



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

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Chairman
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC SERVICE

JOINT COMMITTEES ON
ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL
RESOURCES AND AGRICULTURE
MUNICIPALITIES AND
REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

Massachusetts Cultural Council
Facilities Grant Program
10 St. James Avenue, 3rd floor
Boston, MA 02116-3803

I am pleased to write in support of the application of the Arsenal Center for the Arts in Watertown for a Massachusetts Cultural Council Facilities Grant.

The Arsenal Center thrives and is heavily used (over 100,000 annually). There are three resident arts companies, as well as numerous other performing arts rental companies. Visual arts education and exhibition, theatre arts, music, dance and literary programming are among the Center's offerings. The Center also includes after-school and vacation arts programs for children as well as programs for adults including seniors.

The Facilities Grant would be used to improve accessibility, safety and also to build capacity. The request includes automatic doors to accommodate wheelchair access, new risers in the Black Box Theater with railings and additional support, additional lighting, new carpeting on the stairs in the Mosesian Theater and classroom expansion to accommodate the growing education program.

I appreciate your consideration of this application. The Arsenal Center for the Arts is an important part of the cultural life of the Watertown area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William N. Brownsberger".

William N. Brownsberger
STATE SENATOR