

September 2, 2005



Dear Friends,

We are all saddened by the devastation and loss on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and in New Orleans. We have received many calls from people outside and within the state wanting to know what can be done to provide aid to arts organizations and artists in affected areas. I have attached a release from the Southern Arts Federation that can facilitate and focus relief efforts. Also, I would urge any and all of you in Alabama who want to act sooner than later, to establish "Hurricane Relief Fund" collection boxes at your up-coming performances, exhibitions, festivals or various other activities. Cash donations can be sent to SAF or directly to the Alabama State Council on the Arts (care of the Arts Development Fund). As assessments of damage and need in the arts community from Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana come in; we will coordinate a distribution process. In our neighboring states, we will work with the Louisiana Division of the Arts and the Mississippi Arts Council.

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If you have any questions and/or ideas please feel free to give me a call.

Al Head
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