



THE RECORDING ACADEMY®

GRAMMYS® ON THE HILL
ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

April 1, 2008

Dear Member of Congress:

Our 50th anniversary GRAMMY Awards, just a little more than a month ago, gave us an opportunity to highlight the significant contributions that the musical arts make to our society and economy. On the primetime telecast, Recording Academy President/CEO noted the importance of music education to ensure “the next 50 years.” Public funding for the arts and arts education is critical to that mission, and it is in that light that I write to you today.

On behalf of our nearly 20,000 members nationwide, I urge you to support an increase in funding for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to \$176 million for FY 2009, *merely the same level that was approved in 1992*. This funding increase would spur significant economic growth, artistic achievement, and accessibility to the nation's cultural organizations. The President's FY 2009 proposed budget to cut NEA funding by \$16 million is a troubling development that we hope Congress will correct.

As a proud co-sponsor of Arts Advocacy Day, The Recording Academy joins with numerous cultural, service and nonprofit organizations to advance sound arts policy. Our membership—creative music professionals—seek your vision, leadership, and support in making the arts a priority in our public policy and in our public schools

Sincerely,

Daryl P. Friedman
Vice President
Advocacy & Government Relations