Memorandum 02

Iona B. Dobbins

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April 21, 1986

MEMORANDUM

TO: Rhode Island’s Government Leadership

FROM: Iona B. Dobbing
Executive Director

I think the enclosed information will be of interest to you.

Rhode Island’s legislative appropriation for the arts in FY ‘85-’86 slips to 31st place in national ranking--down from 27th place in FY ‘84-’85.

The Rhode Island State Council on the Arts is grateful for the support and commitment you have demonstrated for the arts in the past. However, we urgently request your continued assistance to ensure that support for the arts in Rhode Island is not further eroded.

As always, please feel free to call me if you need additional information.

IBD: KW
Enclosure
WASHINGTON, DC--While the aggregate state arts agency legislative appropriation for Fiscal Year 86, the current year, was still the highest in six years, 20 of the 56 state arts agencies have reported a drop in their adjusted FY86 legislative appropriations. The total decline reported since the October 1985 NASAA survey was $1,601,247. The total appropriation for state arts agencies is now at $200,285,534 from $201,886,781.

State government revenue shortfalls were the major reason that state arts agencies were reporting reductions in their adjusted legislative appropriation. Of the forty-three agencies that reported on next year's (FY87) expected funds, however, 34 expected an increase, and 9 expected a decrease.

The NASAA survey includes the ranking of per capita spending of the state arts agencies and the total amount of any line items within a state.

The Fiscal Year 86 UPDATE is attached.

NASAA, the nonprofit membership organization of state arts agencies in the United States and six special jurisdictions, is headquartered in Washington, DC. It exists to enhance the growth of the arts, develop an informed membership, represent the collective needs and concerns of the member agencies, and to provide forums for the review and development of national arts policy.
**STATE ARTS AGENCIES LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEARS 1985 and 1986**

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**Total**

|                   | 200,285,534 | 161,413,382 | 24.1% | 16,876,946 |

**Notes:**
- Figures for these 26 state arts agencies have been updated to reflect changes in their current legislative appropriations. The "% Change" and "Per Capita" have also been updated.
- Pending, not final.
- Update not available.
- Includes $2.5 million one-time gift to symphonies.
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* Figures for these 19 state arts agencies have been updated to reflect changes in their current legislative appropriations. The "% Change" and "Per Capita" have also been updated.

** Includes $3,000,000 from state lottery

*** Update not available