

SENIOR CLUB REPORT - ARTS ADVOCACY DEPARTMENT

#AD-2-1

Due Date: April 30 (2012 and 2013)

Senior Club Name and State: _____

Name of person submitting report _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

"The American economy is shifting from a manufacturing-driven engine to a services-driven enterprise. If young Americans are to succeed and to contribute to what Alan Greenspan describes as our economy of ideas, they will need an education that develops imaginative, flexible, and tough-minded thinking. The arts powerfully nurture the ability to think in this manner." - *Richard Riley, Secretary, Department of Education*

Arts and academic success. Students who actively participate in arts programs have higher academic performance, lower dropout rates, higher SAT scores, regardless of socioeconomic status. **Our club members realize the importance arts education in our schools.** ___ YES ___ NO

Arts and the business leaders. Americans for the Arts reports that 85 percent of surveyed business executives indicated that they are currently having difficulty recruiting individuals who possess creative ability. The demand for creative people will increase as U.S. firms pursue innovation. **Our club understands the importance arts education plays in developing future employment opportunities for our students.** ___ YES ___ NO

Arts and the economy. As of January, 2011, the Creative Industries employed a total of 2.9 million people and involved 756,000 businesses. Economic activity of the non-profit arts sector generated \$29.6 billion in tax revenue. **Our club is aware that the arts not only enhance of lives and communities, but are an important economic engine in our culture.** ___ YES ___ NO

Arts and healthcare. Studies are showing that using the creative arts in healthcare is having a positive impact on patient outcomes and provides cost savings by reducing hospital stays, fewer medical visits, reduced pain and stress and improving quality of life. **Our club understands that the arts are playing a bigger role in our healthcare system and having a positive impact.** ___ YES ___ NO

Arts and our stories. **Our club understands that our success stories we experience and share is the best way to advocate for the arts.** ___ YES ___ NO

Club Action items. **Our club will include arts advocacy on our meeting agendas and will do our best to monitor arts issues by getting involved with regional arts councils, school boards, city councils, and state and national legislation. Our members are aware of these great websites and monitor: www.americansforthearts.org and www.artsusa.org/get_involved/advocate.asp.** ___ YES ___ NO

Individual Action items. **We will continue to be on boards of a community band, orchestra, chorus, opera, community theatre, or jazz arts group. We will promote the arts by encouraging our students, friends and families to attend local concerts, theater events, visit museums and galleries, and to support local school music and arts education programs.** ___ YES ___ NO

Enthusiasm! **Our club is excited about becoming more involved in arts advocacy!** ___ YES ___ NO

I'm looking forward to hearing from you! Send a copy of this form to your state chairman or if no active state chairman, send directly to the National Chairman: **Sarah Twedt, 3676 Windtree Drive, Eagan, MN 55123.** Please include your stories, comments, newspaper articles or clippings. Please feel free to contact me with questions or comments at (651) 688-0843 or via e-mail at: sarahtwedt@hotmail.com.