



OBAMA'08
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"I want our students learning
art and music and science and poetry...
and all the things that make an education worthwhile."

BARACK OBAMA, FEBRUARY 9, 2008

ARTS POLICY COMMITTEE

A MESSAGE FROM GEORGE STEVENS, JR. AND MARGO LION

Co-Chairs of the Obama Arts Policy Committee

We don't want to let this opportunity pass to urge our friends from the arts community to join with us in supporting Barack Obama's candidacy for the president of the United States.

Barack Obama has the creative imagination and the political acumen to bring forth the kind of change our country needs. And we believe his election will send a signal to people everywhere that America is moving forward in a way that respects the differences between us while honoring our shared hopes for the future.

We were thrilled when Barack Obama asked us to chair the Arts Policy Committee for his campaign. His decision to create such a committee was unique in this election year. The committee has engaged artists, cultural leaders, art educators and arts advocates to better understand the major issues confronting the arts in this country and to advise Barack as he develops his policy positions.

We are therefore pleased to be able to present the attached Fact Sheet which provides a summary of the actions needed in order to significantly advance the arts in America, and to ensure the arts and creative resources of this country are at hand in addressing the many pressing problems we face as a nation.

Finally, our committee member, Michael Chabon, has beautifully captured the significance of the arts in our society with the following words:

Every grand American accomplishment, every innovation that has benefited and enriched our lives, every lasting social transformation, everything that has from the start made America the world capital of hope, has been the fruit of the creative imagination, of the ability to reach beyond received ideas and ready-made answers to some new place, some new way of moving through the world.

To find out more about how to get involved with the campaign in your area, please visit www.BarackObama.com

We also invite you to join the official online group of arts advocates who support Obama at: <http://my.barackobama.com/page/group/CreativeAmericaforObama>