

ARTS DAY 2008 – WHAT TO DO BEFORE YOU COME TO RALEIGH

- **Legislative Visits – Make an appointment BEFORE YOU COME TO RALEIGH**

If you are not sure about who represents you, go to <http://www.ncleg.net>, and click on Representation on the Site Navigation option. The site also includes all of the information you will need to contact your Senators and Representatives. Click on House or Senate to get their Raleigh office information.

When you call the Raleigh office, their Legislative Assistant will make your appointment. Let the LA know who you are, where you live, and that you are coming to ARTS Day on May 14th. Leave a message if you get voice mail. If the call isn't returned within 48 hours, try again. There is no such thing as being "too pushy" when trying to set an appointment. But remember, always be "nice."

- Legislative Visits should be scheduled between 11:30am & 1:30pm on May 14th if at all possible. Box lunches will be available for Arts Day registrants ONLY in the lobby of the Archives & History Building.
- There are 2 possible formats for Legislative Visits:
 1. You get confirmation from the LA to meet with your Legislator anytime between 11:00am & 1:30pm in their office.

Hint: Go on the website (www.ncleg.net) and look at the picture of your representative so you know who you are going to see.
 2. You are part of a team that will schedule a delegation meeting. Make plans to meet at ARTS Day if you are not traveling together.

Beaufort	Joey Toler	beaufortcountyarts@embarqmail.com
Buncombe	Phil Atwood	philatwood@earthlink.net
Catawba	Kathy Greathouse	kgreathouse@artscatawba.org
Cherokee	Yona Wade	yonawade@quallaartsandcrafts.org
Cumberland	Deborah Mintz	deborahm@theartscouncil.com
Durham	Margaret DeMott	mdemott@durhamarts.org
Edgecombe	Buddy Hooks	buddyhooks@embarqmail.com
Forsyth	Catherine Heitz-New	cnew@intothearts.org
Guilford	Jeanie Duncan	jduncan@uacarts.org
Henderson	Dale Bartlett	dale@flatrockplayhouse.org
Lenoir	Sandi Landis	slandis@kinstoncca.com
Mecklenburg	Cathy McCann	cathy.mccann@artsandscience.org
	Regina Smith	regina.smith@artsandscience.org
New Hanover	Martha Burdette	mburdette2@ec.rr.com
New Hanover, Robeson	Richard Sceiford	rsceiford@ec.rr.com
Pasquotank	Lisa Winslow	lwinslow@artsofthealbemarle.com
Wake	Eleanor Oakley	eoakley@unitedarts.org
Watauga, Wilkes	Kara Elmore	kara@wilkesartsgallery.org

- Think in advance about what you want most to tell your Legislator. ARTS North Carolina will have materials and training, but your own perspective and personal connection is what makes grassroots advocacy work. Fifteen minutes in a Legislator's office is average, but you could have the opportunity for a longer visit. Do as much local research as you can before you come to Raleigh about the interests and priorities of your elected officials, and tailor your message to those issues. Plan to center your story on two – three key points that might include cultural tourism, community and economic development, arts education, youth at risk, community cohesiveness, retiree recruitment, civic vitality, or intrinsic value.
- **Begin your visit with a thank-you for the 07-08 funding and give a specific example of how the funds were used in your community.**
- Make your plans for ARTS Day to include participating in the Legislative Training from 9am to 11am on May 14th. The workshop on May 13th will also be designed to help prepare for the Legislative visit.

Do not hesitate to call ARTS North Carolina if you have questions or are unsure and need assistance.
That's what we are here for.

919/834-1411