

Rochester, NY –Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (NY-28), Ranking Member of the House Committee on Rules and Co-Chair of the Congressional Arts Caucus, today announced \$95,000 in federal funds that have been awarded to arts groups in Western New York. The funds, which will directly benefit local writers, musicians, dancers and artists, are provided by programs Slaughter has fought to protect.

"I'm so pleased that the artists of Western New York are receiving vital funds that will support and grow our local economy. In my Congressional district alone, the arts industry employs more than 17,000 people. These funds will not only support local jobs, but will allow our artists to create indelible works of art that makes our community a better place to live."

In Rochester, funding from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) was awarded to the University of Rochester Memorial Art Gallery and Writers and Books, Inc.

In Buffalo, NEA awards were today announced for Just Buffalo Literary Center, Inc.'s Babel program and Picturing Poetry program.

More information on each grant is included in the chart below.

The funding will be provided by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. The funds are the second round of FY 2012 grants. These matching grants help support projects that involve the creation and presentation of artistically excellent work – both new and established. Projects include commissions, residencies, rehearsals, workshops, performances, exhibitions, publications, festivals, training programs and literature fellowships. In November 2011, [Slaughter announced that arts organizations throughout Western New York would receive \\$175,500 through the first round of FY 2012 funding.](#)

This round of grants awards nearly \$25 million, including over \$4 million in arts education projects. In total, more than 790 organizations in 48 states and the District of Columbia will receive funding. Grants from the National Endowment for the Arts generate, on average, seven dollars from non-federal sources for each dollar awarded.

According to Americans for the Arts, the arts industry has a vast impact on the nation's economy. Each year, the arts industry generates \$166.2 billion annually in economic activity, provides 5.7 million full-time jobs, creates \$104.2 billion in household income, and generates almost \$17 billion in state and local revenue and \$12.6 billion in federal income tax revenue. In New York's 28th Congressional District, the arts industry supports 1,681 arts-related businesses employing 17,244 people.

Because of the many economic and cultural benefits, Slaughter has long supported the federal funding for the arts. On March 16, 2012, [Slaughter led a letter, signed by 87 Members of Congress, to the House Appropriations Committee supporting President Obama's proposed funding level for the National Endowment for the Arts in fiscal year 2013](#)

[To learn more about Slaughter's role as co-chair of the Congressional Arts Caucus, click here.](#)

| Arts Organization | Funding Awarded |
|--|-----------------|
| Buffalo Area Grants | |
| Just Buffalo Literary Center, Inc. To support Babel, a program that brings renowned international writers to Western New York for readings and related outreach activities | \$40,000 |
| Just Buffalo Literary Center, Inc. To support Picturing Poetry, a program of multi-disciplinary arts education in Buffalo Public Schools. | |
| Rochester Area Grants | |
| University of Rochester To support conservation treatment of drawings and an oil on canvas by the artist Carl W. Peters (1897-1980) from the collection of the Memorial Art Gallery. | \$15,000 |
| Writers and Books, Inc. To support lectures about literature and in-person and online writing workshops for youth and adults. | |
| Total WNY Arts Funding | |
| | \$95,000 |

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