PROMINENT NEW DEAL ARTISTS

The WPA and other New Deal programs provided jobs for millions of unemployed Americans. These included tens of thousands of musicians, actors, dancers, sculptors, photographers, painters, and writers.

A number of these individuals eventually became prominent in their fields. This list contains a small sampling of them.

Nelson Algren  
Saul Bellow  
William Bendix  
Paul Bowles  
John Cheever  
Joseph Cotton  
Dan Dailey  
Roger Pryor Dodge  
Katherine Dunham  
Willem de Kooning  
Ralph Ellison  
Woody Guthrie  
Juanita Hall  
John Houseman  
Doris Humphrey  
Zora Neale Hurston  

John Huston  
Arthur Kennedy  
Gwendolyn Knight  
Yasu Kuniyoshi  
Burt Lancaster  
Jacob Lawrence  
José Limón  
Alan Lomax  
Sidney Lumet  
E.G. Marshall  
William Matons  
Claude McKay  
Arthur Miller  
Louise Nevelson  
Jackson Pollock  
Kenneth Rexroth

Buddy Rich  
Martin Ritt  
Mark Rothko  
William Schuman  
Pete Seeger  
Ben Shahn  
Helen Tamiris  
Louis “Studs” Terkel  
Sonny Terry  
Virgil Thompson  
Margaret Walker  
Charles Weidman  
Orson Welles  
Edward Weston  
Richard Wright