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**Charles Santos**  
TITAS  
**Amy Smith**  
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International Tap Association

April 1, 2008

Dear Member of Congress:

As the national service organization for not-for-profit, professional dance and a national cosponsor of Arts Advocacy Day, Dance/USA urges you to support federal policy that will strengthen the arts in America. Founded in 1982, Dance/USA's membership represents the breath and diversity of this brilliant art form. Currently, we speak for over 350 ballet, modern, ethnic, jazz, culturally specific, and tap companies, artist managers, dance service organizations, presenters, and the thousands of dancers, trustees, administrative staff, educators, volunteers and audiences committed to these member institutions.

On behalf of its membership and those who serve the field, we encourage you to strengthen federal support for the arts in the following ways:

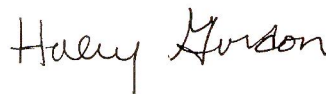
- Encourage international cultural exchange by increasing funding by \$10 million for the Cultural Programs Division of the State Department's Office of Citizen Exchanges and supporting legislation that would reduce the total processing time for O and P nonprofit arts related visa petitions to a maximum of 45 days;
- Support artistic excellence by restoring funding for the National Endowment for the Arts to \$176 million;
- Improve student achievement by allocating \$53 million for the Arts in Education programs at the U.S. Department of Education;
- Promote private contributions to the arts by reinstating the IRA Charitable Rollover Provision that expired in December 2007;
- Preserve the ability of wireless microphones used in performing arts venues to operate without interference by supporting legislation that would ensure adequate testing before permitting new devices.

We encourage you to support funding and policies that continue to strengthen dance and the performing arts in communities across the nation.

Sincerely,



Andrea E. Snyder  
Executive Director



Haley Gordon  
Government Affairs Director