

December 2009 Budget Discussion Talking Points

- Urge lawmakers to protect the state's investment in the arts.
- Deliver the message that the arts in Ohio are part of the solution.
 - The arts are economic drivers that generate revenue and contribute to the state's economic competitiveness. For a very small investment of public funds (\$0.56 per Ohio citizen annually) the state's arts and cultural organizations and artists provide a tremendous return--creating jobs, leveraging additional dollars and driving tourism and revitalization efforts.
 - The arts and arts education are essential elements of the kind of imaginative thinking, problem-solving, skills and innovation Ohio needs to prepare our children for the global 21st century workforce.
 - Creative industries contribute more than \$25 billion to Ohio's economy annually.
 - Creative Industries support 231,200 jobs in Ohio's economy annually.
 - Creative industries generate \$1.06 billion in state and local tax revenues annually and 1.78 billion in federal tax revenues annually.
- Inform legislators that grants from the OAC to Ohio cultural organizations and schools provide more than 18 million arts experiences annually to Ohio citizens. In the past 10 years this support has created nearly 1/4 billion arts experiences for Ohioans.
- Share your own values and stories about the impact the arts have on you and your community.
- Educate members of the legislature about the role of the arts in schools, communities, economic development, and cultural vitality.