

November 30, 2007

The Honorable Eliot Spitzer  
Governor  
State Capitol  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Spitzer:

I am writing on behalf of The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc. and the 2,775 members we represent, including cultural organizations, educational institutions, and artists from a broad range of creative disciplines.

I strongly encourage you to include the requested funding increase for the New York State Council on the Arts, \$51.5 million (8.4% over 2007-2008), in your 2008 Budget.

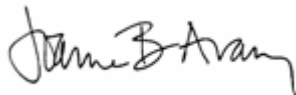
As you know, the arts play a vital role in education, public safety, and economic development throughout New York State. In fact, Americans for the Arts has recently released a national economic impact study, which provides concrete evidence that the nonprofit cultural industry is a strong contributor to economic development.

In Monroe County alone, nonprofit cultural organizations and their audiences generate nearly \$200 million each year in economic activity, supporting over 6,000 full-time equivalent jobs. Even more importantly, the [study](#) documents that each dollar invested in a nonprofit cultural corporation generates a return on investment for local and state government as well as local business.

I strongly encourage you to include in your budget the investment in the arts represented by increased funding for the New York State Council on the Arts.

We also want to wish you, your staff and families a happy holiday.

Sincerely,



Joanne Arany  
Executive Director  
The Landmark Society of WNY, Inc.

*Joanne*

**Joanne Arany**  
**Executive Director**

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*1937-2007 Landmark Society's 70th  
Anniversary*