



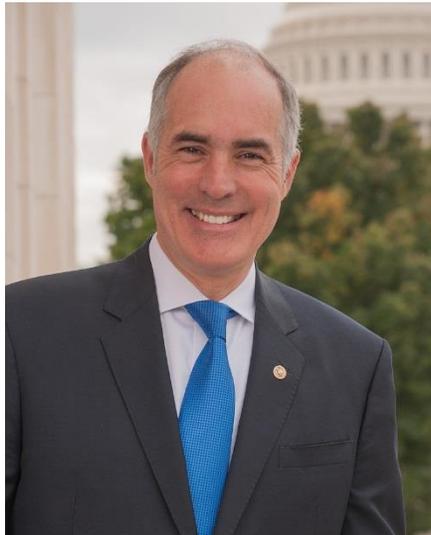
**To:** Arts Action Fund Members

**From:** Americans for the Arts Action Fund

**Date:** August 2, 2018

**Re:** Robert Casey P. Jr. and the Arts, 2018 Candidate for Pennsylvania U.S. Senate

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**Name:** Robert Casey P. Jr.

**Party:** Democrat

**Occupation:** United States Senator from Pennsylvania

**Incumbent:** Yes

**Years Served:** 2007-Present, 11 years

**Born:** April 13, 1960 (age 58 years), Scranton, PA

**Previous Public Offices Held:** 34th Treasurer of Pennsylvania (2005-2007), 49th Auditor General of Pennsylvania (1997-2005).

**Other Positions:** Casey practiced law in Scranton (1991-1996).

**Educational Background:** Received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of the Holy Cross and received a Juris Doctor degree from the Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America.

**Contact Information:**

- Campaign Website: <https://bobcasey.com/>
- Campaign Email: [info@bobcasey.com](mailto:info@bobcasey.com)
- Campaign Mailing Address: Post Office Box 58746 Philadelphia, PA 19102
- Campaign Phone Number: 215-880-7224

**Social Media Platforms:**

- Facebook: @BobCaseyJr 36.9K followers
- Twitter: @Bob\_Casey 4.8K followers
- Instagram: @bobcaseyjr 411 followers

### 2018 General Campaign Predictions:

- Likely D (Source: [Cooks Political Report](#))
- Bob Casey ran unopposed as the incumbent Democrat Senator in the primary election. (Source: [The Washington Post](#)).

**Personal Arts Background:** N/A

### Notable Arts Quotes:

- *"For years, the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor has been at the center of agricultural, industrial and recreational activity in the Mid-Atlantic United States. I am pleased that my Senate colleagues recognized the importance of this corridor and I want to thank Congressman Kanjorski for his work to ensure its continued success."* – Casey said when applauding Senate passage of Bill to extend funding for Local National Heritage Corridor (Source: [Press Release](#)).
- *"Preserving Pennsylvania's historic areas will protect our state's history and grow the economy by attracting tourists from throughout the country. This bipartisan legislation will give our Heritage Areas the certainty in knowing that they'll be designated for another ten years."* – Casey said in a statement introducing Bill to Protect PA National Heritage (Source: [Vote Smart](#)).

### Arts Action Fund Congressional Report Cards:

- [2016 Congressional Report Card](#): Thumbs up
- [2014 Congressional Report Card](#): Thumbs up
- [2012 Congressional Report Card](#): B

### Arts Action Fund PAC support this election cycle as of 8-2-18:

- \$2,500 on 6/20/2017

### Examples of Actions on the Arts

- **Tax Cuts and Jobs Act:**
  - Voted no on *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act* (HR 1) sponsored by Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX) which would double the standard deduction limiting specific incentives for income tax deductions of gifts to charity, becoming severely limited to only the top five percent of taxpayers who itemize their deductions. The Senate voted 51 to 48 on December 13, 2017 to pass the bill in a party-line vote. (Source: [New York Times](#))
- **2010 Transportation Appropriation Bill:**
  - Voted yes on amendment offered by Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK) to halt funding for the Transportation Enhancement program, which includes funding eligible for historic preservation and museums, within the FY 2010 Transportation Appropriations Bill. (Source: [2010 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  - Voted yes on motion to table an amendment offered by Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) to prohibit Transportation Enhancement funds in the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2012 from being used on "lower-priority projects such as transportation museums, historic preservation and public art projects. (Source: [2010 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))

- **Every Student Succeeds Act:**
  - Vote on S.1177—Senate bill to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, titled *Every Child Achieves Act* (ECAA) on July 16, 2015. (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  - Vote on S.1177— Final legislation to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, now called the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), replacing No Child Left Behind on December 9, 2015. (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  - Sen. Robert Casey (D-PA) successfully included an amendment to the Elementary & Secondary Education Act reauthorization bill under consideration by the Senate education committee that would support a “well-rounded curriculum” including the arts. (Source: [Casey.Senate.Gov](#))
  
- **Letters:**
  - Cosigned a “Dear Colleague” letter on March 16, 2018, asking Senate appropriators to fund the NEA and NEH at no less than \$155 million in FY 2019. The letter was led by late Representative Louise Slaughter. (Source: [Arts Action Fund](#))

**Arts Membership:** N/A

**Information on the Arts and the Economy in Pennsylvania:**

- In Pennsylvania, arts and culture was a \$23 billion industry—equivalent to 3.3 percent of the state economy—in 2015. There were a total of 172,749 arts and culture industry jobs.<sup>1</sup>
- A 2017 analysis of Dun & Bradstreet data found 23,420 businesses employed 156,712 people in Pennsylvania involved in the creation or distribution of the arts—3.62 percent of all businesses and 2.14 percent of all employees.<sup>2</sup>

**Sample Advocacy Questions on the Arts:**

- Senator Casey, the budget of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) was cut in half during the 1990s. With its current funding of \$153 million, the NEA spends just 47 cents per American—half the cost of a pack of gum. Would you support a plan to increase federal arts funding to the NEA to \$1 per American, so that arts organizations in your state or district can present even more accessible arts programs for all its residents?
  
- With the implementation of *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), states now have more responsibility for providing a well-rounded education – including the arts. Would you support full funding (\$1.6 billion) of the Well-Rounded Education provisions of ESSA, including data collection of arts education programs by the states and advocating for the integration of the arts into STEM education?

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<sup>1</sup>Arts and cultural production are defined as those industries that produce arts and culture related commodities and generally follow the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). Employment estimates for ACP-related industries are for “direct” employment. [Arts and Culture Production Satellite Account](#) (ACPSA), 2015; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and National Endowment for the Arts, 2018.

<sup>2</sup>Findings count active U.S. businesses registered with Duns & Bradstreet in the following categories: museums and collections; performing arts; visual art/photography; film, radio, and television; design and publishing; schools and services. [Creative Industries: Business & Employment in the Arts](#), Americans for the Arts, 2017.

- Nonprofit arts organizations are charities, and on average, 25 percent of their annual budgets rely on donations made by individual taxpayers to serve the public good. The charitable tax deduction incentive is currently only available to individuals who itemize their tax returns. Would you support a Universal Charitable Deduction, so all taxpayers have the incentive to donate?

**About ArtsVote2018:**

- The mission of ArtsVote2018 is to advance the role of arts in the 2018 midterm elections by providing arts advocates, arts leaders, elected officials, and media with needed information to effectively advocate for the arts.