

Dear Holter Friend and Arts Supporter,

As we are all aware, the political and social climate of our country has shifted dramatically. With threats of budget cuts and lost funding looming ahead, the Arts seem once again to be caught in the crossfire.

Now is the time to come together as a community to ensure our Arts Organizations will be here for future generations. Your \$30, \$300 or \$3000 will Help individuals in our community, as we raise \$30,000 for our 30th Anniversary! Act Now for the Arts!

We have stood here before. In times of crisis, the arts are often the first to go. But this begs the question, **if not the arts, then what are we fighting for?**

Winston Churchill once stated, **“The arts are essential to any complete national life. The state owes it to itself to sustain and encourage them. Ill fares the race which fails to salute the arts with the reverence and delight which are its due.”**

The Holter Museum of Art is one of fewer than 1,000 art museums in North America, and one of only a handful in the state of Montana. This is our 30th Anniversary; we have stood for 30 years, and we will stand for 30 years more because of you. It is my belief as an artist and museum director that it is time the arts were given the “reverence and delight” they deserve. If the state cannot or will not recognize the importance of the arts in our lives, then it is our duty as a community to do it ourselves.

Over the last 20 years I have witnessed the *healing power of art* firsthand. I have known veterans suffering from PTSD whose lives were completely changed with the power of creativity. I’ve seen teenagers, riddled with depression and self-doubt, find their place through art at the Holter. You have seen this for yourself, too. You have found a place in the Arts, and you know the importance of art. You are the faces at our receptions, supporting our artists. You are the visitors who bring your families and friends, sharing the creative power of our community with them. You are the shoppers in our store and the students in our art classes and camps, opening your imagination to create and learn. **You are the Holter Family who has stood with us for the past 30 years, and you can help today.**

Turn this page to see how you can take a stand today. Please also save the date for our [Back to eARTH Day Celebration on Saturday, April 22nd to support the arts in our community.](#) →

Standing with You,

Chris Riccardo
Interim Executive Director

ACT NOW FOR THE ARTS!

Without the Holter the Community Would Lose Such Programs as:

The Education Residency Program, which supports arts learning for K-12 students in the Helena School District. Yearly, more than 4,500 young people tour the Museum and join community artists in hands-on activities that teach creative thinking, collaboration, and innovative problem-solving skills.

ATAC (After-school Teen Arts Council) and Writing for Survival, which address difficult subjects such as the rising rate of youth suicides and students' battles with self-expression and self-worth. ATAC and Writing for Survival give teens a safe place to work and create and encourage them to use the arts to work through personal and social issues.

Healing-arts programs like OHA (Operation Healing Arts) that deliver hands-on arts at no cost to citizens in our community who need it most, including veterans and their families, the homeless, at-risk youth, the mentally and physically handicapped, the chronically ill, and any others seeking ways to cope and rebuild their lives through the arts.

Here's How You Can Help:

- ***Bring a friend new to the Holter. We always offer Free Admission!***
- ***Take a class at the Holter***
- ***Volunteer your time and expertise***
- ***Donate online at www.holtermuseum.org or in the envelope provided***

\$30 for the 30th Anniversary! Act Now for the Arts!

Your \$30 to support the arts and healing arts programs at the Holter Museum will make a difference to one teen, one veteran or one student. YOU can help save the arts in our community.

Join Us For:

- **Saturday, April 22— Rally for the Arts and eARTh Day celebration**
- **Monday, May 8—Tour of the Museum and free lunch with the Director**
- **Friday, June 9—Annual Gala and Auction at the Civic Center**

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