

February 27, 2009

Governor Edward G. Rendell
Governor's Office
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Rendell:

As a past Chair of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and current member of the Board of Citizens for the Arts, I am well aware of the impact of the state's budget on arts agencies, organizations and our cultural infrastructure. State funding truly represents the vital life line to all of these entities.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for including of \$14 million in the budget for the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. During these especially difficult times, your steadfast commitment and support of the arts is a beacon of hope and pleasant diversion for all Pennsylvanians.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Ann M. Benzel
President