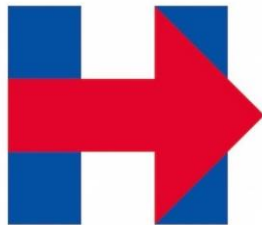




To: Arts Action Fund Members
From: Americans for the Arts Action Fund
Date: 8 April 2016
Re: Hillary Clinton and the Arts



Name: Hillary Clinton
Party: Democrat
Born: 26 October 1947, Chicago, Illinois
Previous Public Offices Held: U.S. Secretary of State 2009-2013; U.S. Senator from New York 2001-2009; First Lady of U.S. 1993-2001; First Lady of Arkansas 1979-1981 & 1983-1992
Other Jobs Held: Lawyer
Educational Background: B.A., Wellesley College; J.D., Yale Law School



2016 Presidential Campaign Information:

Declaration Location: Announced via video 12 April 2015. First rally took place 13 June 2015 at Roosevelt Four Freedoms Park on Roosevelt Island, NYC.

Campaign Website: <https://www.hillaryclinton.com/>

Campaign Email: <https://hrc-demo.secure.force.com/contact/>

Headquarters Address: One Pierrepont Plaza
300 Cadman Plaza W
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Headquarters Phone: 646-854-1432

Campaign Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/hillaryclinton>

Campaign Twitter: [@HillaryClinton](#) 5.9 million followers

Positions on the Arts

Personal Arts Background

- In 1999, Clinton won an Americans for the Arts National Arts Award for Arts Advocacy for her work as First Lady, including her support for the NEA and NEH, her leadership of projects such as the Millennium Council and Save America's Treasures, and her collaboration with Americans for the Arts in unveiling its YouthArts USA program in 1997. (Source: [Americans for the Arts](#))
- Featured in an arts education advocacy PSA produced by Bravo. (Source: [Americans for the Arts](#))
- Has authored five books, two of which were best sellers. Additionally, Clinton won the 1997 Grammy Award for Best Spoken Word Album for her audio recording of her book, *It Takes a Village: And Other Lessons Children Teach Us*. (Source: [Grammys](#))
- Clinton released a Spotify playlist for her 2016 Presidential campaign. (Source: [CNN](#))

Notable Quotes

- *"In my line of work, we often talk about the art of diplomacy as we try to make people's lives a little better around the world. But, in fact, art is also a tool of diplomacy. It reaches beyond governments, past the conference rooms and presidential palaces, to help us connect with more people in more places. It is a universal language in our search for common ground, an expression of our shared humanity."* (Source: [Vanity Fair](#))
- *"Just think about what an exhibition of American and local artists means to someone across the world yearning to express herself or himself. Artists push boundaries and show what the human spirit is capable of, forming bonds of understanding with people they may never know."* (Source: [Vanity Fair](#))
- *"Just think of what each of these artists means for people yearning to express themselves, that young artist living under a repressive regime, that budding painter who's not quite sure where he or she fits in. Now, not all of these people will ever meet any of these artists, but they will learn about them and themselves, maybe even know something of their spirit and tap into a deeper level of inspiration, because they will encounter their works."* (Source: Secretary of State Clinton's remarks at the [Art in Embassies Ceremony](#))
- *"With your help, your children can become not only the brightest and most creative that they can be, but the kind of future leaders our nation needs."* (Source: [Youtube/National Dance Education Organization](#))
- *"The arts and humanities belong to all of us and the best of America's culture should be made available to all our citizens."* (Source: 1997 Clinton remarks at presentation of ["Creative America"](#) published by The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities)
- *"We must encourage communities to identify and preserve their local traditions, history and fold creations. We must inspire the commercial and non-profit organizations that produce or own much of our cultural material to take steps to preserve their holdings."* (Source: 1997 Clinton remarks at presentation of ["Creative America"](#) published by The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities)

- *"The arts and humanities depend on partnerships between government agencies, private foundations, corporations, non-profit organizations and individual benefactors to nurture talent and bring the creative achievements of our best artists and artisans to as wide an audience as possible"* (Source: 1997 Clinton remarks at presentation of ["Creative America"](#) published by The President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities)
- *"These young people who attend this school are largely drawn from the housing project across the street. They talked about how important it was to be able to let out the feelings they have every single day. And they found a way to do that through poetry, through the arts"* (Source: [1998 Arts Education Meeting at White House](#))
- *"The arts are a major reason for urban revitalization. You see it in cities where often times the modern pioneers are the artists."* (Source: [The Buffalo News](#))

Policy Views on the Arts and Education

- Supports arts education being taught in the classroom. *"So many of our poorer schools have cut off all the extracurricular activities. We've taken away band, in so many places we've taken away a lot of the sports. We've taken away arts classes. We've taken away school productions."* Clinton said in another excerpt. *"I would like to see us get back to looking at individual children, looking at age appropriate learning experiences, looking at enriching the classroom experience."* (Source: [Huffington Post](#))
- Believes an investment in the arts is an investment in the future of children. *"That's why it is not only something that is the right thing to do—supporting arts education—but it's the smart thing for our nation, for both the public sector and the private sector to support arts education. Because we are by doing so, doing one of the things that we know will pay off the most in making children better able to learn."* (Source: [1998 Arts Education Meeting at White House](#))
- Understands that arts education can be a transformation in the lives of all children if it is fully funded and supported. *"For children, especially those living in some of our most depressed neighborhoods, federal, state and local support of the arts and humanities, as well as the strengthening of arts and humanities programs in our schools is critical. For our children, exposure to the world of arts and ideas can literally mean the difference between lives of accomplishment and lives of hopelessness and failure."* (Source: [1998 Arts Education Meeting at White House](#))
- While in the U.S. Senate in 2001, Clinton voted and supported the No Child Left Behind legislation, though she believes that No Child Left Behind made it difficult for the inclusion of arts education. (Sources: [govtrack.us](#), [Youtube/National Dance Education Organization](#))
- While hosting a roundtable discussion in Iowa in 2015, when asked about the Common Core Education Standards, *"Clinton responded, saying that there is 'a really unfortunate argument' around the Core now and explained why she finds the standards initiative useful."* (Source: [The Washington Post](#))
- In August of 2015, Clinton announced a plan to cap itemized charitable deductions. Such a policy would harm non-profit arts organizations which rely heavily on private donations to fund their programs (Source: [The New York Times](#))

Examples of Actions Taken on the Arts

- As First Lady, Clinton created the White House Sculpture Garden, a public art collection. (Source: [The President's Commitment to the Arts and Humanities Brochure](#))
- President Bill Clinton and First Lady Hillary Clinton hosted the Presidential Design Awards for federal design and construction. (Source: [The President's Commitment to the Arts and Humanities Brochure](#))
- Assembled the White House Crafts Collection that toured around the U.S. (Source: [The President's Commitment to the Arts and Humanities Brochure](#))
- Visited youth programs at the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild in North Pittsburgh and Gallery 37 in Chicago to spotlight the transformative power of the arts. (Source: [The President's Commitment to the Arts and Humanities Brochure](#))
- Released "*Coming Up Taller: Arts and Humanities Programs for Children and Youth at Risk*", a report on the benefits of arts education and programming. (Source: [The President's Commitment to the Arts and Humanities Brochure](#))
- Presented the National Award for Museum Services in 1994 and 1995. (Source: [The President's Commitment to the Arts and Humanities Brochure](#))
- Presented the National Heritage Awards to recognize folk artists. (Source: [The President's Commitment to the Arts and Humanities Brochure](#))
- In 2003 Clinton sponsored legislation entitled "Votes for Women History Trail Act of 2003", an automobile tour route to recognize New York State's place in the women's rights movement. (Source: congress.gov)

Congressional Arts Voting Record

- Member of the U.S. Senate Cultural Caucus. (Source: [Americans for the Arts Action Fund Congressional Report Card 2006](#))
- Supported tax deductions for artists' gifts. (Source: [2000/2004 Senate Arts Voting Records](#))

Arts and the Economy in New York

- The following information is from a [2007 report from the Alliance of the Arts](#) analyzing the impact of the arts during the 2005 fiscal year:
 - "The total economic impact on New York State was \$25.7 billion."
 - "Employment generated by the arts, both directly and indirectly, in New York State totaled 194,000."
 - "Wages generated was \$9.8 billion."
 - "Taxes to New York State generated \$1.2 billion."
 - "Motion picture and television production generated a total impact of \$8.4 billion."
 - "Nonprofit organizations generated a total impact of \$7.1 billion."
 - "Commercial theater generated a total impact of \$2.2 billion."
 - "Art galleries and auction houses generated a total impact of \$1.6 billion."
 - "Arts-Motivated visitors had an economic impact of \$5.8 billion."

(Source: [Alliance of the Arts](#))

Americans for the Arts Facts & Figures for New York:

- Creative Industries: There are 314,099 people employed by 52,451 Arts-Related businesses. This represents 5.1% of all businesses and 3.5% of all employees in New York ([Americans for the Arts](#))
- Economic Impact: In Westchester County alone, **non profit** arts organizations and their audiences spent \$156 million in Fiscal Year 2010 and contributed over \$22 million of revenue to state and local governments ([Americans for the Arts](#))
- In Fiscal Year 2016 the New York State Council on the Arts received \$46,174,000 in legislative appropriations (Source: [Americans for the Arts](#))

Advocacy Questions on the Arts

- As Secretary of State you saw firsthand the robust public support the arts receive in many nations around the world. As President, how would you expand the investment that the American government makes in its cultural life so that we can compete in the global cultural marketplace?
- As President, how would you ensure that every child receives a comprehensive and high quality arts education?
- You wrote in Vanity Fair magazine in February 2013 about “The Diplomacy of Art”; can you elaborate on how the arts contribute to American influence abroad?

Actions on the Arts during the 2016 Presidential Campaign

- **Town Hall Meeting in Nashua, New Hampshire** ([watch the video here](#))

On July 28, 2015 Hillary Clinton participated in a Town Hall meeting in Nashua, NH where she responded to the following question:

Question: *One way of improving education, I believe, without increasing the budget, is to cut bureaucracy and red-tape and the amount of unfunded mandates and initiatives that the government continues to put on teachers and the local education administrations. How do you plan to improve that as president, working with congress in America, and get us back to where we were and where we need to be?*

Clinton (Abbreviated Answer): *...Number two, you know, I believe that you've got to have good measures of accountability, but what matters most of all, especially with little kids, but not exclusively, is what habits are they learning? What values are they learning? Are they sharing? Are they understanding what's expected of them? I mean, that you cannot test for. [applause] And part of the problem is we have really swept out of a lot of our schools many of the experiences that help kids get better values, better habits, better character, and better success, in my opinion. [applause] Look, I*

have probably the worst singing voice in here. I can say that without fear of contradiction. But I had music when I was in elementary school. I had art. I had drama. And, you know what? I was no great shakes at it, but I learned a lot working with the other kids. In fact, I wanted so much to be in the chorus, I tried out three times. Then, finally the music teacher said, "Well you can be in the chorus with your friends if you lip sync." [laughter] So, that's how bad I was, but the point is when you remove the arts, you really hurt kids who learn that way. [applause] And, you know, I really believe, and obviously others do too, that we need to have enough in our school curriculums that each kid has a chance to be successful. What is the most important thing? It's for a child to feel their effort is paying off, that they are getting better at something they are trying to do. And, when you say 'there's only one way to learn' There's only one kind of test we're gonna give you', then you are really cutting out a lot of kids, and you are making them feel like they are not successful from a very early age. That is not good for them, and that's not good for our economy, our society.

(Source: [Hillary Clinton on the Arts at 7/28/15 Town Hall Meeting in Nashua, New Hampshire](#))

- **Response to a question about the arts in Iowa ([watch the video here](#))**

On September 14, 2015 Hillary Clinton responded to a question from arts advocate Kate Huffman at a gathering at the University of Northern Iowa:

Question: *[My name is] Kate Huffman. It's been a pleasure and an honor to talk with you today. My question is about arts education and your stance on arts education but also funding for arts education in our schools and for the National Endowment for the Arts.*

Answer (Abbreviated Answer): *I support arts education; I support the National Endowment for the Arts. I was one of the leaders during the Clinton administration in trying to keep it alive when Newt Gingrich and others wanted to kill it because I really think that arts education is important on the merits. I was exposed to arts education in a public school system when I was coming up, and I'm no great artist, I think that's probably well known to people, but it really gave me information and access to thinking about things differently than I would have, so I'm a strong supporter of the arts.*

(Source: [Arts Action Fund video](#))

- **Response to a question about the arts in New York**

On April 8, 2016 Hillary Clinton responded to a questioner who asked how she would advance the arts as President:

Answer (Abbreviated Answer): *"The arts are a major reason for urban revitalization," Clinton told a questioner who asked how she would advance the arts as president. "You see it in cities where often times the modern pioneers are the artists."* (Source: [The Buffalo News](#))