



## NEWS AND INFORMATION

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Americans for the Arts Names U.S. Congressman Steve Horn (R-Ca) as the Recipient of the Congressional "Government Leadership in the Arts Award"**

**WASHINGTON, DC** - Americans for the Arts, the nation's leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts, today presented its Congressional "Government in the Arts Award" to U.S. Representative Steve Horn (R-CA) during Arts Advocacy Day: The 2002 National Arts Action Summit. Congressman Horn represents the 38th District in California, which includes Long Beach and the port of Los Angeles.

Since 1997, Congressman Horn has served as Co-Chair of the Congressional Arts Caucus, a bipartisan organization of 146 Members of Congress that supports the arts through federal initiatives. His leadership played a key role in saving the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) after the agency's funding was slashed nearly in half and it was targeted for elimination. "Without this crucial agency," said Horn, "many would miss the opportunity to experience the delights of an opera, symphony, ballet, or museum. These types of opportunities foster imagination, spark creativity, and broaden future ambitions."

Along with Jane Alexander and Bill Ivey—Chairmen of the Endowment from 1993 to 1997 and from 1998 to 2001, respectively—Congressman Horn and the Arts Caucus helped reshape the Endowment and the debate over federal support for the arts. The resulting re-orientation is reflected in *Challenge America*, a program that has been widely applauded and that signaled a new access to the arts that focused on community building, arts education programs, youth-at-risk, underserved communities in rural and urban areas, and the preservation of our national heritage.

Congressman Horn and his Congressional Arts Caucus Co-Chair, Rep. Louise Slaughter (D-NY), also engineered the legislative effort that ultimately resulted in Congressional support for budgetary increases of \$10 million for the NEA, \$3 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities, and \$2 million for the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences for FY2002.

"Steve Horn has been an extraordinary leader on Capitol Hill for the arts," said Bob Lynch, President and CEO of Americans for the Arts. "When he leaves public office at the end of this term, he will leave a legacy that includes nothing less than the preservation of America's

federal cultural agencies and broadened access to the arts and humanities for every American."

**Americans for the Arts** is the leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America. With offices in Washington, D.C. and New York City, it has a record of more than 50 years of service. Americans for the Arts is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts. Additional information is available at [www.AmericansForTheArts.org](http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org).

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