

ACTIVISTS “TO DO” LIST -ON ARTS DAY AND AFTER

Speak up for the arts!

ARTS DAY 2010

March 3, 2010

Monona Terrace and State Capitol | Madison

ON ARTS DAY

Purpose of your meetings with legislators:

- make sure your legislators know about all that’s happening in the arts in his/her district, how many constituents benefit, and the importance of these activities to his/her constituents
- learn where the legislator stands on the role of the arts in his/her district; this may not be a yes or *no* answer, but a *maybe* or an *I don’t know much but would like to know more* leaves the door open
- get input from the legislators about ways to increase state investment in the arts, arts education and the creative economy for the benefit of his/her constituents
- determine the legislator’s level of support for the Wis. Arts Board’s *New Economy Funding Initiative*
- make sure the legislator knows that you will continue to be in touch after Arts Day; follow up as soon as possible to arrange an in-district meeting in the near future.

During the meeting:

- Provide packet of information on the arts, arts education and creative economy in the district
- Make sure everyone at the meeting is introduced
- Take a picture with the legislator if you can!
- During the conversation, ask the legislator these questions:
 1. Are you aware of all that’s happening in the arts, arts education and creative economy in your district?
 2. Are you aware of how many ways the arts impact your district in the following ways? (please provide at least three specific examples suggested by these topics):
 - adding to and enhancing the economy
 - downtown and neighborhood revitalization
 - enhancing academic achievement
 - developing skills for kids and adults
 - keeping kids in school and out of trouble.
 3. Do you support the Wisconsin Arts Board’s *New Economy Funding Initiative*?
 - Encouraging a strong regional creative and cultural economy.
 - Encouraging state investment in the arts creativity through the Wisconsin Arts Board
 - Advancing the recommendations of the Wisconsin Task Force on Arts and Creativity in Education to support arts and creative opportunities for all Wisconsin students
 4. What do you need to better understand about the benefits and impact of the Wisconsin Arts Board’s *New Economy Funding Initiative* and the arts in your district?
 5. What advice can you give the arts sector to be able to do its work on behalf of your constituents and your district? How can the arts sector be a resource for you and your office to achieve these goals?

After the meeting:

- record and summarize all legislators’ answers on the report form provided by Arts Wisconsin, particularly the response to questions #3 and 4
- deliver this report to Arts Wisconsin at the closing luncheon, before leaving the Arts Day activities

AFTER ARTS DAY

- **Send thanks for meeting to legislators as soon as possible after Arts Day**, schedule a follow-up meeting, and continue to find ways to connect with the legislator to keep the relationship going to build the relationship.
- if you’ve taken a digital photograph with your legislator, or other photos on Arts Day, please forward to Anne Katz (akatz@artswisconsin.org) so we can use it for promotional purposes!