

"The arts are a vehicle that brings the viewer and the creator to the different disciplines of the world: science, philosophy, theology, mathematics. This is the unique power of the arts."

Jett Koons

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One community at a time.



STEVEN D. SPIESS



ROBERT L. LYNC

One community at a time: That's how Americans for the Arts is building a healthy, vibrant climate for the arts throughout the nation. Commitment to the arts emerges in as many ways as there are towns and cities. There is no formula—just a continuing process of envisioning what's possible. No matter where arts leaders live and what experience they bring to the task, they all need basic tools to guide them: training and inspiration, research-based information that helps them make their case, visibility for their cause, and partners and friends in other parts of their communities and across the country. That's where Americans for the Arts comes in.

In 2004 we are proud to have once again made community connections in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Emerging arts leaders in 38 states organized lively Creative Conversations to brainstorm possibilities for action in their communities. One conversation led to another in San Diego, CA; Clearwater, FL; Pawley's Island, SC; and other places where gatherings and listservs now link young and emerging arts professionals. In North Dakota, the arts are now included in the state's economic development strategies thanks in part to a convincing presentation by Randy Cohen, our vice president of research and information, at the Prairie Economic Development Summit in Minot. Our second survey of 26 local arts agencies in 22 states provided insights into how the arts are faring in challenging economic times. In Lexington, KY, for example, the arts community is building new relationships with the horse breeding industry to engage and expand its local giving base.

Most of the other accomplishments described in this annual report stretched across the country. We launched our citizen membership initiative, Americans for the Arts Action Fund, so that the public can join us in making the arts a familiar part of life in families, schools, and communities. A groundbreaking study, *Creative Industries*, introduced a research-based tool that helps local arts advocates make the case for more resources and arts-friendly policies. In partnership with the National School Boards Association, we created an online resource center that gives local school board members comprehensive information about arts education. We created a dynamic new state presence—the State Arts Action Network—when the State Arts Advocacy League of America and the National Community Arts Network were integrated into Americans for the Arts. And a great deal of planning work in 2004 resulted in the merger of Arts & Business Council Inc. into Americans for the Arts, which we announced early in 2005.

From a national perspective, Americans for the Arts has lofty goals and a challenging agenda. We are grateful for the involvement of thousands of dedicated, enthusiastic volunteer leaders, members, and stakeholders who make a profound contribution to our organization. We also value our growing network of partner organizations that share our vision of more resources for the arts and arts education and greater appreciation for their value. Together, one community at a time, we are shaping the future of the arts in America.

STEVEN D. SPIESS

CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ROBERT L. LYNCH
PRESIDENT AND CEO

RESEARCH AND INFORMATION

A NEW APPROACH TO ECONOMIC IMPACT

A new annual study by Americans for the Arts introduced a research-based approach to quantifying the scope and importance of the arts in the nation's economy. Creative Industries: Business Employment in the Arts, issued in June 2004, maps the broad reach of the arts and provides a powerful tool to increase arts funding and develop arts-friendly public policies. The first arts study based on Dun & Bradstreet data, it is reaching elected officials, business leaders, arts funders and policymakers, and the media.

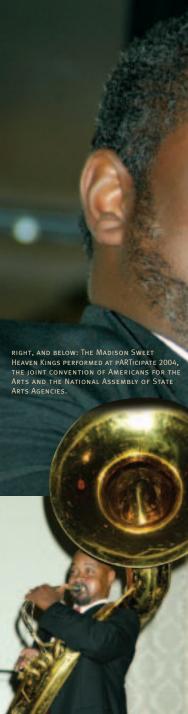


AN 8-YEAR-OLD PATIENT USES ART TO EXPRESS HER EMOTIONS BEFORE SURGERY AT JACOBI MEDICAL CENTER IN NEW YORK CITY.

More than 2,500 hospitals use arts programming

to create healing environments, support patient mental and emotional recovery, communicate health information, and foster positive working conditions, according to a survey conducted in collaboration with the Society for the Arts in Healthcare, with the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. *Cultures of Care: A Study* of Arts Programs in U.S. Hospitals was published in the Americans for the Arts *Monograph* series.

Customized, affordable arts research products and services put sophisticated tools and expertise in the hands of member organizations. Dozens of cities and states have used *Creative Industries* reports, introduced this year, to analyze the impact of arts-related businesses. Economic impact studies and full-service Web-based surveys complete the menu of research tools.





Policy and Advocacy

BUILDING STATE-LEVEL STRENGTH

An ambitious national arts agenda depends on collective action backed by a solid infrastructure. The State Arts Action Network (SAAN), formed in 2004, consolidates and strengthens state-level involvement in our efforts to advance the arts. The dynamic new network was created when two former organizations—the State Arts Advocacy League of America and the National Community Arts Network—folded into Americans for the Arts.



On **Arts Advocacy Day** in March 2004, 65 national organizations joined Americans for the Arts and the Congressional Arts Caucus to cosponsor this annual event, which was supported in part by the Robert Sterling Clark Foundation. More than 300 entertainment, arts, education, and policy leaders from 45 states took their message to Capitol Hill.





Americans for the Arts' strategic plan identified the need to have strong arts advocacy and service organizations in every state. The State Arts Action Network will help showcase best practices, initiate effective advocacy campaigns, propose research agendas, provide professional development, and offer peer-to-peer networking opportunities to emerging arts organizations.

A 20-member State Arts Action Council, co-chaired by Alene Valkanas, executive director of the Illinois Arts Alliance, and Betty Plumb, executive director of the South Carolina Arts Alliance, guides the network's activities. SAAN members are state arts advocacy organizations and statewide arts service organizations.

At the 17th annual **Nancy Hanks Lecture on Arts and Public Policy**, historian and author Doris Kearns Goodwin offered a glimpse of the role of the arts in the lives and presidencies of Lyndon B. Johnson, John F. Kennedy, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln. The lecture was sponsored by the Robert Sterling Clark Foundation, the Betty R. Sheffer Foundation, Lockheed Martin, and US Airways.

As a prelude to **Election 2004**, Americans for the Arts cosponsored two dialogues hosted by the Creative Coalition and the Music-For-All Foundation at the Democratic and Republican National Conventions. Panelists at the forums on "Arts, Education, and the 21st-Century Economy" included elected officials, arts experts, and film and television artists.



LEFT: PLAYWRIGHT WENDY
WASSERSTEIN, A MEMBER
OF THE AMERICANS FOR THE
ARTS ARTIST COMMITTEE,
HELPED LAUNCH AMERICANS
FOR THE ARTS ACTION
FUND IN NOVEMBER.

Americans for the Arts Action Fund

POLICY AND ADVOCACY, CONTINUED

Americans for the Arts added a new dimension to arts advocacy in the United States with the creation of Americans for the Arts Action Fund, a major new initiative to make citizens' voices heard on arts and arts education issues. Our goal is to enlist and mobilize 100,000 activists nationwide who will help make certain that arts-friendly public policies are adopted at every level of government—federal, state, and local—and in the private sector. Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Wendy

Wasserstein joined Arts Action Fund chair Ann Sheffer in New York City in November to launch the first national citizen membership campaign to promote the arts.

"I feel it is the implicit objective of every artist to reach as many young minds as possible. They are not only the next generation of audience members or artists, but the next generation of citizens."

Wendy Wasserstein

The Arts Action Fund focuses on four areas: educating decision-makers and the media about the arts and arts education; using an extensive arts network to educate and train state and local arts advocates; evaluating Members of Congress on voting records of arts support; and providing a voice for the public to advance federal, state, and local arts and arts education policies.

POLITICAL STRATEGISTS MARY MATALIN AND JAMES CARVILLE ENTERTAINED THE CROWD WITH THEIR KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT PARTICIPATE 2004.

Professional Development

CREATIVE CONVERSATIONS

Young professionals bring energy and enthusiasm to the arts, and they are eager to build experience and relationships so that they can make a difference. Nearly 800 emerging arts leaders found common ground in Creative Conversations held throughout the country during National Arts and Humanities Month in October 2004. Thirty-eight communities, from Los Angeles to Tennessee to Maine, volunteered to host these local gatherings, which were initiated by the Emerging Leader Council of Americans for the Arts.

The lively discussions focused on professional concerns and local issues. Young professionals want to find mentors, network with peers, and have opportunities for professional development and dialogue. And like their seasoned colleagues, they're concerned about broader problems, such as restoring arts education to the schools, empowering local arts organizations, and building an economic case for the arts. Most groups used Creative Conversations as the starting point for regular gatherings, listservs and blogs, and regional alliances with other emerging leader groups.

The Emerging Leader Program is dedicated to building the leadership capacity of promising, committed young professionals by giving them a varied menu of opportunities for training, networking, and mentoring. In Creative Conversations and in sessions at pARTicipate2004, the program focused on listening to needs and inviting ideas about how to engage and serve emerging leaders.





PHOTO COURTESY OF REY RODRIGUEZ.



Animating Democracy shared its innovative arts-based civic engagement techniques in five sessions at pARTicipate2004 and at six other national gatherings. During the year, Animating Democracy completed extensive documentation and reporting for the first phase of the initiative, supported by the Ford Foundation, and continued its capacity-

building programs and services for arts and cultural organizations.

Nearly 300 participants explored **public art as a civic catalyst**— for expressing identity, stimulating dialogue, and shaping civic space— at the Public Art Network's annual conference in Washington, DC, in July.

Six graduate students joined Americans for the Arts for the 10-week **Summer Scholars Program**. Scholars honed their research and writing abilities while they explored issues in the field; learned from leaders; and completed projects with a tangible link among cultural theory, practice, and policy.

Community-building strategies using the arts emerged from pARTicipate2004, the second joint convention held with the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies. The July gathering in Washington, DC, attracted more than 1,200 participants.



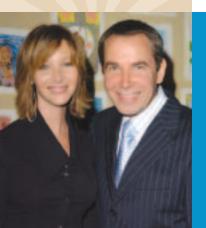
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

ENGAGING SCHOOL BOARD LEADERS

A new, multiyear partnership with the National School Boards Association links Americans for the Arts to community leaders who influence the presence and quality of arts education in public schools. An online resource center, Arts Education in Public Schools, is the first in a series of joint initiatives that will engage arts and school board leaders in sharing information and strategies.

School board members can explore the center's resources to become stronger supporters for arts education in their schools and communities. They can review current research on the arts and academic achievement, find out about arts education policy in their states, or use tools and exercises for assessing their school district's arts education needs. Arts Education in Public Schools is available at http://ww3.AmericansForTheArts.org/services/arts_education/resource_center.

ACTOR LISA KUDROW AND VISUAL ARTIST JEFF KOONS AT AN EVENT CELEBRATING THE PARTNERSHIP OF P.S. ARTS AND AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS, HOSTED BY BOARD MEMBER MARIA BELL.



Cultivating the relationship between the **arts** and **banking** industries, Americans for the Arts organized the opening plenary, session and panel discussions at the annual American Bankers Association conference on building better communities through the arts, developing a public art program, and encouraging creativity in organizational culture.

Twenty-four high school students created original poster artwork that expressed the slogan "Life Is Better with Art in It" for the 2004 Poster Design Scholarship Competition, sponsored by The Art Institutes and Americans for the Arts. Austin O'Brion of Wisconsin Rapids, WI, won first place.

In more than 150 million households, American families think twice about arts education, thanks to the challenging and entertaining promotional ads produced by Americans for the Arts in partnership with the Ad Council. Since 2002, the "Art. Ask for More." campaign has been ranked consistently among the top 10 Ad Council campaigns in several categories. More than 350 partners in all 50 states helped Americans for the Arts reach more than \$109 million in donated media by the end of 2004.

Thanks to the information-packed print ads with a humorous touch, children don't need a reminder that Louis Armstrong wasn't the first man to walk on the moon. And adults take a closer look at their local school curriculums because the television ads send a clear message that a lack of arts education stifles children's creativity and enthusiasm for learning.

"Art. Ask for More," launched in January 2002 with a \$1 million grant from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, now features television, radio, online, billboard, and print advertising in English and Spanish.

A bilingual public service advertising campaign targeted four cities with arts-related ballot initiatives in 2004. Print, radio, and television ads in English and Spanish ran in Miami, Denver, and Phoenix, with additional English-language ads in Kansas City. Bond initiatives were successful in Miami and Denver. While Phoenix did not have a ballot initiative, the goal of the ad campaign there was to increase arts awareness and participation in the Hispanic community.



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¿QUIERE ARTE? PIDA MÁS.

Americans for the Arts' *inviting new website* has something for everyone—arts professionals, arts supporters, and people in the communities we serve. A streamlined look and enhanced navigation guide users to news, resources, tools, and information about events and programs.

E-SERVICES

EVENTS

Avid public interest in arts research was clear when the Creative Industries study was released in June 2004, prompting extensive nationwide media coverage.

THE "ART. ASK FOR MORE." CAMPAIGN, SUPPORTED BY THE AD COUNCIL AND THE DORIS DUKE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, ROLLED OUT A NEW SERIES OF SPANISH-LANGUAGE ADS IN 2004.

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

THE NATIONAL ARTS AWARDS

Celebrating artistic accomplishment or exemplary leadership in arts education, advocacy, corporate giving, or philanthropy, these awards are presented annually in New York City. Veronica Hearst chaired the 2004 awards gala, which surpassed its fundraising goal; Caroline Kennedy was honorary chair. Guests lingered after the October 8 program to watch the third presidential debate on large-screen monitors brought in for the occasion.

Raymond D. Nasher, *Collector*, Frederick D. Weisman Award for Philanthropy in the Arts Chuck Close, *Visual Artist*, Artistic Leadership and Arts Advocacy
Paul Taylor, *Choreographer*, Lifetime Achievement

Mena Suvari, Actor, Young Artist Award for Artistic Excellence

A.G. Lafley, Chairman of the Board, President, and Chief Executive, Procter & Gamble, Corporate Citizenship in the Arts

William Bassell, Principal, Long Island City High School, Special Arts Education Recognition Award

PUBLIC LEADERSHIP IN THE ARTS AWARDS

Presented annually in cooperation with the United States Conference of Mayors, these awards honor elected officials and artists who have shown outstanding leadership in the advancement of the arts at the federal, state, and local levels.

Rep. David Obey (D-WI), Congressional Arts Leadership
Gov. Edward G. Rendell (R-PA), State Arts Leadership
Mayor Martin O'Malley (D-Baltimore), Local Arts Leadership
Henry Winkler, Actor, Legendary Artist
Tony Bennett, Singer, Legacy Award
Broward County, Florida, Board of County Commissioners (PRESENTED IN COOPERATION
WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES), County Arts Leadership

PUBLIC ART NETWORK AWARD

For innovative and creative contributions and commitment in the field of public art

Jenny Holzer, Artist

SELINA ROBERTS OTTUM AWARD

For outstanding local leadership in the arts by a community arts professional or volunteer

Lynn Barnett, Executive Director, Abilene (Texas) Cultural Affairs Council

MICHAEL NEWTON AWARD

For innovation in united arts fundraising by a community arts professional, volunteer, or organization

Beauchamp Carr, Executive Vice President, Robert W. Woodruff Arts Center, Atlanta

17TH ANNUAL NANCY HANKS LECTURE ON ARTS AND PUBLIC POLICY

Doris Kearns Goodwin, Historian and Journalist

CONTRIBUTORS

2004 CORPORATE AND **FOUNDATION SUPPORT**

\$1,000,000 AND ABOVE

The Ford Foundation

\$100,000-\$999,999

MetLife Foundation

\$50,000-\$99,999

Altria Group, Inc.

Mandell L. & Madeleine H. Berman Foundation

National Endowment for the Arts David and Lucile Packard Foundation Rockefeller Foundation

\$25,000-\$49,999

American Express Foundation

Bravo

Fannie Mae Foundation Government of the District

of Columbia

Grey Global Group

The John F. Kennedy Center

for the Performing Arts

Lockheed Martin

Pfizer, Inc.

Procter & Gamble Company

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Rosenthal Foundation

Univision Communications Inc.

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\$10,000-\$24,999

Bell Family Foundation **Broad Art Foundation**

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Integrated Finance Limited JPMorgan Chase & Co.

JPMorgan Private Bank

Lehman Brothers

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.

Norfolk Southern Foundation

Tishman Spever Properties

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Metro Art Department

Maryland State Arts Council

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Meyer Foundation Midwest Express Airlines

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The Omni Shoreham Hotel

The Betty R. Sheffer Foundation Skadden, Arps, Slate,

Meagher & Flom LLP

Texas Instruments Incorporated

Union Pacific Corporation

Virginia Commission for the Arts

\$1,000-\$4,999

Art Dealers Association of America

ArtsFund

AT&T Wireless

Robert & Renee Belfer

Family Foundation Benenson Capital Partners

Best Buy Inc.

The Diller-Von Furstenberg

Family Foundation

Engelberg Foundation

Franz Mayer of Munich, Inc.

Irving Harris Foundation

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Lucent Technologies

Metropolitan Government

of Nashville and Davidson County The Morse Family Foundation, Inc.

OVATION - The Arts Network

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Pollock-Krasner Foundation

POLO Ralph Lauren Foundation

S.H. and Helen R. Scheuer Family Foundation

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Sony Corporation of America Rodney L. White Foundation

Whitehead Foundation Woodruff Arts Center

\$500-\$999

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Dasein Foundation

Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts

Goucher College

Harrison T. LeFrak Charitable

Foundation, Inc. Torpedo Factory Art Center

2004 INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

\$1,000,000 AND ABOVE

\$10,000-\$24,000

Ruth Lilly

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Madeleine and Mandell Berman

Agnes Gund and Daniel Shapiro Robert Hanft

Raymond Nasher

Barbara S. and Larry J.B. Robinson

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Emily Malino Scheuer

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\$5,000-\$9,999 Edgar Bronfman

Emilia and J. Pepe Fanjul William Lehr, Jr.

Donald Marron Stewart A. Resnick Ann E. Sheffer Steven D. Spiess Geraldine Warner

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\$1,000-\$4,999

Cetie Ames

Bradbury Anderson Giselle Antoni

Angelo Arena

T.C. Benson

Patti Cadby-Birch

John Brademas Charlotte Brawer

Carol R. Brown

Helen Brown

Melva Bucksbaum

and Raymond Learsy Aldus Chapin

Vin Cipolla

Ida Cole

Jack Cowart

Christopher Cox

Tony Deering

Morgan Dejoux Chris Delgado

Peter Donnelly

Morton Eydenberg

Harry Fath

C. Kendric Fergeson Suzy Finesilver

Susan Goode

John Haworth Betty Jo Hays Austin Hearst

Ann Herzog

Mr. and Mrs. Landon Hilliard III Eleanor Holtzman

Jennifer Huang Richard Huff

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Mrs. Thomas L. Kempner

Janet Ketcham

Jonna and Fred Lazarus IV

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Lynn Loacker Robert L. Lynch

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Harold Pote and Linda E. Johnson

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Hon. and Mrs. Felix Rohatyn

Hinda Rosenthal

Elliott Slade

Candida Smith

Michael Spring

Rick Stone Arthur Sulzberger Jr.

Mrs. James P. Warburg

Marian M. Warden

Shirley P. Wilhite Patricia E. Williams

\$500-\$999 Marilyn Coleman

Allan Cowen

Lauren Davis Matt Kelm

Margot Knight Janet Langsam

Harrison LeFrak

Denise McClellan Inez Rivero and Jorge G. Mora

Everett G. Powers

Anastasia Rogers Debra Scholl

2004 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

* Board members indicated with an asterisk completed their terms of service to Americans for the Arts, and we thank them for their valuable contributions. In January 2005, we welcomed 12 new board members: Alejandro J. Aguirre, Maria Bell, Susan Coliton, Giancarlo Esposito, Nancy Glaze, Glen Howard, Liz Lerman, Mary McCullough-Hudson, Julie Muraco, Elena Brokaw Myles, Kathleen Pavlick, and Victoria Rowell.

Steven D. Spiess, Chair

Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP

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HPI Capital LLC

Shirley P. Wilhite

Shreveport, LA

Robert Lynch

Americans for the Arts, Washington, DC

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Veronica Hearst

Chair, National Leadership Council

Marian Godfrey

Chair, American Arts Policy Roundtable

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Jane Alexander Martina Arroyo

John Baldessari

Alec Baldwin Theodore Bikel

Lewis Black Lauren Bon

Amy Brenneman

Connie Britton Blair Brown

Kate Burton

Chuck Close
Stephen Collins

Chuck D

Jacques d'Amboise Fran Drescher

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Marcus Giamatti Frank O. Gehry

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David Henry Hwang Jane Kaczmarek Richard Kind

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Yvonne Marceau

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Kathy Mattea

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Paul Muldoon
Paul Newman

Alessandro Nivola

Yoko Ono

Robert Redford Lloyd Richards

Michael Ritchie Victoria Rowell

Martin Scorsese Cindy Sherman

Anna Deavere Smith Arnold Steinhardt

Meryl Streep

Billy Taylor Iulie Taymor

Marlo Thomas Edward Villella

Wendy Wasserstein William Wegman

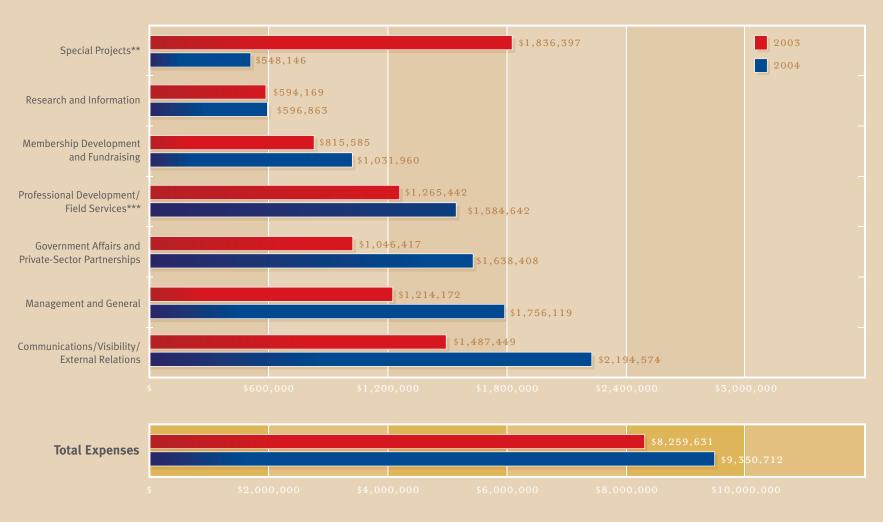
Bradley Whitford

Henry Winkler Joanne Woodward

Peter Yarrow Michael York

Comparative Operational Expenditures*

FISCAL YEARS 2003 & 2004



^{*} This document, produced by management for the purposes of this report, is based on the 2004 audited financial statements and accompanying notes prepared by the public accounting firm of Tate & Tryon based in Washington, DC.

^{**} Animating Democracy, an Americans for the Arts program funded *** While arts education is incorporated throughout Americans for by the Ford Foundation, completed its initial cycle of grantmaking to arts-based civic dialogue projects in 2003.

the Arts' programs and services, the bulk of the expenditures fall under professional development and field services.



To learn more about Americans for the Arts and the programs and services described in this report, visit www.AmericansForTheArts.org.