



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 Altas | National Alliance for Musical Theatre
National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures
National Performance Network
Network of Ensemble Theaters | New Music USA

Advocacy Report

In This Issue

NEA Chair Nominee Advances

Advocate for the IRA Rollover with
Independent Sector

New FCC Rules for Net Neutrality
and Wireless Microphones

Policy Changes for Instrument Air
Travel

Get Involved

■ [Contact Your Member of
Congress](#)

■ [Contact Us](#)

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.

Follow us online:



Happy New Year from the Performing Arts Alliance!

We hope that you and your families had an enjoyable holiday season. We look forward to serving you this year as your advocates for the performing arts on Capitol Hill.

January 2014 Advocacy Report

Charitable Giving



Private contributions from individual donors are a key source of support for nonprofits and social services. As such, PAA has been active with other nonprofit stakeholders in the protection of tax incentives for contributions made to charitable organizations. The tax provision allowing donors ages 70 ½+ to make tax-free contributions from IRAs—up to \$100,000—expired at the end of 2013. This issue was not expected to see action

consideration of retroactively reinstating the IRA rollover may not take place before mid-2014.

We also continue to advocate for the protection of broader charitable giving incentives, as Congress contemplates potential caps or limits on deductibility. On November 20, PAA participated in the Charitable Giving Coalition's [Protect Giving Day](#) which brought over 200 advocates from multiple



from Congress due to the large number of policy items on the table at the end of the year. Although Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY) introduced the [Public Good IRA Rollover Act of 2013 \(S.1772\)](#) in November,

Photo credit: Stockmonkeys.com
via Flickr Creative Commons

nonprofit sectors to Capitol Hill to urge Congress to preserve the full scope of the charitable deduction in the tax code.

You can *Take Action* on charitable giving [here](#).

Arts Education



This past year saw much activity around the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (currently known as No Child Left Behind). Both the House and Senate introduced their own versions of the education law this summer: the “Strengthening America’s Schools Act” from the Senate and the “Student Success Act” from the House (See our July 2013 [Arts Education Update](#) report).

Looking ahead in 2014: How will federal appropriations affect arts education programs? PAA is keeping an eye on budget negotiations and the status of arts education programs at the Department of Education (DoE).

Photo Credit: The Real Le Bep via
Flickr Creative Commons

The President’s FY14 budget would eliminate the Arts in Education (AIE) program as a stand-alone program within the DoE, mixing it into the “Effective Teaching and Learning for a Well-Rounded Education” program fund with other disciplines. The Senate’s proposed FY14 budget for the DoE recommends the AIE program remain as a stand-alone funded at \$27 million, and the House proposes eliminating it.

PAA continues to advocate for the AIE program to remain a stand-alone program within the DoE funded at \$30 million.

You can *Take Action* on arts education [here](#).

Performing Arts Wireless Technology

Since this summer, PAA has had multiple opportunities to speak to members of Congress and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) about the importance of protecting wireless technology used in the performing arts. We know how essential it is to have interference-free microphones and backstage communications systems to produce successful shows, and we took that message to policymakers on your behalf. After our [Capitol Hill Forum](#) in July, PAA worked with representatives from the NFL, the NCAA, and leaders of religious communities to distribute to members of the House Energy and Commerce (E&C) committee a [letter](#) addressed to acting FCC Chairwoman Mignon Clyburn. E&C committee members signed the letter in support of retaining the two safe haven channels in the spectrum reserved for wireless microphones.

National Endowment for the Arts

This year, the NEA has awarded grants in support of performing arts organizations of all sizes and disciplines to help them provide education programs, create new works, and build partnerships.



We have also been meeting with leadership in the offices of FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler and other FCC commissioners to urge policymakers to consider the performing arts community when moving forward with spectrum auctions.

In early December, Chairman Wheeler [announced](#) that the spectrum incentive auctions will begin mid-2015, stating that this timeline will allow for thorough testing of the auction's operating system. Over the next year, PAA will follow the developments of the spectrum auction and keep you informed of opportunities for action.

You can *Take Action* on performing arts wireless technology [here](#).

Photo Credit: Incase via Flickr Creative Commons



help them make meaningful connections between their art, artists, and their communities.

In 2014, PAA will monitor the appropriations process for the

This breadth of support is an example of the importance of the NEA and why federal investment in the arts is essential.

PAA advocates for federal appropriations for the NEA so that it can continue supporting arts organizations and

NEA, now being led by Rep. Ken Calvert (R-CA-42), the new chairman of the Subcommittee on the Interior and the Environment which covers the NEA. Rep. Calvert assumed this position in November.

You can *Take Action* for the NEA [here](#).

Photo Credit: Paul B. Goode

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](#).