

Young
Audiences
Arts for
Learning



April 13, 2010

Dear Member of Congress,

Young Audiences, Inc. is pleased to be a National Co-Sponsor of National Arts Advocacy Day 2010.

Founded in 1952, Young Audiences is the nation's leading source of arts-in-education programs and services. In 2009, the Young Audiences network of 30 affiliates, including more than 4,600 teaching artists and 1,500 community volunteers, reached over 7 million young people in 7,000 schools with 16,000 performance demonstrations, 67,000 workshops, and 3,200 teacher services.

Young Audiences advances the artistic and educational development of public schools 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 know that learning in and through the arts plays an important role in enhancing young people's creative, learning and life skills, not only for the talented but for all children. These outcomes are measurable, and they enable our nation's young people to become more productive in their work, and to enjoy a higher quality of life.

Young Audiences strongly supports legislation that will:

- Advance education in and through the arts, especially through the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
- Increase appropriations for arts learning 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 national Young Audiences Arts for Learning Network, I thank you for all you are doing to help ensure the success and well being of our nation's young people.

Sincerely,

Richard Bell
National Executive Director

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