

Coutts Memorial Museum Of Art Inc

Executive Director / CEO

EIN 237160423
 KS · NTEE A80
 FY ending 2024-12-31
 June 9, 2026

This analysis benchmarks the total compensation of **Thea Howard, Executive Director / CEO** (\$66,250) against **every comparable organization** that fit the selection criteria — **122** in total — drawn systematically from IRS Form 990 filings, not a hand-picked subset.

Compensation sits at approximately the **77th** percentile of comparable organizations within the typical range

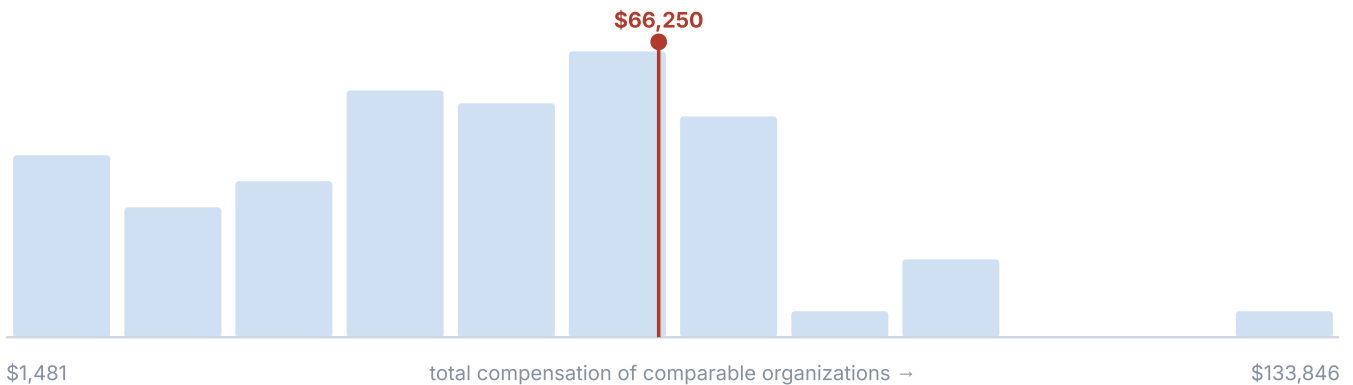
Benchmarked executive: Thea Howard — reported title “EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR”, a **direct title match** to the Executive Director / CEO role.

How comparable organizations were selected

- SECTOR** Organizations sharing the subject's NTEE classification (A80).
- BUDGET** Total revenue between \$176,867 and \$395,973 — 0.67x to 1.50x the subject's \$263,982 (the band tightens as size grows).
- GEOGRAPHY** Same NTEE sector (A80), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5x revenue.

122 organizations qualified on sector, size, and geography → **122** within the band form the benchmarked peer set.

Distribution of comparable compensation



| | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| \$11,473 | \$28,341 | \$48,770 | \$63,775 | \$77,612 | \$66,250 |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|



● Comparable organizations

Each figure is Form 990 Part VII columns D + F (reportable pay plus other compensation and benefits; column F may include amounts from related organizations), normalized to KS cost of living (BEA RPP, 2023) and to its filing year (CPI-U); the reported amount is on each linked 990.

| ORGANIZATION | STATE | REVENUE | MATCHED TITLE | COMP (REPORTED) | COMP (ADJUSTED) | FY |
|--|-------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------|
| Wayne County Historical Museum Inc | IN | \$263,992 | Interim Executive Director | \$49,994 | \$48,801 | 2024 |
| Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area | VA | \$264,630 | Executive Di | \$81,780 | \$75,250 | 2023 |
| Trail Of Tears Association Inc | OK | \$266,003 | Executive Director | \$75,921 | \$77,383 | 2024 |
| Discovery Expedition Of St Charles Mo Inc | MO | \$266,577 | Executive Director | \$56,692 | \$57,223 | 2023 |
| Central Virginia Battlefields Trust | VA | \$261,071 | Executive Di | \$68,727 | \$63,239 | 2023 |
| Alliance For Historic Hillsborough | NC | \$260,988 | Exec Director | \$45,454 | \$43,474 | 2024 |
| Historic Railroad Square Association | CA | \$259,718 | Executive Dir. | \$34,130 | \$27,280 | 2024 |
| Middle Passage Ceremonies & Port | FL | \$269,967 | Executive Director | \$47,796 | \$41,562 | 2024 |
| Adena Mansion And Gardens Society | OH | \$256,847 | Executive Director | \$56,686 | \$55,575 | 2024 |
| Fptower Inc | NC | \$256,355 | Executive Director | \$36,000 | \$34,431 | 2024 |
| Louisiana Children's | LA | \$272,001 | Operations M | \$30,000 | \$30,578 | 2024 |
| Berwick Historical Society | PA | \$273,374 | Executive Director | \$54,530 | \$50,335 | 2024 |
| The Freedom Archives | CA | \$254,114 | Director | \$50,000 | \$39,964 | 2024 |
| Standing Bear Native American Foundation Inc | OK | \$253,128 | Executive Director | \$7,200 | \$7,339 | 2024 |
| Main Street Portsmouth | OH | \$275,016 | Executive Di | \$27,605 | \$27,863 | 2023 |

| ORGANIZATION | STATE | REVENUE | MATCHED TITLE | COMP (REPORTED) | COMP (ADJUSTED) | FY |
|--|-------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------|
| Destination Downtown Lancaster Inc | OH | \$252,889 | Executive Di | \$69,150 | \$69,797 | 2023 |
| Musical Arts Society Of New Orleans | LA | \$275,504 | Executive Dir. | \$40,000 | \$41,974 | 2023 |
| High Plains Heritage Society Inc | SD | \$275,804 | Executive Director | \$68,805 | \$70,289 | 2024 |
| William H Gray Iii Memorial Foundation | DC | \$251,862 | Executive Director | \$84,000 | \$70,246 | 2023 |
| The Whitesbog Preservation Trust Inc | NJ | \$276,286 | Executive Dir. | \$58,000 | \$47,934 | 2024 |
| Friends Of Harriet Beecher Stowe House | OH | \$251,465 | Executive Director | \$52,169 | \$51,146 | 2024 |
| Charleston County Parks Foundation | SC | \$276,622 | Executive Di | \$61,534 | \$59,421 | 2024 |
| T L C Carnival Club Inc | LA | \$250,592 | President | \$7,425 | \$7,568 | 2024 |
| The Casino Star Theater Foundation | UT | \$245,564 | Executive Director | \$6,000 | \$5,852 | 2023 |
| Friends Of Florida History Inc | FL | \$285,007 | Division Dir | \$21,686 | \$19,415 | 2023 |

Comp (reported) is the figure on each organization's Form 990 (columns D + F); **Comp (adjusted)** normalizes it to KS cost of living and 2024 dollars. Click any organization to verify the figure on ProPublica.

Methodology

Comparable organizations were drawn from electronically filed IRS Form 990 returns and matched on sector (NTEE code), budget (a size-adaptive revenue band that tightens as the organization grows), and geography (same-state first, broadening only when too few peers qualify); every organization within the band forms the peer set. To compare fairly across regions and years, peer compensation is normalized to KS cost of living (BEA Regional Price Parities, 2023) and to the subject's filing year (CPI-U). The figure benchmarked is Form 990 Part VII, Section A, columns D + F — reportable pay plus other compensation, benefits, and deferred amounts (column F may include amounts from related organizations) — with the chief executive matched by role. Related-organization amounts (column E) and institutional trustees are excluded. Full methodology: peerbasis.org/methodology.

Sample, role match & sensitivity

PEER COUNT **122** organizations. Compensation range \$1,481–\$133,846; filing years 2023–2025.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| SIZE BASIS | Matched on total revenue (\$263,982); for reference, expenses \$397,802 and assets \$7,613,008. Revenue and expenses diverge this year — revenue may misrepresent operating size; weigh the expense-based view. |
| ROLE MATCH | Thea Howard, reported title " <i>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</i> ", benchmarked as Executive Director / CEO. The title maps directly to this role. |
| RELATED-ORG PAY | 4 peers report related-organization compensation (column E), which the D + F benchmark does not fully capture; review where material. |
| OUTLIERS | 2 peers fall outside 1.5× the interquartile range — consider whether any reflect one-time payments (severance, deferred-comp payouts). |

Sensitivity — the subject's percentile under alternative compensation definitions:

| BASIS | SUBJECT PERCENTILE |
|---|--------------------|
| Total compensation (D + F), cost-of-living + inflation adjusted — the PeerBasis default | 77 th |
| Total compensation (D + F), as reported (no adjustments) | 67 th |
| Reportable pay only (column D), adjusted | 80 th |
| All sources (D + E + F), adjusted | 75 th |

If the percentile moves materially across these definitions, the result is sensitive to methodology choices, and the board should weigh which basis best fits its facts.

● Rebuttable presumption of reasonableness • 26 CFR 53.4958-6

Compensation paid by a tax-exempt organization is presumed reasonable — shifting the burden to the IRS — when three requirements are met. This report supplies the comparability data for the second. The board should record the following in its minutes *concurrently* with its decision:

Draft board minutes – executive compensation

1. The compensation of the Executive Director / CEO (Thea Howard) was approved in advance by [the Board / Compensation Committee], composed of members with no conflict of interest with respect to the arrangement.
2. Prior to its determination, the authorized body obtained and relied upon appropriate comparability data, namely the PeerBasis Compensation Comparability Determination dated June 9, 2026, comparing compensation against 122 similarly situated organizations (Same NTEE sector (A80), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5× revenue).
3. The authorized body determined that total compensation of \$66,250 is reasonable (approximately the 77th percentile of comparable organizations) and documented the basis for this determination concurrently, on [date], by a vote of [__ for / __ against].

Sources: IRS Form 990 e-file data (apps.irs.gov); IRS Business Master File (NTEE classification). Every figure traces to an original public filing — click any organization above to verify it on ProPublica. PeerBasis is a service of Prismind Analytics; its [methodology is published](#), was commissioned for independent adversarial review, and discloses its own limitations. This report is comparability data to support a board's good-faith determination under IRC 4958; it is not legal or tax advice. Generated by PeerBasis on June 9, 2026.