



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
September 8, 2008

Contact: Ann-Laura Parks
aparks@southarts.org
404-874-7244 ext 25

Southern Arts Federation's Emergency Relief Fund: Providing Assistance in Times of Crisis

Fund Offers Support to Artists and Arts Organizations Affected by Hurricanes

Atlanta, GA – The Southern Arts Federation (SAF) has re-activated its Emergency Relief Fund to assist artists and arts organizations affected by extreme weather during the hurricane season. In addition, SAF provides additional online resources for emergency readiness, response and recovery at www.southarts.org.

SAF will accept contributions to the Emergency Relief Fund at www.southarts.org/relief. Donations can be directed to all states in SAF's region (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee) or to a specific state(s). SAF will work with the state arts agencies of affected states to distribute funds. Artists or organizations interested in applying for support should contact their state arts agency for information. For more information about making a donation to SAF's Emergency Relief Fund, contact Ann-Laura Parks at 404-874-7244.

The Southern Arts Federation established the Emergency Relief Fund in 2005 to assist artists and arts organization in Gulf Coast communities devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The funds raised, approximately \$200,000, were used to repair and rebuild studios, replace art supplies and musical instruments, replace lost revenue from cancelled performances and damaged museums, and assist with basic living expenses.

About the Southern Arts Federation

The Southern Arts Federation, a non-profit regional arts organization founded in 1975, creates partnerships and collaborations; presents, promotes and produces Southern arts and cultural programming; and advocates for the arts and arts education. Working in partnership with nine state arts agencies—Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee—SAF builds on the South's unique heritage, and enhances the public value of the arts in our communities by promoting and supporting the arts in the South, enhancing the artistic excellence and professionalism of Southern arts organizations and artists, and serving the diverse population of the South. For more information, visit www.southarts.org.

###