



February 7, 2007

Dear Members of Congress,

The American Dance Therapy Association is pleased to be a National Co-sponsor of the National Arts Advocacy Day. Founded in 1966, the ADTA has hundreds of professional members, nationally and internationally.

Dance/Movement Therapy is a form of psychotherapy that uses dance/movement to help individuals work through mental health issues and to maximize their ability to function in a healthy and confident manner.

Dance/Movement therapists are employed in psychiatric hospitals, clinics, day care, community mental health centers, developmental centers, correctional facilities, schools, special education programs and rehabilitation facilities. Therapists work with people of all ages in both group and individually. They also act as consultants and engage in research.

- The ADTA is an active member of the National Alliance of Pupil Service Organizations (NAPSO) and Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) coalitions of national professional organizations whose members provide a wide range of services that include our schools' prevention and intervention programs.

We ask you to appropriate an increase in funds for the Arts in Education programs in the FY08 Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill. Attention must be given when reauthorizing No Child Left Behind Act to recognize arts in education as a core subject.

We ask you to support an increase in the budget for the National Endowment for the Arts in the FY 08 Interior Appropriations bill to: support the NEA's programs: Access to Artistic Excellence, Challenge America, Reaching Every Community, Federal/State Partnerships and Learning in the Arts.

The American Dance Therapy Association, thanks you for taking the time to read the Congressional Arts Handbook and review the Facts and Figures that support our requests with studies that demonstrate the intrinsic value of the arts in Education and its positive effects on the growth of our nation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robyn Flaum Cruz".

Robyn Flaum Cruz, Ph.D., ADTR
President

Ellen Gold Yacoe, MA, ADTR
Government Affairs Chair