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ABC/NY's mission is to develop more creative partnerships between the arts and business communities in New York, enhancing the business skills of the arts sector and the creative engagement of the business sector. ABC/NY provides programming in volunteer and leadership development, and builds and celebrates the arts' role in New York's economic revitalization.

Sandy

That's two years in a row we have had Too Much Weather on October 29-30. Twice too often.

On Monday, I waded through the disoriented tourists on Fifth Avenue, to the very quiet ABC office. (I did that thing we New Yorkers do: blessed and cursed them for filling parts of NYC. I love how they are drawn by our cultural excellence and diversity, but would they please walk faster! Hard not to feel sorry as Sandy blew their shopping, eating, and art-ing options temporarily away.)

Yesterday, *The Morning After*, like a lot of you, I came out of my burrow and blinked at the sun and walked my neighborhood, to show the others and myself that I am still here. I also sent a thank you note to Con Ed, for what they are doing and will be doing for some time; it's OK if they don't write back for a while. Karen and Stephanie and Ida and I and our loved ones in the tri-state are fine. ***I so wish that to be true for each and all of you.***

Bloomberg, Christie, Cuomo, and Molloy (and even Obama) much on the TV in the last 48 hours, speaking—across the aisle—of resilience. My thoughts went to the much more terrifying, much less predictable, targeted downtown devastation of ten+ years ago: Nine-Eleven. I was at City Center then. We reopened on September 12, 2001, with an Australian company performing *Carmen*. We let in trapped tourists and grounded airline crews (and anyone) for free, and many of them wept with cathartic release and appreciation.

"We will get through these days ahead by doing what we always do in tough times. By standing shoulder to shoulder ready to help a neighbor, comfort a stranger, and get the city we love back on its feet." said Bloomberg last night. **May the arts do what for some they did then (9/11) as well, so well: Help. Comfort. Get this city back on its feet. Provide solace and hope.**

In the teeth of Hurricane Sandy, my colleagues pulled off an all-out-of-office phone conference about our Employee Engagement in the Arts meeting to be held next week, on November 5. I am proud and excited. A group of smart people will gather and brainstorm about strategic **arts** needs for human capital they cannot afford to pay and strategic **business** needs for ways to connect their employees with the community and with each other. We will offer each other ideas, solutions, and hope.

And the next day, on November 6, we can each exercise hope again, at the ballot box. An election about change or (just) stasis? Nonsense! Get out there and vote for the kind of change you want for your art, your business, and yourself.

Live in hope. Be resilient.

As we at ABC e-mailed back and forth all during Sandy: Stay dry. Stay upright.

—Will Maitland Weiss, Executive Director

Disaster Relief for Arts Nonprofits

The following information is being circulated by Grantmakers in the Arts:

- With extraordinarily wide-spread destruction in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, grantmakers across the country will be looking to help with the cleanup and rebuilding. Here are some resources to remember:

As always, for artists, [Craft Emergency Relief Fund+](#) is a great place to start. And their [Facebook page](#) is especially worth noting for information coming in as the damage stories unfold.

- [Arts Ready](#) is a resource that should be remembered in the wake of this devastating event.
- Center for Disaster Philanthropy has a "[Hurricane Sandy Hub](#)" where information is being assembled.
- Likewise from [Council on Foundations](#), who has a list of resources as well.

Do you know of other resources for artists? Please share them on the [ABC/NY Facebook page](#)!

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