



KAUFMAN

MUSIC

CENTER



Dear Friends of Kaufman Music Center,

**Today it was announced that the President's budget proposal calls for the elimination of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). This would be a tremendous loss. I am reaching out to inform you about this issue and to share ways you can help.**

Why is this important? For [Kaufman Music Center](#), the NEA has been one of our longest and most consistent supporters. The NEA has faithfully provided funding for us since 1986 – that's over 31 years. In particular, their support has helped make [Special Music School](#), New York City's only K-12 public school for musically gifted children, and our [Ecstatic Music Festival](#) possible. We are so grateful for their partnership.

[Kaufman Music Center](#) isn't the only organization to benefit from the NEA. "Every congressional district is served by an NEA grant," says [Americans for the Arts](#), "Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning and extends its work to promote access to the arts in every community across America."

Receiving support from the NEA often opens the door for future support from other donors. As our colleagues at [Lincoln Center](#) recently reported, "The total cost of the NEA is less than one dollar a year for every American. But because it is so successful and its imprimatur so prestigious, every dollar the NEA contributes leads to nine additional dollars being donated from other sources."

**So, how can you help? Please visit [Americans for the Arts](#).** They have created an on-line "Action Center" that gives you background on this issue and provides ways to make your voice heard by reaching out to your elected officials. Please [click here](#) for information and directions.

Your friend in music,

Lydia Kontos  
Executive Director  
Kaufman Music Center

