

SENIOR CLUB REPORT

ARTS ADVOCACY DEPARTMENT

AD-2-1

Due Date: April 30 (2021)

Senior Club Name and State _____

Name of Person Submitting Report _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

"The arts are fundamental to our humanity. They enoble and inspire us—fostering creativity, goodness, and beauty. The arts bring us joy, help us express our values, and build bridges between cultures. The arts are also a fundamental component of a healthy community—strengthening them socially, educationally, and economically—benefits that persist even in difficult social and economic times." Source: AFTA 10 Reasons to Support the Arts, February 2019.

Arts improve academic performance. Students engaged in arts learning have higher GPAs, standardized test scores, and college-going rates as well as lower drop-out rates. These academic benefits are reaped by students regardless of socio-economic status. 88 percent of Americans believe that arts are part of a well-rounded K-12 education. Source: AFTA 10 Reasons to Support the Arts, February 2019.

Our club members realize the importance of arts education in our schools. YES NO

Arts strengthen the economy. The production of arts and cultural goods in the U.S. added \$764 billion to the economy in 2015, and included a \$21 billion international trade surplus. The arts represented a larger share of the nation's economy (4.2 percent of GDP) than transportation, tourism, and agriculture (U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis). The nonprofit arts industry alone generates \$166.3 billion in economic activity annually (spending by organizations and their audiences), which supports 4.6 million jobs and generates \$27.5 billion in government revenue. Source: AFTA 10 Reasons to Support the Arts, February 2019. **Our club is aware that the arts not only enhance our lives and communities, but are an important economic engine in our culture.** YES NO

Arts improve healthcare. Nearly one-half of the nation's healthcare institutions provide arts programming for patients, families, and even staff. 78 percent deliver these programs because of their healing benefits to patients—shorter hospital stays, better pain management, and less medication. Source: AFTA 10 Reasons to Support the Arts, February 2019. **Our club understands that the arts are playing a bigger role in our healthcare system and having a positive impact.** YES NO

Arts and our stories. Our club understands that the success stories we experience and share is the best way to advocate for the arts. YES NO

Club Action Items. Our club will include arts advocacy on our meeting agendas and will do our best to monitor arts issues by getting involved with regional arts councils, school boards, city councils, and state and national legislation. YES NO

Individual Action items. We will continue to be on boards of a community band, orchestra, chorus, opera, community theatre, or jazz arts group. We will promote the arts by encouraging our students, friends and families to attend local concerts, theater events, visit museums and galleries, and to support local school music and arts education programs. YES NO

Enthusiasm! Our club is excited about becoming more involved in arts advocacy! YES NO

I look forward to hearing from you! Send a copy of this form to your state chair or if no active state chair, send directly to the National Chair: Lee Ann Cummings, 146 W. Pinebrook Dr., Brandon, MS 39047. **Please include your stories, comments, newspaper articles or clippings.** Please feel free to contact me with questions or comments at (601) 260-5360 or cummings-lee28@att.net.