



Dear Speaker Fahey, President Wagner, Representative Sanchez & Senator Lieber,

We envision an Oregon where every child can visit a museum, be inspired by music, theater, and dance—where artists have the freedom to thrive, and where our cultural traditions are honored and celebrated.

Today, there's a clear disconnect between the value Oregonians place on arts and culture and the level of public investment our state provides. Arts and culture strengthen education, improve public health, boost local economies, and help keep our communities connected. Yet Oregon currently ranks just 39th in the nation for per capita arts funding.

We have the opportunity to do better — this session.

We urge your support for three essential investments:

1. Fully fund the CREF slate of 13 shovel-ready capital construction projects.

These projects, located across the state, will create jobs, support local economies, and ensure that arts and culture infrastructure is strong, accessible, and built to serve future generations. (HB 3191)

2. Increase the Oregon Arts Commission's budget to \$10 million.

This would raise Oregon's per capita investment in the arts from \$0.51 to \$1.18—moving our national ranking from 39th to 23rd—and provide much-needed support to arts organizations and programs statewide. (HB 3189)

3. Support One-Time Funding for Large Arts Organizations.

Complete a pledge to Oregon's large arts organizations of \$5.5 million in one-time funds to match a private philanthropic commitment from the Oregon Community Foundation and the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation. Large arts organizations include Oregon Symphony, Oregon Ballet Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Portland Art Museum, Portland Center Stage, and Portland Opera. (HB 3189)

Together, these investments will help Oregon's arts and culture sector grow, thrive, and continue to enrich the lives of Oregonians in every region.

Please join us in supporting these vital proposals.

Sincerely the Members of the Arts & Culture Caucus,

Representative Rob Nosse



Senator Dick Anderson



Representative Sarah Finger McDonald



Representative Jules Walters



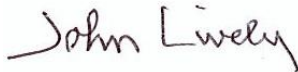
Representative April Dobson



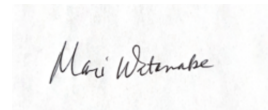
Representative Dacia Grayber



Representative John Lively



Representative Mari Watanabe



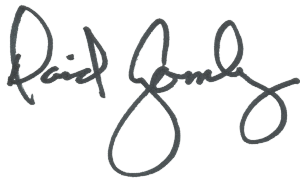
Representative Kevin Mannix



Representative Thuy Tran



Representative David Gomberg

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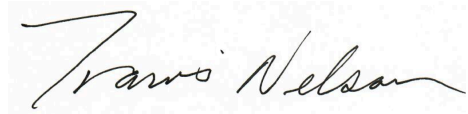
Representative Tom Andersen

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Representative Shannon Jones Isadore

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Representative Travis Nelson

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Representative Hoa Nguyen

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Representative Greg Smith

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Senator Courtney Neron Misslin

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Senator Mark Meek

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Senator Kathleen Taylor

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Senator Deb Patterson

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