



Association of Performing Arts Presenters  
Dance USA | League of American Orchestras  
OPERA America | Theatre Communications Group  
Alternate ROOTS| American Composers Forum  
Chamber Music America | Chorus America  
Fractured Atlas | National Alliance for Musical Theatre  
National Association of Latino Arts and Culture  
National Performance Network  
Network of Ensemble Theaters | New Music USA

## Advocacy Report

August 2013

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- Join the Performing Arts Alliance

### About Us

- The Performing Arts Alliance is a national network of more than 33,000 organizational and individual members comprising the professional, nonprofit performing arts and presenting fields.

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### FY14 Funding for the NEA

Since mid-July, arts and culture advocates have been focusing in on the FY14 Interior Appropriations bills which will set the budget for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Here are some highlights of recent activities:

- July 22: The House Appropriations Committee [released](#) its FY14 interior appropriations bill allotting \$75 million for the NEA. This amount is 49% less than the President's recommendation of approximately \$154.5 million.
- July 23: PAA sent an [action alert](#) asking you to contact your members of Congress and advocate in opposition to the NEA's budget cut. You responded by sending 2,300 messages to more than 300 members of Congress expressing support for the arts in our nation.
- July 31: The full House Appropriations Committee met to markup the interior bill. [Rep. Nita Lowey](#) (D-7<sup>th</sup> NY) and [Rep. David E. Price](#) (D-4<sup>th</sup> NC) submitted an amendment to restore NEA funding to the President's requested level, but it was defeated by a 19-27 vote.
- August 1: The Senate Committee on Appropriations released its [draft interior bill](#) for FY14 restoring the NEA's funding back to the President's level of \$154.5 million.

All budget talks have been put on hold until after the August recess, leaving about one month until the end of the current fiscal year to make decisions on the FY14 budget. PAA will keep you informed of new activity and opportunities for action when Congress re-convenes.

### White Space and Wireless Communications

[Twitter.com/PAAAlliance](https://twitter.com/PAAAlliance)

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#PAAIssueWatch

#artsed



(from left to right: Knapp, Baskin, Pope, Libin, Fierstein and Bunyan)

On Monday, July 29, PAA went to Capitol Hill for “Pardon the Interruption,” a forum on the need to protect broadcast and wireless microphones used in the performing arts and other sectors. The event was held in conjunction with Rep. Bobby Rush’s (D-1<sup>st</sup> IL) development of [H.R. 2911](#), the Wireless Microphone Users Interference Protection Act of 2013, which he introduced to the House on August 1. Rep. Rush and his staff hosted the event. This forum stressed the importance of wireless technology to the performing arts and other industries’ abilities to produce high quality experiences for their audiences. The FCC was urged to protect wireless microphones when it conducts spectrum auctions.

Theatre Communication Group’s Laurie Baskin represented PAA, testifying on a panel of stakeholders that included Julius Knapp, Federal Communications Commission; Tom Pope, First Baptist Church of Glenarden; Louis Libin, Broad Comm., Inc. (representing the NFL); and Maureen Bunyan, ABC 7 local news. Harvey Fierstein, Tony-award winning actor and playwright also participated, delivering testimony on the importance of this issue to the NYC Broadway theatre community. Click [here](#) to listen to this story from NPR that mentions the forum and talks about this issue. You can learn [more](#) about white space in the PAA Issue Center.

## August Recess for Congress

Congress is on a 5-week recess beginning Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. You can use this opportunity to meet with your legislators and talk about these and other arts advocacy issues important to your work and community. Visit the [Take Action](#) page on the PAA website for tips on contacting and meeting with your policy members as well as inviting them to performances. We’ll be sharing advocacy tips and tools on Facebook and Twitter throughout the recess to help you make the most of these five weeks.

When Congress reconvenes, PAA will continue to take action and track

progress on a broad array of issues, including:

- Arts education in the reauthorization of ESEA
- International artist visas
- Tax reform and charitable giving incentives

### **Stay Connected!**

PAA and its coalition members are actively engaged with members of congress to be the voice for the presenting and performing arts fields on Capitol Hill. Visit our [website](#), follow us on [Twitter](#), or like us on [Facebook](#) for updates on our progress, resources, and information about our advocacy efforts.