

WHEATONARTS

AND CULTURAL CENTER

ACTION ALERT!

STATE FUNDING FREEZE IMPACT ON CULTURAL COMMUNITY

Recognizing the dire condition of State finances, contractually committed funding from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts has been frozen to **WheatonArts** and hundreds of the State's arts organizations. This will have a **catastrophic** effect on New Jersey's arts community.

Arts organizations have made long-standing commitments to artists, vendors, staffs and patrons in reliance upon the expectation that their grant contracts with the State would be honored (by the end of the 2009 calendar year). Money that was imminently to be released by the State to arts groups is now frozen, exacerbating already fragile organizational budgets. Many that operate on a calendar year are not able to meet year end obligations, most notably payroll.

Full disbursement of these contractually committed funds is essential. In some cases, the ongoing viability of venues could well hang in the balance.

Please send an e-mail message to your elected officials and feel free to indicate exactly what will happen to **WheatonArts** or those in your home town as a result of this funding freeze.

For New Jersey Residents

Please visit <http://www.ArtPrideNJ.com>
to contact your local and state legislators.

For Out of State Residents

Please contact
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