

[letter from a director]

Dear _____,

I am the director of an arts institution in the city of Philadelphia.

I want to thank you for your support of arts programs in Philadelphia this 2008-09 fiscal year. The support we receive from the city is vital to our mission, and to our ability to deliver services to the residents of our city.

I know you are currently working with a difficult budget situation, and I know that difficult decisions must be made, but I implore you to keep the arts funding intact.

Recent studies have shown that the arts in Philadelphia have a huge economic impact to the city. Not only are there many thousands of people employed by arts organizations, our programs bring people into the city – and that means support for restaurants, shops, garages.

Please keep the arts alive and well in Philadelphia.

Sincerely,

[letter from an employee]

Dear Councilman _____,

I am an employee of an arts institution in the city of Philadelphia.

I want to thank you for your support of arts programs in Philadelphia this 2008-09 fiscal year. The support received by my employer helps to pay my salary and benefits.

I know you are currently working with a difficult budget situation, and I know that difficult decisions must be made, but I implore you to keep the arts funding intact.

I work in one of the most challenging and gratifying professions in existence. And I am proud to know that my city recognizes the value of my chosen career and the services provided by my contribution to the arts. We serve every corner of this city, in every artistic discipline. We serve children, the elderly, and the homeless. The arts have picked up where the schools have left off.

Please keep the arts alive and well in Philadelphia.

Sincerely,

[letter from a supported/constituent]

Dear Councilman _____,

I am writing to you today to let you know what an important role the arts have played in my neighborhood.

Arts institutions on our street have helped to build a sense of community in our neighborhood. The programs they provide are priceless, and their mere presence lends a credibility to our street that would not exist otherwise.

I want to thank you for your support of arts programs in Philadelphia this 2008-09 fiscal year. It has certainly improved the quality of my life and the lives of my neighbors.

I know you are currently working with a difficult budget situation, and I know that difficult decisions must be made, but I implore you to keep the arts funding intact.

The value of my home, my street, my neighborhood and my city depend on you and your support of the arts institutions supported by the Philadelphia Cultural Fund.

Please keep the arts alive and well in Philadelphia.

Sincerely,