

Young Audiences Arts for Learning



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April 1, 2008

Dear Member of Congress,

Young Audiences, Inc., is pleased to be a National Co-Sponsor of National Arts Advocacy Day 2008.

Founded in 1952, Young Audiences is the nation's leading source of arts-in-education programs and services. In 2007, the Young Audiences network of 31 chapters and affiliates, including more than 4,600 teaching artists and 1,500 community volunteers, reached over 7 million children in nearly 8,000 schools with more than 22,000 performance demonstrations, 64,000 workshops, and 4,800 teacher services.

Young Audiences advances the artistic and educational development of public school students in grades K-12 by bringing young people together with professional artists of all disciplines to learn, create, and participate in the arts. We believe that arts education plays a critical role in the creative development and educational advancement of all children. Arts learning provides opportunities for the next generation of young people to develop the creative and innovative thinking skills that will enable them to succeed in a rapidly changing world.

Young Audiences strongly supports legislation that will:

- Advance education in and through the arts
- Increase appropriations for arts in education programs through the Department of Education and the National Endowment for the Arts; and
- Ensure that arts education remains a fully-funded part of the core academic curriculum.

On behalf of the entire Young Audiences organization, I encourage your support for policies that provide high-quality arts education for all young people.

Sincerely,

Richard Bell
National Executive Director

115 East 92nd Street
New York, NY 10128
Tel: 212.831.8110
Fax: 212.289.1202
www.youngaudiences.org