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Arts and Humanities: Senate Report (1976): Speech 03

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Handicapped individuals have the right to participate and benefit in the arts and humanities. Gifted and talented handicapped individuals have not had access to open competition in developing and marketing their talents. Study grants and subsidies should be open to promising and talented handicapped performers and fine artists to assist them in the pursuit of their talent. A special emphasis should be made with respect to grants to individual performers and performing groups of handicapped individuals.

Access to the arts is still severely restricted to many handicapped individuals because of architectural and communication barriers which have not been overcome or removed completely from museums, concert halls, and other places where the arts are performed. Tokenism has been the answer to some degree in that some facilities have made some arrangements for wheelchair use. All handicapped individuals should have open access to the arts free of communication, transportation and architectural barriers.

The Committee recommends that the National Council on the Arts should undertake projects and programs which provide opportunities for talented and gifted handicapped Americans.