



The official Americans for the Arts State Arts Advocacy Captain for California

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California Arts Advocates joins Americans for the Arts asking you to contact Senators Boxer & Feinstein regarding the NEA and the Economic Recovery Package!

Dear Arts Advocate:

California Arts Advocates has just received this message from Americans for the Arts regarding the national Economic Recovery Package. Good news from the House. Now we must act to urge the Senate to approve additional monies for the National Endowment for the Arts.

"Yesterday, the U.S. House of Representatives passed their version of the Economic Recovery Package by a vote of 244 to 188 which successfully included \$50 million in supplemental grants funding for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)! This provision was threatened throughout the House process by opponents of the NEA who questioned its effectiveness in providing economic stimulus. Today, the NEA offered the following statement, "the arts and culture industry is a sector of the economy just like any other with workers who pay taxes, mortgages, rent and contribute in other ways to the economy; and that the National Endowment for the Arts is uniquely positioned to assist in job stimulation for that industry."

Thanks to the thousands of advocates who contacted their Members of Congress and let them know the importance of maintaining funding for the NEA! However, our work is not finished yet as the U.S. Senate starts their debate on the bill Friday, January 30 and continues through next week. The Senate Appropriations Committee did not include an arts jobs funding provision in their version of the bill, but advocates still have an opportunity to change the final outcome." California Arts Advocates urges you to fax a letter to Senators Boxer and Feinstein, or call their DC offices, encouraging them to join the House and include an additional \$50 million in funds for the NEA.

You must submit your letter or call by end of day Friday, January 30 for your voice to be most effective.

Washington DC FAX numbers: Senator Boxer: 202-224-0454 & Senator Feinstein: 202-228-3954

You can also call: Senator Boxer: 202-224-3553 & Senator Feinstein: 202-224-3841

Simply say that you are a constituent and you support inclusion of \$50 million in the Recovery Package for the NEA.

Here is a letter sent earlier today from CAA President Brad Erickson.

Please feel free to use this language or craft your own:

January 29, 2009

Senator Barbara Boxer and Senator Dianne Feinstein
U.S. Capitol Washington, DC
Via FAX: 202-224-0454 and 202-228-3954

Re: \$50 million additional funds for the National Endowment for the Arts in the Economic Stimulus Plan

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Senator Boxer and Senator Feinstein:

I am writing you as California's State Captain for Americans for the Arts, the President of California Advocates, and as the Executive Director of Theatre Bay Area, a nonprofit service organization with 420 theatre and dance company members and nearly 3,000 individual artist members in the San Francisco area.

As the Senate considers legislation to address the unprecedented economic crisis confronting our nation, I urge you to include \$50 million in additional funding for the National Endowment for the Arts-funds that will quickly save jobs and spur new economic activity in communities across the country. With you, artists and arts organizations are looking for immediate steps that will lead to long-term solutions. With you, we aim to support key industries with policies that will undergird a prosperous future. We direct your attention to the arts, a major player in our nation's and our state's economy. The arts generate billions in total economic activity and fundamentally impact California's core creative industries.

Arts-related sector statewide supports:

- 98,949 arts-related businesses
- 500,901 jobs for people in California

Nonprofit arts specifically generates:

- \$5.4 billion in total economic impact
- 66,000 full-time and 95,000 part-time jobs
- \$300 million in state and local taxes

According to the Americans for the Arts, a \$50 million investment to the National Endowment for the Arts will provide critical funding to save 14,422 jobs from being lost in the U.S. economy. This is based on the ability of the NEA to leverage \$7 in additional support through local, state and private donations, for every \$1 in NEA support. Arts organizations employ performers and curators, but also employ accountants, designers, plumbers, union workers and engineers. In fact, there are more full-time jobs supported by the nonprofit arts than are in accounting, public safety officers, even lawyers and just slightly fewer than elementary school teachers.

There are approximately 100,000 nonprofit arts organizations, which spend \$63.1 billion annually. Without an economic stimulus for the nonprofit arts industry, experts expect about 10% of these organizations (ranging from large arts institutions like museums and orchestras to small community-based organizations in suburban, urban and rural areas) to shut their doors in 2009 - a loss of 260,000 jobs.

For those arts organizations that do not go out of business due to the poor economy, it is expected that, on average, the remaining arts organizations will experience up to 20% in budget cuts in 2009, resulting in losses of approximately 468,000 jobs.

In a report released in mid-January, the National Governor's Association stated, "Arts and culture are important to state economies. Arts and culture-related industries, also known as "creative industries," provide direct economic benefits to states and communities: They create jobs, attract investments, generate tax revenues, and stimulate local economies through tourism and consumer purchases."

Please vote YES to include the arts as a crucial tool for stimulating our economy in the short term and as critical means of preparing this country to retain its place at the fore of the new global creative economy.

There are 39 million reasons to fund the arts in California. Arts for Everyone, Everywhere!

Thank you to our members who make our advocacy work possible at the local, state and national level.

California Arts Advocates is solely supported by membership dues from organizations and individuals. Keep the arts at the forefront of public policy. Join CAA online at www.CaliforniaArtsAdvocates.org

Strengthen the voice of the arts on three levels: Statewide, locally and nationally.

When you support the arts locally, statewide and nationally, the arts message grows stronger. When you forward CAA legislative updates and action alerts to your colleagues, board members and friends, you build public awareness for essential grassroots arts advocacy efforts. Please [join California Arts Advocates](#), become a member of the [Americans for the Arts Action Fund](#) and support our [local partners](#) so all of us can work together to gain a greater public investment in the arts and make arts available for everyone, everywhere.

If you no longer wish to receive e-mail from us, please click [here](#).

