



**Reveal**  
by KOHLER

BATH AND SHOWER REMODELING

Buyer's Choice Awards 2024

**THIS MONTH ONLY**

**GET \$1,000 OFF** of Your KOHLER® Walk-In Bath  
+ NO PAYMENTS FOR 12 MONTHS\*

**150** YEARS  
KOHLER

LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY

Call today for your **FREE** in-home quote!  
**(559) 372-2461**

\*For as long as the original purchaser consumer owns his or her home. For complete warranty details, visit KOHLER.com/Warranty.  
\*Offer ends July 31, 2026. Participating dealers only. Not available in AK, HI, Nassau City, Suffolk City, Westchester City, or City of Buffalo, NY. \$1,000 off average price of KOHLER walk-in bath. Reveal by KOHLER Authorized Dealers set all prices and are responsible for full amount of discount. Cannot be combined with any other advertised offer. Contact Reveal by KOHLER Authorized Dealer for financing details.

VISALIATIMESDELTA.COM / TULAREADVANCEREGISTER.COM

# VISALIA TIMES-DELTA Tulare Advance-Register

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Program gives struggling artists \$1,000 a month



A few commissions, contracts, sales or cancellations can dramatically change what artists earn in a given year.  
GETTY IMAGES

### The result: freedom and time to focus on their art

**Joanna Woronkovic**  
Indiana University  
**and Doug Noonan**  
Indiana University Indianapolis  
THE CONVERSATION

Though artificial intelligence is making it easier than ever to produce images, music and text, the technology is also making it harder for the people who have traditionally produced this work to earn a living.

A photographer who once was commissioned to make art for an advertising campaign is now competing with graphics produced by the AI image generator Midjourney. A novelist who used to make money on the side as a technical writer is seeing that work be replaced by a series of prompts in ChatGPT.

The extent to which AI will upend creative work remains unsettled. But that uncertainty has made guaranteeing income for creatives a more viable

**The program selected artists through a weighted lottery. It adopted an expansive definition of “artist.” Anyone engaged in artistic, cultural or community-centered creative practices – such as musicians, storytellers or muralists – was eligible to apply.**

policy idea.

In fact, creatives in New York recently participated in the largest basic income program for artists in U.S. history, the Guaranteed Income for Artists initiative.

Spearheaded by Creatives Rebuild New York and primarily funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the pro-

gram gave 2,400 artists across New York state \$1,000 a month beginning in June 2022. There were no work requirements and no restrictions on how the money could be spent. The program sought to improve the financial stability of artists and encourage the public to see them as workers who deserve a stable income and social support.

As researchers who study artists, cultural work and public policy, we evaluated this program to see whether it achieved its stated goals. Our main finding was simple: Artists did not stop working. Instead, they changed the kind of work they did.

#### Cash buys time

Artists often make choices that look strange in standard economic models, which typically assume workers will prioritize higher wages while balancing work against leisure time.

Artists, on the other hand, may stay in poorly paid, unstable arts work,

**See PROGRAM, Page 3A**

## CA ranks among worst states to move to

**Daniella Segura**  
USA TODAY NETWORK

California ranks among the worst destinations for Americans looking to move, according to a new report.

With an overall score of 38.06 out of 100, the Golden State ranked No. 48 in ConsumerAffairs’ report that identified the best and worst states to move to in 2026.

The state ranks as the least affordable in the nation, second-worst for safety and among the bottom 10 states for economic strength, according to the report.

Despite the state’s low scores in some areas, “it’s not all bad news,” ConsumerAffairs said.

The report found that California ranks among the best states for healthcare and education. The state’s healthcare system ranks No. 19 nationally for its strong performance in access, quality, and health outcomes, while 38.1% of adults in the state hold a bachelor’s degree or higher, exceeding the national average of 36.8%.

“When it comes to quality of life, Californians also win big — the Golden State has the highest number of state and national parks in the country,” ConsumerAffairs said.

Here are the worst and best states to move to in 2026, according to ConsumerAffairs.

#### Worst states to move to in 2026, report says

ConsumerAffairs noted that the 10 worst states to move to “tend to perform poorly in safety, with each placing 34th or lower, except for Mississippi, which is 12th best.”

“Additionally, the bottom states have seven of the 10 lowest scores for the quality of life, and eight of the 10 lowest for education and healthcare,” ConsumerAffairs said. “And although California and Oregon rank higher in education and healthcare, their ongoing cost-of-living crises were evident in their affordability rankings, where they place 50th and 44th, respectively.”

Six of the 10 worst states to move

**See RANKS, Page 3A**

## Thousands of drivers must retake exam

**Daniella Segura**  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Thousands of California drivers must retake a written exam after Department of Motor Vehicles officials say they found test results showed “anomalies.”

A DMV spokesperson said officials “identified anomalies in the results of

certain knowledge tests,” prompting them to send letters to about 11,000 drivers requiring them to retake the test within 30 days or risk losing their licenses.

“Ensuring the integrity of our testing process is essential,” the spokesperson said in an emailed statement to USA TODAY Co. “Knowledge tests play a critical

role in confirming that drivers understand the rules of the road before they are licensed to drive in California.”

The DMV confirmed to CBS Sacramento that drivers who received the letters took the exam between July 2025 and April 2026.

**See EXAM, Page 2A**

#### Subscriber-only eNewspaper

Use your computer or app to access your paper online. Subscribers also get access to USA TODAY’s eNewspaper, plus updated news and sports Extra sections.

Volume 168 | Issue 10  
Subscribe 888-487-9565  
©2026 \$1.50



0 40901 93279 6