

Arts Action News

THE NEWSLETTER OF
AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS ACTION FUND

Vol. IV 2012

President Obama Wins Second Term: Will He Return to His Original Arts Agenda?



President Barack Obama was re-elected, and although his vote count was less than it was four years ago, a coalition of diverse voters brought victories in seven of the eight key battleground states.

With a new second term, President Obama will now have the opportunity to fully realize his vision for the arts and culture, as originally laid out four years ago. By successfully securing healthcare opportunities for artists, helping to save artists' jobs through the National Endowment for the Arts' economic recovery funds, and providing ongoing support for appropriations that fund federal cultural agencies, the president has taken many steps in supporting the nonprofit arts sector.

The Arts Action Fund will encourage President Obama and his administra-

tion over the course of the next four years to remain focused on maintaining arts education in every classroom; allocating a larger budget for the arts as an economic generator for American jobs and products; creating a national "arts corps" of education volunteers; and protecting charitable giving incentives that are the lifeblood of the nonprofit arts sector.

Visit the Arts Action Fund online at www.ArtsActionFund.org/SpecialReports/ElectionImpact for more information about election outcomes.

Key Races Point to Changes in House and Senate

The partisan makeup of the U.S. Congress will remain relatively similar to its pre-election configuration. Republicans remain firmly in control of the House of Representatives with a slightly smaller majority, and Democrats in the Senate strengthened their majority by two members. After a hard fought campaign, and despite being the target of Karl Rove's negative advertising, Congressional Arts Caucus Co-Chair **Louise Slaughter (D-NY)** was comfortably re-elected. House Appropriations Interior Subcommittee Chairman **Mike Simpson (R-ID)** easily won his seat and will be returning to Washington as head of the panel that oversees the National Endowment for the Arts' budget.

Other changes in the House might affect the arts. Former Arts Caucus



Rep. Louise Slaughter (D-NY) will remain Arts Caucus Co-Chair after winning her seat in a newly drawn congressional district. Republican Arts Caucus Co-Chair Todd Platts is retiring at the conclusion of the current 112th Congress.

Co-Chair Rep. Todd Platts (R-PA) and Interior Subcommittee member Rep. Steven LaTourette (R-OH) have both retired, and moderate Republican Reps. Judy Biggert (R-IL) and Charlie Bass (R-NH) lost their races, leaving the remaining pro-arts Republican voting bloc with a loss. Their defeats mean we have to re-double our education of new members to ensure a firewall against possible future congressional attacks on arts funding. In the Senate, three former House members bring their excellent pro-arts records to that chamber: Senators-elect **Mazie Hirono (D-HI)**; **Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)**, and **Chris Murphy (D-CT)**.

Message from the President

As a member of the Americans for the Arts Action Fund, your support through ArtsVote2012 has had a significant impact on the 2012 elections. Arts advocates in every state used the 2012 Congressional Arts Report Card, the Congressional Arts Survey, and the 2012 Presidential Candidates Arts Position Comparative to make informed decisions and vote smART. Nearly all of the congressional candidates supported by the Arts Action Fund were elected into office, including many key arts supporters.

The 2012 Democratic National Platform calls for investments in the arts and public support for the National Endowment for the Arts and arts education. The statement of support recognizes the important impact of the arts on the economy and in communities. With the re-election of President Obama, and a large

freshman class in both chambers of Congress, we can look to the next few years with optimism that the arts will have strong support and defense in both Congress and the White House. The Arts Action Fund looks forward to working with both returning and new members of Congress to ensure that all of our nation's leaders understand the value of investing in the arts.

Across the country, Arts Action Fund members declared support for the arts through votes—electing arts supporters as mayors, state legislators, congressional representatives, and as president. You have made your voices heard, and I know we can continue to count on your support throughout the year to advance arts funding, initiatives, and education.



The Arts Action Fund held an ArtsSPEAK forum at the Democratic National Convention featuring top policy supporters including former U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley (right) as well as former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. At the convention, the Democratic Party released its official party platform in support of the arts.

Please visit www.ArtsActionFund.org/SpecialReports/ElectionImpact for our election analysis and to view our post-election webinar on arts impact at the federal, state, and local levels.

Bob

ArtsVote & Arts Advocates Nationwide



President and CEO Robert Lynch with Salt Lake City Councilman Jim Bradley, a 2010 recipient of the Public Leadership in the Arts Award, presented by Americans for the Arts and the National Association of Counties.



Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) received a contribution from the Arts Action Fund PAC because of her stalwart support of the arts. She is flanked to the left by Arts Action Fund Executive Director Nina Ozlu Tunceli and Arts Alliance Illinois Board Member Michael Dorf and the right by Arts Action Fund President and CEO Robert Lynch and Arts Alliance Illinois Director Ra Joy.



In the days leading up to the Florida Republican primary, Action Fund Executive Director Nina Ozlu Tunceli briefed South Florida arts advocates on the issues at stake in the 2012 elections.



Arts Advocacy Day Co-Chair and actor Hill Harper spoke to Arts Action Fund members during a fundraiser held in conjunction with Arts Advocacy Day.

2011		2012					
Aug. 26	Sep. 21	Oct. 31	Nov. 17	Jan. 26	Apr. 16	Apr. 17	Apr. 24
Arts Action Fund launches ArtsVote2012, a campaign to help the arts impact the 2012 election, with the release of the <i>Congressional Arts Survey</i> and the <i>Arts Policy Questions to Ask Federal Candidates</i> card.	ArtsVote2012 heads to Salt Lake City, UT where President and CEO of Americans for the Arts Action Fund Robert Lynch and local leader Jim Bradley addressed the importance of arts advocacy.	ArtsVote2012 hosts <i>Uniting for Impact: Arts Policy and the 2012 Elections</i> in Chicago with Arts Alliance Illinois. Panelists discussed how to leverage the elections and advance arts-related policy goals.	During the Iowa presidential primary, ArtsVoteIA conducts an Arts Policy Forum that gave Iowa voters who support the arts, arts education, and the creative economy the opportunity to learn how they can infuse the arts into the 2012 election cycle.	ArtsVoteFL conducts an Arts Policy Forum during the state's presidential primary that gave Florida voters information, action items, and strategies for advocating for the arts in the election cycle.	The 25th Annual Arts Advocacy Day brings together a broad cross-section of America's cultural and civic organizations, along with more than 500 grassroots advocates from 40 states across the country.	Americans for the Arts Action Fund secures for a second year, a White House Briefing on the economy, education, and international issues as they impact the arts. White House officials discussed how the arts are being incorporated into their respective agendas.	ArtsVoteLA brings together Arts for LA along with state and local arts leaders for an LA Advocacy Briefing. Arts leaders from around the region attended the presentation and panel discussion, held in partnership with The Music Center in the Evan and Marc Stern Grand Hall.

Supporting Arts Advocacy in States and Cities

The Election Ups and Downs on the State and Local Levels

More than 6,000 state and local elections took place this Election Day along with scores of ballot initiatives and bond questions.

In **Portland, OR**, residents passed a new flat tax that will directly fund arts education. **Denver, CO** voters approved the passage of two education initiatives that will help to

expand and enhance arts education in public schools. In **Austin, TX**, the city will now be able to provide new funding toward improving and equipping libraries, museums, cultural arts facilities, and film production. At the state level, **California** voters approved Proposition 30, which will provide billions of dollars to California's strapped school districts for such things as more consistent resources for arts education throughout the state.

In **Kansas**, which saw its state arts funding zeroed out and then re-funded the following year, many moderate state senate Republicans lost their primaries to more conservative candidates, including **Senate President Steve Morris** and **State Senator Roger Reitz**, who were important to restoring state arts funding in Kansas. Texas Democrats picked up enough seats in the state house to end a Republican supermajority, where the party could pass legislation without any votes from Democratic legislators, while Californian Democrats gained a new supermajority in their state legislature.

For more information about how the election impact states and cities nationwide, visit www.ArtsActionFund.org/SpecialReports/ElectionImpact.

Join Arts Advocates from Across the Country in Washington, DC for the 26th Annual Arts Advocacy Day!

Learn the latest research and talking points to effectively make the case for the arts and arts education with your congressional legislators. For more information and to reserve your free ticket to the Nancy Hanks Lecture on Arts and Public Policy at the John F. Kennedy Center featuring Yo-Yo Ma, please visit www.AmericansForTheArts.org/AAD.

**ARTS
ADVOCACY DAY**
THE 2013 NATIONAL ARTS ACTION SUMMIT



Impacting the Political Landscape



(L-R) Arts for LA Executive Director Danielle Brazell, President and CEO Robert Lynch, and Los Angeles Philharmonic Association Director of Public and Community Affairs Leni Isaacs Boorstin.



Miss America Laura Kaeppler with Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) during her visit to Capitol Hill with the Arts Action Fund.



ArtsSPEAK@RNC was immediately followed by ArtsJAM@RNC at the Tampa Theatre and featured Latin GRAMMY award-winner Amaury Gutierrez along with Bernie Williams and the Dan Warner Band.



ArtsSPEAK@DNC partners, including Robert Lynch of Americans for the Arts Action Fund, Joe Lamond of NAMM, Daryl P. Friedman of The Recording Academy, Tom Cochran of the United States Conference of Mayors, and Scott Provancher of the Arts and Science Council hosted a panel of elected officials, advocates, and arts leaders, including former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright; former U.S. Secretary of Education and former South Carolina Gov. Richard W. Riley; North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources Secretary Linda Carlisle; Senior VP, Community Affairs Manager Wells Fargo and Chair, Board of Trustees for Mint Museum of Art Jay Everette; Chairman, President, and CEO of Duke Energy and Co-chair, Charlotte In 2012 Convention Host Committee James E. Rogers; jazz musician and champion New York Yankee outfielder Bernie Williams; Mayor of Sacramento and the second Vice President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors Kevin Johnson.

July 17

Miss America Laura Kaeppler and Arts Action Fund staff visit Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) to discuss STEM programs, and Kaeppler made a pitch to introduce the arts to create a STEAM curriculum to keep students interested in school and engaged in traditional STEM subjects.

Aug. 28

ArtsVote2012 hosts a panel discussion, ArtsSPEAK@RNC, and ArtsJAM@RNC, an intimate concert performance during the Republican National Convention in Tampa, FL in order to raise arts policy profile among GOP leaders.

Sept. 4

ArtsVote2012 hosts ArtsSPEAK@DNC and ArtsJAM@DNC events during the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, NC. Upon the Arts Action Fund's urging, the 2012 Democratic National Platform includes a statement on "Arts and Culture."

Sept. 24

Americans for the Arts Action Fund releases the 2012 *Congressional Arts Report Card* to inform arts advocates of the arts voting records of their members of Congress running for re-election.

Nov. 2

Los Angeles Times publishes an article on ArtsVote2012's release of the comparison of Obama and Romney's positions on the arts.

Nov. 6

The nation elects a pro-arts president.

Nov. 16

Americans for the Arts Action Fund holds the 2012 Post-Election Impact on the Arts webinar that gives timely post-election analysis of how the federal, state, and local elections, including ballot initiatives, impact the arts and arts education in America.



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Arts Action Fund PAC
Achieves 90 Percent Winning Rate

PAC Update



Pro-Arts Candidates Supported by YOU

Your Americans for the Arts Action Fund PAC contributions allowed us to play a major role in the 2012 congressional elections. We contributed more than \$60,000 to carefully chosen pro-arts candidates on both sides of the aisle.

Our efforts made a difference, as nearly 90 percent of the candidates we supported won their races. We would like to congratulate the following elected pro-arts candidates who we supported in the 2012 congressional elections:

Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ)
Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ)
Alan Lowenthal (D-CA)
Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)
George Miller (D-CA)
Mark Takano (D-CA)
Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)
Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT)
Elizabeth Esty (D-CT)
Jim Himes (D-CT)
Joe Courtney (D-CT)
John B. Larson (D-CT)
Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE)
Bill Nelson (D-FL)
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)

Lois Frankel (D-FL)
John Lewis (D-GA)
Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-HI)
Mike Simpson (R-ID)
Aaron Schock (R-IL)
Jan Schakowsky (D-IL)
Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)
William Enyart (D-IL)
Edward Whitfield (D-KY)
John Yarmuth (D-KY)
Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD)
Steny H. Hoyer (D-MD)
Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)
Gary Peters (D-MI)
Betty McCollum (D-MN)
Collin C. Peterson (D-MN)

Keith Ellison (D-MN)
Richard Nolan (D-MN)
Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT)
Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE)
Sen. Bob Menendez (D-NJ)
Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)
Rush D. Holt (D-NJ)
Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
Steven Horsford (D-NV)
Chris Gibson (R-NY)
Dan Maffei (D-NY)
Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)
Jose E. Serrano (D-NY)
Joseph Crowley (D-NY)
Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)
Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY)

Richard Hanna (R-NY)
Michael R. Turner (R-OH)
Patrick Tiberi (R-OH)
Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH)
Steve Stivers (R-OH)
Tom Cole (R-OK)
Greg Walden (R-OR)
Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA)
Charlie Dent (R-PA)
Jim Gerlach (R-PA)
Patrick Meehan (R-PA)
Timothy Murphy (R-PA)
David Cicilline (D-RI)
Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)
James Clyburn (D-SC)
Jim Cooper (D-TN)

Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX)
Jim Matheson (D-UT)
Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT)
Bobby Scott (D-VA)
James P. Moran (D-VA)
Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA)
Dave Reichert (R-WA)
Denny Heck (D-WA)
Derek Kilmer (D-WA)
Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)
David B. McKinley (R-WV)
Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)
Cynthia Lummis (R-WY)

Americans for the Arts Action Fund is the advocacy arm of Americans for the Arts. We engage citizens in ensuring that all Americans have the opportunity to appreciate, value, and participate in the arts. Arts Action Fund members are citizen activists who are committed to helping make certain that arts-friendly public policies are adopted at every level of government and in the private sector. Arts Action News is delivered four times a year to supporters of the Arts Action Fund. Executive Director, Nina Ozlu Tunceli. www.ArtsActionFund.org.



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