

ADVOCACY ALERT: DANCERS FOR NYSCA

Thursday, February 10, 2011

Advocacy Alert: Dancers for NYSCA

By Lane Harwell

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Dear Friend,

Dance in NYC needs NYSCA and NYSCA needs you!

As you may know, the new administration has proposed a 10% cut to the entire budget of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), which is larger than cuts to other State agencies.

On Tuesday Dance/NYC joined the [NYC Arts Coalition](#) and sister groups statewide to respond to this proposal at Arts Day in Albany. We asked for restoration of \$2.8 Million of the decrease in Aid to Localities, which is the source of NYSCA's grants funding to arts groups. (Click [here](#) for the proposal.)

Ellen Bar, Dance/NYC Advisory Committee Member, filmmaker and New York City Ballet Soloist stated in a public address: "Even before I was a dancer and made a dance film [New York Export: Opus Jazz the Film] with Channel Thirteen, New York's public television station, I was a student at the American Youth Dance Academy in Orange County and at the School of American Ballet in Manhattan and the NYS Summer School of the Arts in Saratoga Springs. I feel strongly that I would not have been able to contribute to New York's cultural capital had New York not first invested in me."

Join Ellen, Dance/NYC and arts groups statewide in supporting this funding request. Meet with your legislative representatives when they are in their districts later this week. Visit the new Arts NYS Coalition Web site (www.ArtsNYS.org) to write your legislators and learn more about how you can help. Write now to make sure your voice impacts State budget proceedings.

For federal advocacy updates, join the [Performing Arts Alliance](#).

Happy Arts Week, and onward for dance in NYS!

Lane

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