



**Affirming the Importance of Fine Arts in Education**

We the undersigned, recognizing the positive impact that fine arts education has on our students, support the Montville Township Board of Education and the Montville Township School District in promoting arts programs in our schools. In a series of studies called “Champions of Change” developed by The Arts Education Partnership and the Presidents Committee on the Arts and Humanities, seven teams or researchers examined a variety of arts education programs. In a letter introducing the findings of those studies Richard Riley, Secretary, Department of Education (1993-2001) noted that “The American public is demanding more than ever from our schools, and rightly so. Parents and other caregivers want to equip young people for professionally and personally rewarding careers...As these researchers have confirmed, young people can be better prepared for the 21<sup>st</sup> century through quality learning experiences in and through the arts.”<sup>1</sup> As members of the community, we concur with these recommendations and encourage the Montville Township School System to firmly support and fund Arts Education in our district.

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Town

\_\_\_\_\_

Email

\_\_\_\_\_

**Complete information and  
Mail to:**  
“STAGE”  
P.O. Box 355  
Montville, N.J. 07045  
  
Visit our website at  
[www.mthsstage.org](http://www.mthsstage.org)

No. of Students in District \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a teacher (Y/N)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
<sup>1</sup> “Champions of Change, The Impact of learning on the Arts”. Edited by Edward B. Fiske. Funded by The GE Fund and The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur foundation.