

# Make Friends with Your Rep

## Phase One: Congratulations

Going formal? This is proper format for addressing your State House Representative and/or Senator. Handwritten letters are opened and read so break out your best penmanship.

### Return Address

so they know you're a voter in their district

### Date

### Rep's Address

You can find WA folks at <http://leg.wa.gov/LIC/Pages/hotline.aspx>

### Salutation

Representative or Mr/Ms/Mx work

### Introduce yourself

your name, address and school to identify that you are a constituent

### The why

This is the homework part—what has your rep done right in the past for the arts? What have they said they will do? What haven't they said that you hope they will? We've included a sample, but customize if you can!

### Extra Credit

Can you tell them why you want to see arts funding? Did your school's rendition of MacBeth inspire you to follow politics?

### Thanks

Because creative people are polite

### Closing

With your contact info

Your Name  
Address  
City, WA Zip Code

[Date]

The Honorable [Insert Rep's Name]  
P.O. Box  
[Town], WA [zip]

Dear Representative [Insert Last Name]:

My name is [Insert Your Name] and I am your constituent in [Insert precinct] in [Insert Your City], Washington.

I am writing to congratulate you on your election (re-election). I am especially hopeful that you'll make arts and education funding a priority in the upcoming budget session.

(Insert personal reason here.)

Thank you for your time and congratulations again.

Sincerely,

[Insert Your Name]  
[Email]  
[Phone number]