



February 26, 2009

The Honorable Karen Bass
Speaker of the California State Assembly
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly appointees to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Arts

Dear Speaker Bass:

Congratulations on successfully passing the state budget! California Arts Advocates (CAA) and its members greatly appreciate your leadership during difficult budget negotiations addressing California's fiscal crisis.

CAA is a nonprofit organization that represents artists, arts organizations, and Californians who support the arts. Its membership is a broad spectrum of budget sizes, arts disciplines, diverse cultures, audiences and regions. On behalf of its members, arts stakeholders and the families they serve, the CAA Board of Directors requests that you appoint six (6) members of the state Assembly to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Arts, at your earliest convenience.

This committee is entering its sixth year without full membership. Consequently, it has not been able to meet to hear public testimony and gather information about the impact of the arts and the creative industries on California's economy, tourism, social services, workforce and communities. Committee Chair, Senator Jack Scott last led interim hearings on the arts in 2003, "California Arts Funding"; 2002, "Arts and Education"; and 2001, "The Arts Advantage to California in the Changing World". California's nonprofit arts community contributes \$5.4 billion to California's economy, and is a viable partner in creating solutions to the state's current fiscal crisis.

Over the years, CAA Board Members have met with numerous Assembly members who have expressed interest in filling the six vacancies, and serving along side the current Senate members of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Arts. We have suggested that they contact your office.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call our legislative advocate, Ms. Kathryn Lynch at (916) 443-0202. Thank you for your commitment a better, more creative California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Erickson".

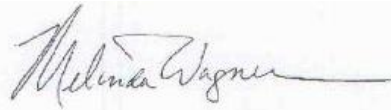
Brad Erickson, President
Executive Director, Theatre Bay Area

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dalouge Smith".

Dalouge Smith, Vice-president
CEO & President, San Diego Youth Symphony



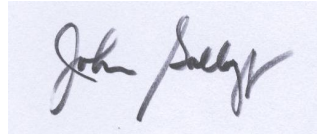
Kara Whittington
Audience Development Director
San Francisco Symphony



Legislative Liaison
Professional Musicians of California
American Federation of Musicians



Deborah Cullinan
Executive Director
Intersection for the Arts



John Gallogly
Executive Director
Theatre West



Terence McFarland
Executive Director
LA Stage Alliance



Rachel Osajima
Executive Director
Alameda County Arts Commission



Rebecca Rader
Director of Government & Foundations
San Diego Opera



Kerry Adams Hapner
Executive Director
Office of Cultural Affairs & Economic Development
City of San Jose



Arts Advocate

cc: Kathryn Lynch, Legislative Advocate, Lynch & Associates