from running some important institutions of this type, the state’s role in this area consists mainly of creating suitable conditions for work that is carried out by others and taking steps to promote the success of such enterprises. Examples of this can be found in the greater priority given by the government to cultural activities outside the metropolitan area. The same applies to cultural involvement by the local authorities.

Public institutions play a large role in the preservation of the national cultural heritage. Most large libraries, galleries and museums are either run by or subsidised by the state or the local authorities, or by both. Responsibility in this area is also broadly divided. Every single Icelander plays a part in the preservation and evolution of the national cultural heritage and its transmission to future generations. This is evident, for example, as regards fundamental elements such as the national language, Icelandic.

Statistics give a very incomplete picture of cultural activities in Iceland if they are restricted to those activities in which public bodies are directly involved, and more so if the focus is on state involvement only. On the other hand, for this very reason it is also more difficult to pin down representative data than it would be if cultural activities were mainly the province of public bodies. Contemporary informatics should go some way towards solving this problem, and it is hoped that as it becomes more generally applied, it will prove easier both to find data on these matters and to make them more generally accessible.

The Arts and General Cultural Affairs

State involvement in the arts and general cultural affairs falls into three main categories:

1. Operation of institutions.
2. Management of funds to support cultural activities.
3. Financial support for activities and projects, either in the form of statutory allocations or special grants made under the state budget.

Allocations to the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture under the state budget for 2002 come to ISK 28.3 billion out of the total state budget of ISK 239 billion. Of this sum c. ISK 5.8 billion (c. 21% of the Ministry's total funding and c. 2.4% of the total state budget) is earmarked for "cultural affairs".

Artists' salaries

Under the current Artists' Salaries Act (No. 35/1991, with subsequent amendments), artists' salaries are paid annually from four funds: the Writers' Fund, the Artists' Fund, the Composers' Fund and the Arts Fund. The first three of these are specialised funds that operate with separate allocations committees, while the Arts Fund is a general fund that supports all the arts. These funds may make study and travel grants in addition to salary payments. A three-man Artists' Salary Committee supervises the funds and makes allocations from the Arts Fund. The Minister of Culture appoints the members of the committee for terms of three years, two in accordance with nominations by the Union of Icelandic Artists and the Icelandic Arts College and one without nomination.

Artists' salaries are intended to stimulate artistic creativity in Iceland and to provide a basis to enable the recipients to devote themselves entirely to their calling.

Total salaries paid amount to 1,200 monthly wages. Artists' salaries are paid at the same scale as Lecturers Grade II at the University of Iceland. Artists who receive artists' salaries are expected not to pursue other paid employment at the same time, and are required to submit reports on their work. Allocations to the artists' salary funds for 2002 totalled ISK 246.9 million. They were divided between the following funds:

- *The Writers' Salary Fund*

Salaries paid from the Writers' Fund are equivalent to 480 monthly wages each year. Icelandic writers are eligible to apply for such salaries. Payments may also be made from the fund for translations into Icelandic. Disbursements from the fund are made by a three-man committee appointed each year in accordance with recommendations from the Icelandic Writers' Union.

- *The Visual Artists' Salary Fund*

Salaries paid from the Artists' Fund are equivalent to 320 monthly wages each year. Disbursements from the fund are made by a three-man committee appointed each year in accordance with recommendations from the Association of Icelandic Visual Artists.

- *The Composers' Salary Fund*

Salaries paid from the Composers' Fund are equivalent to 100 monthly wages each year. Disbursements from the fund are made by a three-man committee appointed each year in accordance with recommendations from the Association of Icelandic Composers.

- *The Arts Fund*

Wages and grants paid from the Arts Fund are equivalent to 300 monthly wages each year. The Fund also pays special grants to artists, e.g. to those who had received artists' salaries for several years prior to 31st December 1991 and were aged 60 or older. Up to one third of the disbursements from the fund are to be made in support of theatre groups according to the Dramatic Arts Act, this being subject to the condition that the money is used solely to pay the wages of individual theatrical artists.

The Community Centres' Cultural Fund

This fund operated under the Community Centres Act (No. 107/1990), with subsequent amendments; its functions are defined further in the Regulations on the Community Centres' Cultural Fund (No. 296/1990). The purpose of the fund is to promote cultural activities in community centres and other places suitable for cultural events, e.g. through support to theatrical performances, concerts, art exhibitions, literary events and other cultural activities of all types. The fund makes grants to pay travelling and transport costs in connection with cultural events held in the rural areas. The fund is administered by the Cultural Fund Committee, which is appointed by the Minister of Culture for four years at a time, one member being appointed in accordance with a joint nomination by the Icelandic Youth Association, and the Federation of Icelandic Women's' Institutes, one in accordance with a joint nomination by the Association of Icelandic Amateur Theatres and the Association of Icelandic Visual Artists and one appointed without nomination. Allocations to the fund according to the budget for 2002 amount to ISK 8.7 million.

The Non-Fiction Writers' Salary Fund

The Non-Fiction Writers' Salary Fund makes annual salary grants. Authors of popular academic works, reference books, dictionaries and extensive works of an informative nature in various forms in Icelandic have the right to apply to the fund. The administrative committee is appointed by the Minister of Culture for two years at a time, one member being nominated by the Icelandic Research Council, one by Hagþenki, the Association of

Icelandic Non-Fiction Writers, and the chairman is appointed by the Minister without nomination. Allocations to the fund according to the budget for 2002 amount to ISK 9.5 million.

The Children's Cultural Fund

This fund was established in 1994 by a contribution from the Ministry of Culture, and regulations (No. 264/1994) on its operations were issued that year. Its sources of funding consist of an annual contribution from the Ministry and other occasional income. The role of the fund is to support artistic and cultural projects aimed at children or actively involving children. Individuals and organisations may apply for grants from the fund. It can also make grants for holding courses and conferences whose theme is related to the fund's main purpose. The committee in charge of the fund is appointed by Minister of Culture for two years at a time. One member is nominated by the Icelandic Teachers' Association, one by the Union of Icelandic Artists and one by the National Youth Council, and two members are appointed without nomination. The first allocation from the fund was made in 1995. The allocation to the fund according to the budget for 2002 amounts to ISK 2.5 million.

The City of Culture Fund

This was established in 2001 with a founding contribution from the European Cities of Culture 2000 project under an agreement between the Minister of Culture and the Mayor of Reykjavík. The role of the fund is to support new ventures in the arts, cultural projects undertaken by municipalities outside the metropolitan area and cultural events for children and young people. The Reykjavík Arts Festival manages the fund, which is under the direction of a special five-man allocation committee appointed for two years at a time. One member, who is the committee chairman, is appointed by the Reykjavík Arts Festival, two are appointed by the Minister of Culture, and two by the Mayor of Reykjavík. The state allocation to the fund according to the budget for 2002 amounts ISK to 5 million.

Arts contributions

For many years now, the national budget has included an expense item entitled "Arts contributions". Where the breakdown of this item is not specified in the budget, the Minister of Culture allocates this funding to various artistic projects and other cultural events in response to applications.

The Ministry's plan for allocation in various fields (taking into account the divisions laid down in the budget) is as follows:

Literature:	ISK	2,000,000
Theatre	ISK	4,500,000
Music	ISK	12,900,000
Visual Arts	ISK	9,750,000

Cinema **ISK** **300,000**

Culture and the arts,

various projects: ISK 10,600,000

In allocating the funding under this budget item, the Minister draws on the assistance of advisory committees in the various artistic fields. The Ministry draws attention to the existence of this form of support for culture and the arts by means of an advertisement in the press at the beginning of the year. Allocations are made four times a year.

Literature

Public Libraries

The Public Libraries Act (No. 36/1977) states that all people in Iceland shall have the opportunity of making use of the services of public libraries; their role is defined as public informational and cultural institutions. All local authorities are obliged by the act to provide these services. Each individual public library is to structure its operations in such a way as to promote the closest possible collaboration between libraries in Iceland on providing services to users.

Under the Act, the following are defined as public libraries:

- a. libraries run by the local authorities for the general public and
- b. libraries in hospitals, old people's homes and prisons, run by the relevant institutions.

Under the interim provisions of the Public Libraries Act, No. 36/1997, the Treasury has allocated from 1998-2001 amounts of ISK 4 million each year to enable the public libraries to provide services based on contemporary information technology and to pay for the libraries in Iceland to be connected in a digital data network. A mutual information system was established in 2001 for all libraries in Iceland. It is estimated that this system will first be used in the National Library of Iceland-University Library in late summer 2002 and in other libraries thereafter. It is estimated that the system will be fully functional in 2003.

The National Library of Iceland - University Library

The National and University Library of Iceland functions in the National Library Building under the Act No. 71/1994, and is both a national library and the library of the University of Iceland. Its special functions under the Act include the compilation of catalogues of Icelandic books, manuscripts and recordings, giving information about Icelandic book publishing, promoting co-ordinated working methods in Icelandic libraries, giving them professional advice and maintaining the broadest possible collaboration with them. It is also expected to promote educational and cultural activities, including organising lectures, exhibitions and artistic events. The allocation to the library under the budget for 2002 is ISK 379.6 million.

The Icelandic Library for the Blind

Under the Icelandic Library for the Blind Act (No. 35/1982), with subsequent amendments, the role of the library is to provide blind and poor-sighted people, and others who are not able to make use of ordinary printed matter, with all-round library services and to undertake the production, publication and distribution of sound recordings of books and Braille books, including educational materials. The allocation to the library under the budget for 2002 is ISK 50.8 million.

The Cultural Fund

Under the Act No. 79/1993, the role of the Cultural Fund is to provide financial support for the publication of books in Icelandic that are likely to promote Icelandic culture. Special emphasis is given to the publication of academic, non-fiction works, reference works, dictionaries and works dealing with cultural history. The fund also gives financial support to other related activities, e.g. the production of sound recordings of books. The committee of the Cultural Fund consists of three persons who are elected by the Althing by proportional ballot after the general elections. The allocation to the fund under the budget for 2002 is ISK 13 million.

The Writers' Lending Library Fund

The Writer's Lending Library Fund operates under the Act No. 33/1997. Its funding comes from the Treasury, and is allocated to writers, translators, visual artists and other copyright holders, providing that their books are used in the public libraries, the National and University Library of Iceland, school libraries and libraries in institutions that are financed by the state or the local authorities. Funds allocated are to be divided into two equal parts. One of these is to be disbursed to individual writers or artists in the form of grants in recognition for their writing or other contributions to books. The other half of the funding is to be allocated to copyright holders in proportion to the number of times their books are loaned from the libraries covered by the act. Payment for the borrowing of sound recordings or publications in digital format is made in the same way. The committee of the Writers' Lending Library Fund is appointed by the Minister for four years at a time. Two of the members are appointed in accordance with nominations by the Writers' Union, one in accordance with a nomination by Hagbenki, the Association of Icelandic Non-Fiction Writers and one in accordance with a nomination by Myndstef - the Visual Artists' Copyright Fund, and the chairman is appointed without nomination. The allocation to the fund under the budget for 2002 is ISK 19.3 million.

The Translation Fund

This was established under the Act No. 35/1981. The role of the fund is to give publishers credit or grants for the publication of quality works of foreign literature in Icelandic, both of fiction and also recognised works of non-fiction. Publishers are to use the allocations to pay for translations. The Minister of Culture appoints the three members of the committee for terms of three years, one being nominated by the publishers' association, one by the Writers' Union and one (the chairman) appointed without nomination.

The Act lays down the minimum allocation to the fund for each year. The allocation to the fund under the budget for 2002 is ISK 7.6 million.

The Literature Promotion Fund

The Literature Promotion Fund operates under new regulations issued in 2002 (No. 997/2002). The purpose of the fund is to promote Icelandic literature abroad so as to have Icelandic fiction published abroad in foreign languages, and supervision of the participation of Iceland in foreign cultural events and international cooperation in the field of literature. The fund may also make grants to translators of Icelandic literature into other languages in order to enable them to travel to Iceland to work on their translations and are responsible for conferences and work meetings of translators in Iceland. The fund can also support Icelandic writers to go abroad to promote their work. The fund also publishes brochures in foreign languages, is responsible for the publicity of Icelandic literature in foreign literature conferences/festivals and is in cooperation with similar institutions abroad. The intention is to establish a computer data-bank to facilitate the publicity work in Iceland and abroad and get access to data-banks which are associated with the role of the fund. The Minister of Culture appoints three members of the fund's committee for the period of three years. One is nominated by the Writer's Union, another by the Icelandic Publisher's Association, but the chairman is appointed without nomination. The alternates are appointed the same way. The fund's committee advertises for applications and distributes grants at least once a year. The allocation to the fund under the budget for 2001 is ISK 6.5 million.

Theatre and other forms of dramatic art

Under the Dramatic Arts Act (No. 138/1998), the state operates and funds the National Theatre and also provides funding on each year's budget to support other dramatic art, both professional and amateur. Financial support of this type may be given to children's theatres, puppet theatres, and opera and dance performances in addition to ordinary dramatic productions.

The Dramatic Arts Act provides for contributions by the local authorities to dramatic productions in the local government areas in accordance with allocations made on their budgets.

The Drama Council

This is appointed by the Minister of Culture for two years at a time, and consists of three members: one is nominated by the Icelandic Theatre Union, one by the Association of Independent Professional Theatres and one (the chairman) is appointed without nomination. The council comments on matters concerning the theatre that are referred to it by the Ministry of Culture and can also take the initiative on submitting proposals to the Ministry.

The National Theatre

Under the Dramatic Arts Act (No. 138/1998), the main role of the National Theatre is to present Icelandic and foreign plays. It is also to be involved in performances of operas, musicals and ballet and modern dance performances. One or more productions in each annual season is to be specifically for children. The National Theatre is to strive to establish suitable collaboration with institutions, societies and others involved in drama and other associated arts. It is required, to the extent possible, to assist amateur theatres and to enable student actors to keep abreast of the work of the theatre. Travelling productions, with performances in as many parts of the country, are to be mounted each year, and, according as circumstances permit, trips are to be made overseas to present productions and foreign artists are to be brought to Iceland. The allocation to the National Theatre under the budget for 2002 is ISK 454.3 million.

Under an agreement between the Treasury, Akureyri Municipality and the Akureyri Dramatic Society on contributions to professional theatre productions by the **Akureyri Dramatic Society**, Akureyri Municipality and the Treasury make equal contributions to such projects.

At the beginning of 2000, the Ministry of Culture and the Municipality of Hafnarfjörður made a three-year agreement on support to the **Hermóður and Háðvör Theatre, Hafnarfjörður**.

Professional theatre groups

Grants are made by the Ministry of Culture to support professional theatre groups at the recommendation of the Drama Council. Under the budget for 2002 these amount to ISK 35 million.

Amateur theatre groups

The Ministry of Culture makes grants to support amateur theatre groups in accordance with recommendations by the Association of Icelandic Amateur Theatres. These amount to ISK 17.2 million under the budget for 2002.

The Iceland Dance Company

The operation of the Icelandic Dance Company is covered by new regulation No. 14/2002 which is put forth with reference to the first paragraph of Article 14 in Actors Act No. 138/1998 and according to authorization in Article 19 in the same Act. This Act states that the company is an independant dance group. Its aim is to present performances of dance and to encourage new creative initiatives in choreography in Iceland and furthermore to promote the development of dancing in Iceland in general.

The Icelandic Dance Company is conducted by a dance director in cooperation with the board of the Dance Company. The board of 3 members is appointed by the Minister of Culture for the period of four years. The Association of Icelandic Dancers nominates one member, which may not be an active dancer in The Icelandic Dance Company but two

members are appointed without nomination and one of them will be the chairman. The Dance Director is the manager of the Dance Company and is appointed by the Minister of Culture for the period of five years after the board's proposal.

The Act also states that a dancer, which has been permanently employed for at least 8 years from March 1st 2001 and must leave the Dance Company because he does not fulfill the artistic requirements of the Dance Company is entitled to two kinds of grant. One is a single payment and the amount depends on the artist's working period and the other is a scholarship/educational grant, 75% of full salary for two or three years, depending on the working period.

The allocation to the Icelandic Dance Company under the budget for 2002 is ISK 63.6 million.

The Icelandic Opera

The state and the Icelandic Opera entered into an agreement in 2001 covering the running of the Icelandic Opera. The agreement is aimed at promoting continuous and varied operatic productions to provide an environment for Icelandic opera singers to make full use of their training and talents. The agreement is to run until the end of 2005, and under it, the state contributed ISK 65.1 million in 2001, in 2002 the allocation amounts to ISK 107.1 million and will thereafter be ISK 130 million each year, subject to the approval of the Althing.

The Visual Arts

The National Gallery of Iceland

The National Gallery of Iceland operates under the Act No. 58/1988. It is intended to be the main art gallery in the country and also a centre for research, the collection and preservation of source materials and publicity on Icelandic visual art. It is also expected to give other Icelandic galleries assistance where possible. The gallery is expected to acquire foreign works of recognised artistic value, a certain percentage of the funds allocated to it under the budget being available for this purpose. The allocation to the gallery in 2002 is ISK 85.9 million.

The **Ásgrímur Jónsson Art Gallery** is run as a division of the National Gallery.

The National Einar Jónsson Museum

This is a state institution under its own governing committee. Its role is to preserve, exhibit and research the works of Einar Jónsson, to maintain a catalogue of his works, and preserve materials relating to his life and career as an artist. The allocation to the gallery under the budget for 2002 is ISK 10.1 million.

Other galleries

Various local authorities run galleries, generally without public financial support. The following private galleries receive operational grants under the budget for 2002: the Sigurjón Ólafsson Museum (ISK 6 million), the Labour Union's Art Gallery (ISK 3 million) and the Living Art Museum (ISK 5 million).

The Public Buildings Art Fund

This is subject to the Act No. 46/1998. The aim of the fund is to decorate and beautify public buildings and their surroundings with works of art, so promoting artistic production in Iceland. One per cent of the total construction cost of each public building is to be devoted to decorating it and beautifying the surroundings, and sums are allocated under each year's budget for the beautifying of older buildings. The Minister of Culture appoints the committee of the fund as follows: two members are appointed in accordance with nominations by the Association of Icelandic Visual Artists, one according to a nomination by the Association of Icelandic Architects, one according to a nomination by a joint committee on public works, and the chairman is appointed without nomination. The allocation to the fund under the budget for 2002 is ISK 8 million.

The Visual Artists' Rights Fund

Under the Act No. 60/2000, amending the Intellectual Property Rights Act, No. 73/1992, with subsequent amendments, and providing for a special committee to prepare for the abolition of the Icelandic Visual Art Fund, the Icelandic Visual Artists' Rights Fund - Myndstef took over the collection and management of "continuing sales levies" as from 1st January 2001 under the Regulations No. 486/2001 on continuing sales levies. Continuing sales levies are to be paid on the price of works of visual art when they are auctioned and re-sold commercially, and amount to 10% of the sale price of the works involved. The levies are paid to the artist or to his or her heirs. If the artist's rights have lapsed, or are owned by the state, then the levy is paid to the Visual Artists' Rights Fund.

The Icelandic Information Centre for Visual Art

The Visual Arts Information Centre operates under a collaborative agreement made in 1999 between the Ministry of Culture, the Association of Icelandic Visual Artists and Myndstef, the visual artists' rights association. The roles of the centre include publicising Icelandic visual art in Iceland and abroad and enabling artists to make use of opportunities to exhibit their works, study and use working facilities. The centre is financed by a grant from the Ministry.

Music

The Iceland Symphony Orchestra

The orchestra was founded in 1950, and is now run under the Act No. 36/1982. This states that its work is to be directed towards enriching Icelandic musical culture, arousing interest in and promoting knowledge of quality music and enabling the people of Iceland to enjoy it, the methods including holding concerts in as many places as possible throughout the country and through broadcasts. Special emphasis is to be placed on the performance and publicising of Icelandic music. In all its work, the orchestra is to strive to maintain the closest collaboration with other parties working towards the same ends. The Treasury pays 56% of the orchestra's operating costs, the National Broadcasting Service 25%, the City of Reykjavík 18% and the Seltjarnarnes Municipal Council 1%. The allocation to the orchestra under the budget for 2002 is ISK 238 million.

Music groups and projects

The North Iceland Symphony Orchestra receives an operating grant from the state under an agreement with the Akureyri Municipality on support to cultural activities in the town, under which the municipality also makes a contribution.

The **Reykjavík Chamber Orchestra**, **Caput group** and **Skálholt Music Festival** receive state grants under a three-year agreement with the Ministry of Culture. The allocation to the Reykjavík Chamber Orchestra under the budget for 2001 is ISK 3.5 million, to Caput group is ISK 2 million and to Skálholt Music Festival is ISK 2.3 million.

Various music groups and projects receive allocations under the Arts section of the budget; these include those mentioned above and also the support given to the **Icelandic Music Information Centre**, which receives ISK 8.6 million in 2002. Its main purpose is to preserve and catalogue all contemporary Icelandic music and promote it, both in Iceland and abroad. The IMIC also provides information on Icelandic music, composers and musical activities in the country. Mention should also be made of the project "**Music for All**", a joint project involving the state and the local authorities and aimed at introducing junior school children to music of all types. Music for All receives ISK 4.5 million under the budget for 2002.

The Cinema

At the end of 1998, the Minister of Culture and the Minister of Finance, on behalf of the Government, signed an agreement with the professional organisations in the field of the cinema (the Association of Icelandic Film Producers, the Association of Film Directors, the Icelandic Film Makers' Association, the Producers' Union and the Association of Film Scriptwriters) on a policy to stimulate the Icelandic film industry in the years 1999-2002.

The agreement aims at having five full-length feature films produced each year, with the Film Fund paying 40% of the production budget, the average production cost of each film being estimated at ISK 100 million. As a result

of the agreement, allocations to the Film Fund were raised by ISK 30 million in 2000, ISK 35 million in 2001, and ISK 30 million in 2002.

The Icelandic Film Fund

Under the Cinema Act (No. 94/1984, with subsequent amendments), the main role of the Icelandic Film Fund is to make grants and loans for Icelandic film production, stimulate the cinema in Iceland, collect and publish information on Icelandic films, publicise Icelandic films abroad in collaboration with their producers and operate the Icelandic Film Archive. The Minister of Culture appoints the fund's five-man committee for three years at a time. The chairman is appointed without nomination, and the other four members according to nominations by the following: The Film Makers' Association, the Association of Film Producers, the Association of Cinema Owners and the Union of Icelandic Artists. State support to the fund is determined in the national budget at any given time. Part of it is used to make grants according to the decision of a three-man committee elected by the committee of the fund. Allocations are made once a year. Grants have been made to support the production of scripts, to assist producers with preparatory work, to support production and to finance the production of documentaries and short films.

In recent years, the support given by the Film Fund to Icelandic film production has amounted to 19% of total financing. About 24% has been put up by the producers and other Icelandic parties, and about 57% of funding has come from abroad. Support for the Icelandic film industry in 2001 came to ISK 69 million; for 2002, pledges for ISK 214 million were given. The main foreign funds that have supported Icelandic film production have been the EU's Media Plan, the Council of Europe's Film Fund Eurimages and the Nordic Film and Television Fund. Three Icelandic films were premiered in 2001, two of them received support from the Icelandic Film Fund. The allocation to the fund under the budget for 2002 is ISK 305.7 million.

National Film Archive of Iceland

Located in Hafnarfjörður, the National Film Archive of Iceland is supported by the Municipality of Hafnarfjörður in various ways. The allocation to the archive under the budget for 2002 is ISK 18.2 million.

The Film Viewing Board

The Film Viewing Board operates under the Film Viewing and Prohibition of Violent Films Act, No. 47/1995.

The National Cultural Heritage

Four new acts relating to the national cultural heritage were passed by the Althing in 2001: the Building Preservation Act, No. 104/2001, the Objects of Cultural Value Act, No. 105/2001, the Museum Act, No. 106/2001 and the National Monuments Act, No. 107/2001. The main changes introduced are that the National Museum's operations are now divided into two: the

National Museum on the one hand, and the Archaeological Conservation Agency on the other; the National Monuments Commission and the museum committee of the National Gallery have been abolished and part of their functions have been taken over by the Museum Council. Two new funds have been set up: the Archaeology Fund and the Museum Fund.

The Museum Council – The Museum Fund

The Minister of Culture appoints the Museum Council for four years at a time. The Union of Local Authorities nominates one member and an alternate, and the Union of Museum Employees nominates one member and an alternate. The heads of the country's main museums, i.e. the National Museum, the National Gallery and the Natural History Museum, also have seats on the council and nominate alternates to deputise for them. The role of the museum council, which is also a consultative forum for galleries and museums, is to supervise the operations of the state-owned museums and those that receive public funding. The museum council makes allocations from the Museum Fund, the role of which is to support the activities of the museums covered by the Museums Act that are not state-owned.

The National Museum of Iceland

The National Museum is a state institution and is the principal museum in Iceland in the field of the preservation of national monuments and items of archaeological value. Its role, which it shares with the **regional museums** under the National Monuments Act, is to collect, catalogue, preserve, protect and study items such as archaeological relics, church furnishings, artistic and practical items, and also pictures, sound recordings and written sources about the way people have lived in Iceland, and to exhibit them to the public, both in Iceland and abroad. Furthermore, the museum is to support the study of objects that illustrate the cultural history of Iceland and the publication of academic works about them.

Under the National Monuments Act, the regional museums are defined as those museums other than the National Museum that have received the recognition of the State Antiquarian of the National Museum, meet the conditions for grants under the Museums Act, No. 106/2001, and have been founded to carry out the functions listed above. Funding for the regional museums, the Icelandic Design Museum, the Maritime Museum and the Medical Historical Museum comes under the budget item for the National Museum. The allocation to the National Museum under the budget for 2002 is ISK 226.6 million

The Archaeological Agency of Iceland – The Archaeology Committee

The Archaeological Agency examines, grants permits for and monitors all local and short-term archaeological investigations, advising those involved on the recording, study and preservation of objects of archaeological value. The Director of the Agency is appointed by the Minister of Culture for terms of five years at a time. The Archaeology Committee is appointed by the Minister for terms of four years. The archaeologists' societies nominate two members and three are appointed without nomination. The Archaeology Committee deals with matters referred to it under paragraph 1 of Article 7 of

the National Monuments Act, No. 107/2001. Allocation to the agency under the budget 2002 is ISK 30 million.

The Archaeology Fund

This fund is managed by a three-man committee appointed by the Minister of Culture. The committee allocated grants from the fund for study and preservation projects. The fund is financed by contributions from the Treasury under the state budget, and other contributions.

The Building Protection Committee

The committee operates under the Building Protection Act, No. 104/2001. It makes proposals to the Minister of Culture regarding the preservation of the nation's building heritage, and evaluates the buildings that are to be declared protected at any given time. The committee also administers the Building Protection Fund and makes allocations from it (under the Regulations No. 334/1998). The Minister of Culture appoints the five members of the committee, one as nominated by the Association of Icelandic Architects, one nominated by the Union of Local Authorities and three without nomination. The State Antiquarian of the National Museum or his deputy has the right to attend meetings of the committee. The chairman of the committee is appointed by the Minister of Culture for terms of five years at a time. The allocation to the committee under the budget 2002 is ISK 57.5 million.

The Building Protection Fund

The role of the Building Protection Fund is to make grants for the maintenance, preservation and renovation of protected buildings. It may also make grants to other buildings that the Building Protection Committee regards as having cultural, historical or artistic value. The fund also supports research into the history of building in Iceland and the publication of such studies. The Building Protection Fund receives funding from the Treasury under the state budget, from the Local Authorities' Equalisation Fund and from independent contributors. Grants from the fund are made for projects in various categories, including protected houses, protected churches, buildings on museum sites, study projects, investigative projects and others, including maintenance and renovation of buildings that are privately owned or belong to the local authorities and are not protected but are regarded as important by the Building Protection Fund.

The Place-Name Institute

The Icelandic Place-Name Institute operates under the Act No. 14/1998. Its role is to collect Icelandic place-names, study them and publish registers of place-names. The allocation to the institute under the budget for 2002 is ISK 13.9 million.

The National Archives

Under the National Archives Act (No. 66/1985, with subsequent amendments) the role of the National Archives is to collect and preserve documents and other recorded sources on the history of Iceland for the use of the government, institutions and individuals in order to guarantee their rights, and for use in academic research and study. The Act lays down the requirements regarding the parties that are obliged to hand over documents to the National Archives for preservation. The National Archives is charged with supervising the work of the **regional archives** under the Regulations No. 283/1994, and under the act they are to receive annual grants under the budget. This funding comes under the budget item for the National Archive, which handles the allocation of grants to the individual archives. The allocation to the National Archives under the budget for 2002 is ISK 115.6 million.

Cultural Institutions Maintenance Fund

The Cultural Institutions Maintenance Fund operates under the National Library and Cultural Buildings Maintenance Act, No. 83/1989, with subsequent amendments. Its role is to finance renovation and maintenance work on buildings housing cultural institutions, promote the protection of old buildings owned by the state and other buildings that need protection in the opinion of the management of the National Museum. The Minister of Culture appoints three persons to the committee of the fund for terms of four years at a time: one in accordance with the Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs and two without nomination, one of whom is to have specialised knowledge in the field of the conservation of antiquities. The Althing elects three persons to the committee of the fund for the same period of time by a proportional vote. The allocation to the fund under the budget 2002 is 335 million.

The Árni Magnússon Institute in Iceland

The institute preserves ancient Icelandic manuscripts that were returned to Iceland from Denmark under an agreement between the two countries, and works to increase understanding of the language, literature and history of the Icelandic people in the past. It is a university institute with a separate governing body, and has independent financing. The institute operates under the Act No. 70/1972, with subsequent amendments. The allocation to the institute under the budget for 2002 is ISK 88 million.

Broadcasting

The Broadcasting Rights Committee

Under the Broadcasting Act (No. 53/2000), the Broadcasting Rights Committee, which is elected by the Althing, grants broadcasting licences and monitors compliance with the conditions stated in such licences. In 2002 there were 13 radio stations and 10 television stations with long-term licences.

The National Broadcasting Service

Under the Act No. 122/2000, the National Broadcasting Service is an independent institution owned by the state. Its main source of income is from user's subscriptions, which in 2001 amount to ISK 2.155 billion and also advertising fees for both radio and television. Under the law, the National Broadcasting Service must broadcast two radio channels and one television channel to the entire country and the fishing grounds adjacent to it all year round. Regarding its programming policy, the National Broadcasting Service has a duty to nurture the Icelandic language, the history of the nation and the national cultural heritage.

Language Policy

The Icelandic Language Committee

This is an institute devoted to the cultivation and protection of the Icelandic language and the enhancement of its position in all fields. It operates under the Act No. 2/1990, with subsequent amendments. Its role includes acting in an advisory capacity to the government and providing public bodies and the general public with professional guidance on linguistic matters. The committee is to collect and publish new vocabulary items and assist with the production of new terminology. The committee's office, which is run in collaboration with the University of Iceland, is called the **Icelandic Language Centre**, and is the centre in which the work of the committee is based. The allocation to the centre under the budget for 2002 is ISK 16.6 million.

The Icelandic Language Fund

The Icelandic Language Committee has established an Icelandic Language Fund that operated under a special set of regulations (No. 297/1995). The main aim of the fund is to promote and support activities of all types that are devoted to the enhancement of the position of the Icelandic language and its development.

Icelandic Language Day

On 16th November 1995, the Government agreed to a proposal by the Minister of Culture to make that day, the birthday of the 19th-century poet Jónas Hallgrímsson, Icelandic Language Day every year. The Ministry of Culture makes it the focus of a special campaign to promote the language, with bodies and institutions of many types being involved in the preparation and holding of events to mark the day.

Sport and Youth Activities

Apart from the important part played by the schools, state involvement in sport and youth activities is not channelled through any particular institution. Facilities of many types for sporting activities and for young people's social and leisure activities are run by the local authorities, or at their instigation, and it is in this area that non-governmental organisations play a large role.

Sports

Sports administration is covered by the Sports Act, No. 64/1998, under which the Ministry of Culture is in charge of those aspects of sport in which the state is involved. The Ministry collects information on sporting culture in Iceland and the facilities available, and supports research in this field.

The Sports Committee – The Sports Fund

The Minister of Culture appoints the Sports Committee, which consists of five members. The chairman is appointed without nomination; one member is appointed according to a nomination by the board of the National Olympic and Sports Association of Iceland, one according to a nomination by the committee of the Icelandic Youth Association, one as nominated by the committee of the Union of Local Authorities and one in accordance with a nomination by the Sports Teachers' Department of the Icelandic Teachers' Training College. Alternate members are appointed in the same way, and the committee sits for four years at a time. It is to act in an advisory capacity to the Ministry on matters concerning sport. The committee submits proposals to the Ministry regarding funding for sport under the budget and on allocations from the Sports Fund. The resources granted to the fund by the Althing are to be used for special projects under the direction of individuals, sports clubs and their organisations in order to improve sports facilities, publicity and educational projects, research and projects under Article 13 of the Sports Act. The allocation to the Sports Fund under the budget for 2002 is ISK 18.3 million. The Act provides for the local authorities making building grants to sports clubs and organisations under their budgets. It also states that the construction of sports facilities for use by schools and the public is the responsibility of the local authorities.

The National Olympic and Sports Association of Iceland

The National Olympic and Sports Association of Iceland and various special organisations in the field of sport receive grants under the "Sports - Miscellaneous" item on the budget. Fund-raising for the sports movement through football pools is based on the Football Pools Act, No. 59/1972, with subsequent amendments, and the Lotteries Act, No. 26/1986. In 1999/2000, ISK 82.8 million were raised for the sports movement by Icelandic Football Pools and ISK 193.74 million by Icelandic Lotteries.

The Icelandic Sports Centre at Laugarvatn has been operated jointly by the sports movement, the state and the Laugardalur Municipality (*cf.* the Regulation No. 220/1991). Sports and school facilities owned by the state at

Laugarvatn have been used for this purpose under a special agreement outside normal school time.

In 1995 a joint project was launched involving the Ministry of Culture, the Akureyri Municipality, the Icelandic Sports Association and the Akureyri Sports Federation on the development of the **Icelandic Winter Sports Centre in Akureyri**. Regulations were issued on the centre (No. 362/1995, cf. the Regulations No. 364/1995).

The Outstanding Sportsmen Fund

The common goal of those involved in the sports movement is that Iceland should have outstanding sportsmen who stand comparison with the best in the world. Many things are needed in order to make this possible. For example, outstanding sportsmen must be given the chance to concentrate on developing their talents and abilities. With this aim in mind, an agreement was made between the Ministry of Culture and the National Olympic and Sports Association on the sharing of the cost of the Outstanding Sportsmen Fund, so augmenting the resources of the fund available for supporting Iceland's best sportsmen so as to improve their achievements in the international arena. Under the agreement, the Ministry uses its influence to have ISK 10 million granted to the fund under the budget during the period 1999-2003.

The allocation under the "Sports - Miscellaneous" item on the budget in 2002 is ISK 213.2 million.

Youth and Leisure Activities

The Youth Act, No. 24/1970, lays down the main rules regarding public funding of youth and leisure activities. The act provides for support in this area being granted to societies active in this field on the basis of non-professional interest, and others involved mainly in organised projects to promote the welfare of non-affiliated young people.

The State Youth Council

The Minister of Culture appoints the State Youth Council for periods of two years at a time. The chairman is appointed without nomination; three members are nominated by the constituent organisations of the National Youth Council of Iceland and other similar youth organisations under the Regulation No. 11/1989 on elections to the State Youth Council. One member is nominated by the Union of Icelandic Local Authorities. Alternates are appointed in the same way.

The State Youth Council is intended to use its influence to organise and co-ordinate public support for youth activities, to act in an advisory capacity to the Government on matters concerning young people and to take part in studies and surveys of matters relating to young people.

Annual allocations for youth activities under the budget are channelled mainly into support for various youth organisations, the division either being decided in the budget itself or by the Ministry of Culture in its

disposal of funding earmarked for Youth Activities; under the budget for 2002 this item receives ISK 88.4 million.

In addition to its general support to youth organisations, the work of the Ministry of Culture in this area is directed towards consolidating the basis of social and leisure activities by supporting the publication of educational materials and other informative publications, and measures to enable young people in Iceland to participate in international co-operative activities in the field of youth and leisure projects.

Survey of Budget Allocations to Cultural Affairs, 2002

The Arts and General Cultural Affairs **ISK millions**

<i>Artists' salaries</i>	246.9
<i>The Community Centres' Cultural Fund</i>	8.7
<i>The Children's Cultural Fund</i>	2.5
<i>The Reykjavík Arts Festival</i>	25.0
<i>The City of Culture Fund</i>	5.0
<i>Contract with Akureyri Municipality</i> <i>on cultural activities</i>	63.7
<i>Contract with Municipalities on the Eastcost of Iceland on</i> <i>cultural activities</i>	25.0
<i>Artists' salaries</i>	33.6
<i>Cultural institutions, undivided</i>	7.5
<i>Cultural Centres on the Eastcost of Iceland</i> <i>(initial capital expenditure)</i>	17.0
<i>Arts and Culture, miscellaneous</i>	10.6

Literature **ISK millions**

<i>National Library of Iceland - University Library</i>	379.6
<i>Icelandic Library for the Blind</i>	50.8
<i>Cultural Fund</i>	13.0
<i>Writers' Lending Library Fund</i>	19.3
<i>Translation Fund</i>	7.6
<i>Literature Promotion Fund</i>	6.5
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	2.0

Dramatic Arts **ISK millions**

<i>National Theatre</i>	454.3
<i>Professional theatre groups</i>	35.0
<i>Amateur theatre groups</i>	17.2
<i>Iceland Dance Company</i>	63.6
<i>Icelandic Opera</i>	107.1
<i>Association of Icelandic Amateur Theatres</i>	5.5

Miscellaneous4.5

Visual Arts **ISK million**

National Gallery of Iceland85.9
 National Einar Jónsson Museum10.1
 Sigurjón Ólafsson Museum6.0
 Labour Union's Art Gallery3.0
 Living Art Museum5.0
 Public Buildings Art Fund8.0
 Visual Artists' Rights Fund (continuing sales levies)1.3
 Miscellaneous9.7

Music **ISK millions**

Iceland Symphony Orchestra238.0
 Miscellaneous12.9
 Icelandic Music Information Centre8.6
 Music for All4.5
 Orchestral projects5.5

Cinema **ISK millions**

Icelandic Film Fund305.7
 National Film Archive of Iceland18.2
 Reykjavík Film Festival1.5
 Film Viewing Board2.3
 Miscellaneous0.3

National Cultural Heritage **ISK millions**

National Museum of Iceland226.6
 Archaeological Agency of Iceland30.0
 Building Protection Fund57.5
 Icelandic Place Name Institute13.9
 National Archives115.6
 Cultural Institutions Maintenance Fund349.0
 Árni Magnússon Institute in Iceland88.0
 Museum Fund58.0
 Museums, miscellaneous contributions85.5

Broadcasting	ISK millions
National Broadcasting Service (subscriptions).....	2,155.0

Language Policy	ISK millions
Icelandic Language Centre.....	16.6

Miscellaneous Educational Activities	ISK millions
Academic/Educational Activities	5.8
Publishing	7.5
History Society.....	0.5
Old Icelandic Literature Society	0.5
Non-fiction Writers' Salary Fund.....	9.5
History of Icelandic Crafts and Industries.....	7.2
History of Icelandic Music	3.5
Icelandic Literature Society.....	4.0

Miscellaneous	ISK millions
Copyrights.....	65.7
Skriðuklaustur	10.6
Snorrastofa (library and research centre).....	11.9
Icelandic Equestrian Centre	5.0
Miscellaneous.....	5.0

Sports, miscellaneous	ISK millions
National Olympic and Sports Association.....	74.7
Handicapped Olympics Committee.....	1.5
Handicapped Sports Federation	16.5
School sports	3.0
Athletics fund.....	18.3
Winter Sports Centre, Akureyri	2.8
Icelandic Sports Centre	1.0
Gíma Federation.....	3.5
Icelandic Chess Federation	9.0
Chess Grand Masters' Salary Fund.....	7.2

<i>Youth Association National Meet in Stykkishólmur</i>	10.0
<i>Track and Field Arena in Ísafjörður, Youth Association</i>	
<i>National Meet in 2004</i>	10.0
<i>Icelandic Chess School</i>	5.8
<i>Outstanding Sportsmen Fund</i>	10.0
<i>Icelandic Bridge Federation</i>	10.0
<i>Society for Old People's Sports</i>	0.3
<i>Icelandic Basketball Association</i>	2.5
<i>Winter Sports Centre, Akureyri (initial capital expenditure)</i>	10.0
<i>Gaddstaðir (initial capital expenditure)</i>	7.0
<i>Skiing structure in Skarðsdalur, Siglufirði (i.c.e.)</i>	7.0
<i>Miscellaneous, undivided</i>	3.1

Youth Activities

ISK millions

<i>State Youth Council</i>	2.0
<i>Icelandic Youth Association</i>	42.0
<i>Icelandic Scout and Guide Association</i>	15.5
<i>Scouts' outdoor life centre, Úlfljótsvatn</i>	1.5
<i>YMCA Youth Camp, Vatnaskógur</i>	1.5
<i>National YMCA and YWCA Association</i>	15.0
<i>Studies and Surveys of Youth Activities</i>	1.5
<i>Nordic Association on Youth Affairs</i>	1.1
<i>AFS in Iceland</i>	0.5
<i>Snorra-project</i>	4.9
<i>Miscellaneous, undivided</i>	2.9



THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
SCIENCE AND CULTURE