

April 17, 2006 - Rep. Slaughter Announces \$52,000 in Federal Funding for Arts Programs in Buffalo

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Organizations Awarded Grants to Continue Work Promoting Art and Learning

Washington, DC - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-Fairport), Ranking Member of the House Rules Committee, is pleased to announce that the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has awarded \$52,000 in federal funds to two Buffalo arts programs.

"We have to appreciate just how much the arts contribute to our daily lives and expand our knowledge of the world," Rep. Slaughter said. "They are a wonderful teaching tool. Groups and organizations use the arts in exciting ways every day to educate our children, with inspiring results," she added.

The awards were given to organizations that bring artistic endeavors to the public and which strive to use art to further literacy and other education efforts.

- The Just Buffalo Literary Center, Inc. received two grants totaling \$40,000 to further its work conducting literature outreach projects throughout the greater Buffalo area. The Center has proposed exciting new programs, like World of

Voices, which will bring international writers to Western New York for week-long residences.

- The Irish Classical Theatre Company received \$12,000 for its production of *Observe the Song of Ulster Marching Toward the Somme*.

As a Co-Chair of the Congressional Arts Caucus, Rep. Slaughter has been a long-time supporter of the NEA and its mission to bring the arts to the public. This past Monday, the Congresswoman sent a letter she authored to Reps. Charles Taylor (R-NC-11) and Norman Dicks (D-WA-6), Chairman and Ranking Member respectively of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, urging that the National Endowment for the Arts to be funded at \$170 million per year.

The request was co-signed by 112 Members of the House. The last time the NEA received funding at this level was in 1994.

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