



## NEWS AND INFORMATION

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Americans for the Arts Presents the 2006 State Arts Leadership Award to Utah Representative Sheryl Allen**

SAN ANTONIO, TX— Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts in America, and the National Conference of State Legislatures today presented the State Arts Leadership Award to Rep. Sheryl Allen of Utah. The award honors a public official who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the advancement of the arts at the state level. It was presented at the National Conference of State Legislatures Fall Forum in San Antonio, TX, as part of the Public Leadership in the Arts Awards series.

"I am proud to receive the State Arts Leadership Award," said Rep. Allen. "This honor renews my commitment to promote the arts throughout the state of Utah."

Nominated by the Utah Arts Council, Rep. Allen receives the 2006 State Arts Leadership Award for her arts advocacy throughout her state. As director of the Davis School District Foundation, Rep. Allen encourages all principals to apply for Utah Arts Council's Arts Education funding each year. For the past five years, the Davis Foundation has provided matching funds for approximately 22 schools, obtaining funds for residency and project support totaling more than \$422,000.

Rep. Allen has served as co-chair of the Human Resources and Economic Development Appropriations sub-committee and showed strong support of cultural issues that came before the committee. She is known for her vocal support of the arts and arts education, her active role in local arts events and her support of the arts professionally, as well as throughout her legislative endeavors. She is also a co-chair of Davis Reads, a one-book/one-community program, and was the arts committee chair for the National Conference of State Legislatures.

"Representative Allen has been a loyal advocate for the arts throughout Utah," said Robert L.

Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. “Her leadership and dedication to arts education is exemplary.”

**Americans for the Arts** is the leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America. With offices in Washington, D.C. and New York City, it has a record of more than 50 years of service. Americans for the Arts is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts. Additional information is available at [www.AmericansForTheArts.org](http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org).

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