

Restore Full Funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities

The Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc. (ART) urges the Committee on Appropriations to vote to restore full funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities in the Fiscal Year 2014 Interior and Environment Appropriations Bill, and have written the following letter to Hal Rogers, Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations and to Jose Serrano, Representative of NY's 15th Congressional District:



Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc.
Advocacy Committee
P.O. Box 151 New York, New York, 10274

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

July 30, 2013

Dear Chairman Rogers,

The Advocacy Committee of the Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc. (ART), strongly urges the Committee on Appropriations to vote to restore full funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities in the FY 2014 Interior and Environment Appropriations Bill. Founded in 1979, ART is a not-for-profit organization representing a diverse group of more than 650 archivists in the New York City area.

As members of a community of professional archivists, we are concerned that reducing funding for the NEH will in turn reduce funding for institutions that preserve cultural heritage materials and make them accessible to the public. Further, we believe that the proposed reduction in funds for the NEH

will reduce funding for projects that will promote humanistic scholarship and inquiry.

In New York City in the past decade, NEH funding made possible the "Lincoln In New York" exhibit at the New-York Historical Society, which later traveled to museums across the country; the Gilder-Lehrman Institute of American History's traveling exhibition and lesson guides celebrating Lincoln's bicentennial; and multiple events celebrating the 400th anniversary of New York State. These exhibitions and programs reached and educated thousands of people and sustained jobs at cultural heritage institutions.

The National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act, signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1965, states that "[t]he arts and the humanities belong to all the people of the United States." In order to ensure access to the arts and humanities for all Americans, we urge the Committee to act to restore funding to the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Sincerely,

Janet Bunde

Director of Advocacy and Outreach

Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York