February 2014 Advocacy Report

Arts Advocacy Day 2014

The Performing Arts Alliance is once again proud to be a National Co-sponsor of Arts Advocacy Day. The annual event, hosted by Americans for the Arts, will be held Monday and Tuesday, March 24th-25th in Washington, DC. PAA will join hundreds of arts advocates nationwide in speaking up for the arts in front of congressional lawmakers.

This year’s event will include special training opportunities designed to help you build your local advocacy skills including one-on-one consultations with advocacy experts to help you articulate your message. Specialized training materials for those new to arts advocacy will also be available. Follow the link above to learn more about Arts Advocacy Day and how you can get involved. Stay tuned for an Action Alert which will assist you in sending messages to your elected officials from home on Arts Advocacy Day.

IRA Charitable Rollover
Independent Sector, a national leadership organization for the nonprofit and philanthropic community, is circulating an open letter to the Senate asking for support of the IRA charitable rollover and Sen. Charles Schumer’s (D-NY) bill S. 1772-the Public Good IRA Rollover Act of 2013-to expand the rollover and make it a permanent provision. You can read the letter [here](#), and IS invites you to sign on to it by COB Monday, February 24, EST. You can learn more about the IRA Rollover and other charitable giving incentives [here](#) on the PAA website.

### New Research from the NEA

In December, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) released a preliminary report on the impact of arts and culture on the U.S. economy. Working with the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), this report was the first federal effort to provide in-depth analysis of the arts and cultural sector's contributions to the nation’s gross domestic product (GDP).

Earlier this month, the NEA released more detailed data showing the dollar amount of value that each category of the arts adds to the GDP. This is an enhancement to the December report which did not show these categories.

BEA is building on the December report and is soliciting public feedback about the preliminary data set. Do you have comments? Submit them to Carol E. Moylan, Associate Director for Industry Economic Accounts at BEA at [ArtsandCulture@bea.gov](mailto:ArtsandCulture@bea.gov) by Friday, March 7.

### Advocating for Friendly Skies

In addition to its core advocacy issues, PAA keeps its ears open to policy matters that indirectly affect the performing arts field as a whole. Last week, the (D-5th TN) letter urging the FAA to take action. The final letter was signed by a bipartisan group of 35 members of Congress.
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) missed its Feb. 14 deadline to create rules easing air travel for musicians carrying their instruments on-board. Many performing arts supporters joined together in asking policymakers to sign on to Rep. Jim Cooper’s

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What's coming ahead:

- President Obama has nominated Dr. Jane Chu to be the next chair of the NEA. We are anticipating her confirmation in the Senate (read PAA board chair Mario Garcia Durham's thoughts on Chu's nomination).

- The President is expected to release his FY15 budget in early March. We'll keep you informed of his recommendations for arts education, the NEA, and cultural exchange.

- Tax reform is on the horizon and PAA is advocating for reinstatement of the IRA Rollover and protection of the charitable deduction without change (see our January Advocacy Report). As congress continues to talk reform, we'll keep you aware of new developments and opportunities to take action.

Stay Connected!

For more information about PAA's advocacy issues, visit us online at theperformingartsalliance.org, follow us on Twitter (@PAAlliance), or like our Facebook page.