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Act Locally, AACT Nationally: Celebrating Stephen Schwartz

April 1, 2008

Dear Member of Congress:

Once again AACT is proud to be a National Co-Sponsor of Arts Advocacy Day.

AACT exists: to foster the development of, and high standards in, community theatres nationwide; to design services supporting such promotion; and to provide a national voice for community theatres as they devote themselves to the creation of living art for millions of people coast to coast.

There are in this country over 7,000 community theatres, small and large. They provide entertainment, invite communion, foster emotional and spiritual growth, and create a social nexus for disparate groups that come together to kindle warmth, joy and laughter.

In a nation that each day seems to fix more and more on numbers and data, community theatres furnish avenues of expression, development and personal fulfillment. This is increasingly true for schoolchildren, as arts programs are cut in deference to national testing mandates. It is true as well for the elderly who seek continued usefulness to their community. And it is true for those who seek meaning in their lives beyond a daily work schedule.

As arts advocates, our members continue to train all those we are able to reach through our performances, classes and outreach programs.

We respectfully request your support of the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and other related programs. These federal programs help to keep the arts affordable in our communities.

I thank you for your leadership and I encourage you to support growth of the arts in our country.

Sincerely,


Julie Angelo
Executive Director