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March 13, 2007

Dear Member of Congress:

NAMAC is a National Co-Sponsor of Arts Advocacy Day 2007. NAMAC is the national arts service organization for the media arts whose members work in film, video, digital media and audio. Our mission is to strengthen independent media organizations as an integral part of their communities; facilitate the support of independent media creators from all cultural communities and regions; integrate media into all levels of education and advocate for media literacy as an educational goal; and encourage media making that is rooted in communities, as well as those with a global outlook. Our three hundred member organizations serve over 400,000 makers whose work reaches millions of viewers annually.

To strengthen our national creative assets, we urge Congress to support the following:

- Increase funding for the nation's cultural agencies to previous standards to ensure creative excellence throughout our nation: \$176 million for the National Endowment for the Arts, which represents the level of funding in 1992, and \$156 for the National Endowment for the Humanities.
- Reform administrative regulations at the Immigration and Naturalization Service to improve visa processing for the visa categories used by foreign guest artists and cultural organizations entering the U.S. for scheduled performances and exhibitions.
- Please do not accept the President's request to cut \$50 million for the budget of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

As media becomes more pervasive in our culture, it is imperative that we ensure the free flow of ideas and creative expression by providing support for media created in the public interest and outside of the commercial demands of the marketplace. It is there that we find true creative innovation and pluralism. We invite you to visit our website at [www.namac.org](http://www.namac.org) and see which NAMAC member organizations serve your community.

Sincerely,



Jack Walsh  
Co-Director