

ADVOCACY ALERT: TESTIFY ON MARCH 18 TO FUND ARTS & CULTURE IN THE CITY BUDGET

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Advocacy Alert: Testify on March 18 to Fund Arts & Culture in the City Budget

By Dance/NYC

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[Testify on March 18 at NYC Council Cultural Affairs Committee's Preliminary Budget Hearing Fund Arts & Culture for FY2026](#)

On Tuesday, March 18, at 10:00 a.m., join Dance/NYC along with arts and cultural workers and advocates to testify at the New York City Council Cultural Affairs Committee's [Preliminary Budget Hearing](#). This is your opportunity to advocate for increased, stable, and equitable funding for arts and culture in our city.

What this means:

The dance ecosystem has been hurting. The [State of NYC Dance 2023 Report](#) revealed that 40% of dance entities classify their financial health as weak or very weak, and the average dance worker wages is 15% below NYC's living wage. Increasing the city's arts and culture funding puts more money into our ecosystem, enabling organizations and workers to thrive.

The Mayor put out a [preliminary budget](#) earlier this year. Now, the public gets an opportunity to inform how the City Council responds.

What you can do:

- Testify at City Hall or virtually via Zoom by [registering at least 24 hours in advance](#), or as early as possible.
- Or submit written testimony by March 21, up to 72 hours after the hearing, via the Council's website or by emailing them to testimony@council.nyc.gov.

Let lawmakers know that dance—along with the wider arts and culture sector—are integral to not only New York City's economy but the well-being and vibrancy of our city as a whole.

[REGISTER OR SUBMIT TESTIMONY](#)

Here are some resources to help you get started:

- [How to Testify or Submit a Written Testimony](#)
- [Review Our Oral Testimony Template](#)

[< back](#)

[previous listing](#) • [next listing](#)