

## Local Advocacy Alert #8

# Local Governments and School Boards Preserve Funding for the Arts



Please take a moment to thank our elected officials! Through their allocations to United Arts, local governments and school boards help us support more than 50 arts and cultural organizations, nearly 600,000 student experiences in arts education programs, hundreds of artists and arts administrators and more than 2.5 million cultural experiences for Central Florida residents and visitors.

This year, in an environment of fiscal constraints and concerns, local officials had to make difficult funding decisions in their FY09 budgets. Please thank them for maintaining the partnership of governments, corporations, foundations and individuals that enable United Arts to provide grants to organizations and artists, arts education programs, *ArtsFest* and so much more.

Thank them for acknowledging that arts and culture is a \$165 million industry in Central Florida, that supports 5,661 jobs and generates \$20.68 million in revenue to state and local governments. And last, but not least, thank them for realizing that arts and culture is an essential part of the quality of life that makes Central Florida such a great place to live and work.

Orange County

<http://www.orangecountyfl.net/cms/GOVERN/bcc/default.htm>

City of Orlando

<http://www.cityoforlando.net/elected/council/index.htm>

Seminole County

<http://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/bcc/>

City of Winter Park

<http://www.cityofwinterpark.org/2005/contact/emaildir.shtml>



Orange County School Board  
[Supt@ocps.net](mailto:Supt@ocps.net)

Seminole County School Board  
[Bill\\_Vogel@scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:Bill_Vogel@scps.k12.fl.us)

As always, thank you for your advocacy efforts. The next few years will be financially difficult for all sectors of the economy, and our officials need to know that you value their support for arts and culture. Your voice does make a difference.

Margot H. Knight  
President & CEO

Minda Logan  
Director of Grants & Government Affairs

