

Insert Legislator's Name Here  
Insert Legislator's Address Here

Dear Senator/Representative LAST NAME:

I am writing to you today to ask you to consider an increase to the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA) grants to arts organizations of \$2 million per year for the next three years. This fiscal year the PCA reduced grants to approximately 2/3 of its direct grantees to accommodate funding to newer organizations. As the demand for arts programming and services grows in our community, new organizations should be able to come to the PCA for support at a level of funding commensurate with other like organizations.

***Insert information about how the arts have affected your community or how PCA funding has helped your organization.***

The recent Americans for the Arts' *Arts and Economic Prosperity III* reports document the importance of the nonprofit arts community in Pennsylvania. Thanks to the PCA, Pennsylvania was one of only five states to collect this data statewide and the only state to have ten different regions participate in this study. Funding and leadership from the PCA was crucial to making these studies happen. I have enclosed information from this study with my letter. I think you will agree that the arts play a vital role in the economic development of Pennsylvania and are worthy of achieving a higher level of state support.

Finally, Pennsylvania lags behind all of our neighboring states in per capita support for the arts through the state arts agencies. Funding from the PCA is so important because it provides a reliable source of support for the operation of arts organizations. Such support is vital to the long term success of our communities. Investment in the PCA is an investment in the future of Pennsylvania.

I urge you to to increase the PCA appropriation by \$2 million each year for the next three years.

Sincerely,