
Part 1: National Endowment for the Arts and U.S. Department of Education's Arts in Education Programs

Laurie Baskin, Theatre Communications Group

Tom Birch, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

Heather Noonan, League of American Orchestras

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National Endowment for the Arts

Promoting Creativity and Public Access to the Arts

Laurie Baskin, Theatre Communications Group
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NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

The 'Ask': What's it About This Year?

- Urge Congress to approve \$200 million for the NEA for FY 2010
 - Restore funding lost since cuts in the 1990s
 - Still behind in per capita spending: 1992=\$0.69; 2009=\$0.51
- Congress approved \$155 million for the current year
 - \$10 million increase in the Omnibus spending bill
- Congress also approved \$50 million for the arts in the Economic Stimulus package.



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

The Political Scene: Where are we this year?

- Our champions are in leadership positions
 - New President: supportive Administration
 - Vocal support in floor debate on economic stimulus package
 - Our work remains bipartisan

 - We look to the the Appropriations Committees to again recommend an increase for the NEA
 - Ask Appropriations Committee members to support \$200 million
 - Ask other members to talk about it with Appropriations Committee
 - We do NOT expect a Congressional Arts Caucus amendment in the full House later this year.

 - Arts funding is highly visible: a hostile floor amendment is possible
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NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

The Political Scene: The arts on the agenda

- The arts demand a place on the public policy agenda.
- Arts contribute to economic strength and cultural vitality
- The arts=jobs: 5.4 million full-time workers
 - More than retail sales

- Our programs address a variety of public policy issues:
 - education
 - economic development
 - job creation
 - Innovation and creativity

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

The Talking Points

- While many of the talking points are similar to past years, we have grouped them into 3 categories:

- 1) Economic impact
- 2) Lifelong learning in the arts
- 3) What the NEA does



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS

A great nation
deserves great art.

- Make a case for greater need:
 - Grant sizes have decreased over the years
 - Many eligible, high-quality requests are going unfunded

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

More Talking Points

- Our challenge is different this year
 - Economic crisis

- If you are told the budget is tight, or there are other more worthy needs,
 - Stick to our request
 - Put forward additional examples of the need in our sector
 - State how arts organizations contribute to local economies and to the public good

- If Members of Congress say they support the arts, but the NEA received an increase in FY09 funding and \$50 million in the Stimulus Bill. . .
 - Remind them that the Stimulus funding is short term emergency funding
 - We appreciate the increase in FY 09 funding, but the Agency has still not recovered from a 40% cut in 1996
 - An increase in the regular appropriations bill would allow the NEA to help bring the arts to more people in more communities, engaging at the same time with the economic strategies of states and communities.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

More Talking Points

- Like other sectors in the US economy, arts organizations have been hit hard by the current recession
 - Arts organizations supply jobs, purchase goods and services and provide programs
 - These are measurable contributions to the economic health of our nation's communities

 - Restore NEA to its former level, so it can better serve the American people
 - The NEA issue brief and the Arts and Economic Recovery Brief are linked this year
 - We have to be ready to talk about the importance of supporting the arts through the lens of our economic impact
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- Thad Cochran (Mississippi)
- Robert Bennett (Utah)
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- Lisa Murkowski (Alaska)
- Susan Collins (Maine)
- George Voinovich (Ohio)



Arts Education Funding and Research Through the U.S. Department of Education

Helping Children Succeed in School, Work, and Life

Heather Noonan, League of American Orchestras

Ellin Nolin, *VSA arts*

ARTS EDUCATION THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Arts in Education Programs

- Model Development and Dissemination
- Professional Development for Arts Educators
- Evaluation and National Dissemination
- Kennedy Center and VSA arts

ARTS EDUCATION THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Arts in Education Funding has Tremendous Impact!

- Model Development – 121 projects
- Professional Development – 52 projects
- National networks ensure expansion into all 50 states including more than 16 million students
- \$53 million provides for new grants and sustains current awards.

ARTS EDUCATION THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Arts Education Research is Vital!

- Fast Response Statistical Survey (FRSS)
 - How much arts education is available in our schools? Full results to come in 2012.

- National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
 - How prepared are students to create, perform, and respond to the arts? 2008 results are due this spring.

- "Core" subject research

ARTS EDUCATION THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Essential Talking Points in Tight Times!

When needed most, the arts are being cut from our schools.

- The arts are uniquely able to boost learning and achievement for young children, students from economically disadvantaged circumstances, and students needing remedial instruction.
- A 2007 study from the Center on Education Policy has found that, since the enactment of NCLB, 30% of districts with at least one school identified as needing improvement have decreased instruction time for arts and music.
- A March 2009 GAO study finds that minority and low-income students are experiencing decreases in access to arts education.

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- Barbara Lee (California-9)
- Michael Honda (California-15)
- Betty McCollum (Minnesota-4)
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- Jim Moran (Virginia-8)

Republicans (5):

- **Todd Tiahrt (Kansas-4), Ranking Member**
- Dennis Rehberg (Montana-AL)
- Rodney Alexander (Louisiana-5)
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- Tom Cole (Oklahoma-4)

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**SUBCOMMITTEE ON LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
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- Richard Durbin (Illinois)
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- Frank Lautenberg (New Jersey)

Republicans (5):

- **Arlen Specter (Pennsylvania),
Ranking Member**
- Thad Cochran (Mississippi)
- Judd Gregg (New Hampshire)
- Kay Bailey Hutchison (Texas)
- Richard Shelby (Alabama)

Strengthening Arts Education in *No Child Left Behind*

Helping Children Succeed in School, Work, and Life

Heather Noonan, League of American Orchestras

The public, business leaders, and economic experts agree that the arts are essential to a complete education and preparing a 21st century workforce.

- According to the Conference Board, there is overwhelming consensus from superintendents (98%) and corporate leaders (96%) that “creativity is of increasing importance to the U.S. workforce.”
- The New Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce, in its report *Tough Choices or Tough Times* (2006) states, “It is a world in which comfort with ideas and abstractions is the passport to a good job, in which creativity and innovation are the key to the good life...”
- A Lake Research poll of 1,000 likely voters revealed that, “83% of voters believe that a greater focus on the arts – alongside science, technology, and math – would better prepare students to address the demands of the 21st century.”

STRENGTHENING ARTS EDUCATION IN *NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND*
Arts Education: Creating Student Success in School, Work, and Life

“The Unified Statement”

- The Arts Prepare Students for School, Work, and Life
- The Arts Strengthen the Learning Environment
- The Arts Can Retain Teachers Who Love to Teach

STRENGTHENING ARTS EDUCATION IN *NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND*
Signed by more than 60 National Organizations, Including:

- Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development
- National Association of Elementary School Principals
- National Association of Secondary School Principals
- National Association of State Boards of Education
- National Parent Teacher Association

STRENGTHENING ARTS EDUCATION IN *NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND*

The Legislative Recommendations

- Retain the arts in the definition of core academic subjects of learning
- Reauthorize the Arts in Education Programs of the U.S. Department of Education
- Improve national data collection and research in arts education
- Require states to annually report on student access to all core academic subjects

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION & LABOR

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Jack Reed (Rhode Island)
Bernard Sanders (Vermont)
Sherrod Brown (Ohio)
Robert Casey (Pennsylvania)
Kay Hagan (North Carolina)
Jeff Merkley (Oregon)

Republicans (10):

**Michael B. Enzi (Wyoming), Ranking
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Lamar Alexander (Tennessee)
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