



THE CENTER FOR ARTS EDUCATION

May 11, 2010

Drastic budget cuts proposed by Governor Paterson would be a double whammy for students.

First, Mr. Paterson proposes cutting school aid by \$1.1 billion, or about 5%, statewide. If history is any indication, when budgets get cut, the arts are the first subject area to go.

Second, the Governor has also proposed a 40%, or \$16 million, cut to the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) budget for grants to arts organizations across the state -- many of which provide invaluable arts education programming to schools. The proposed cut would reduce the state's per capita spending on the arts from \$2.48 to 77 cents -- the largest agency cut ever! If not for the support of NYSCA many school children would have little exposure to the arts.

[Take action now to prevent these cuts.](#)

The arts are an essential part of a quality education for all students, even in difficult budget times. Join CAE, and our partners at NYS Arts, The Alliance for Quality Education, and numerous others in fighting the drastic cuts.

[Please tell your state legislators and the leadership](#) in Albany to oppose the double whammy for students.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Richard Kessler
Executive Director

