



DELAWARE
ARTS
ALLIANCE

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Director Maxwell, Secretary Patibanda-Sanchez, and members of the OMB team,

I am Jordan Resh, and I serve as the Engagement and Operations Coordinator at the Delaware Arts Alliance.

I respectfully request your support for the Division of the Art's budget request. Fully funding the Division's request will ensure the continuation of critical support throughout Delaware's arts community. We understand the significant challenges of this budget cycle, and with that in mind we would like to simply state for the record today, that if funding becomes available towards the end of the year, a modest increase is much needed to help meet the growing needs of Delaware's creative economy.

Over the past several years, Delaware has made important progress in addressing historic underinvestment in the arts. Maintaining this momentum will help position our state as a national leader in arts and culture, while ensuring that artists and organizations can continue to thrive in all three counties.

Specifically, an increase in spending authority will enable the Division of the Arts to:

- **Keep pace with rising costs across its grant programs;**
- **Expand workforce development and professional training for artists and arts administrators; and**
- **Strengthen technical assistance and community partnerships that sustain and grow Delaware's creative economy.**

To further illustrate this impact, you'll also hear today from individual artists and arts organizations who will share firsthand how recent state investments have strengthened their work and the broader arts sector.

Continued investment in the Division of the Arts will yield measurable returns — enhancing community well-being, driving economic growth, and ensuring Delaware's arts and culture sector remains vibrant, resilient, and accessible to all.

Thank you for your time and consideration

All the best,

Jordan Resh
Delaware Arts Alliance Engagement and Operations Coordinator