

31 October 2007



Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

Dear Prime Minister

Once again we are writing under the auspices of the NCA Chairs' Forum to thank you for both your personal and your Government's continued commitment to the arts.

We welcomed the news delivered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his pre-budget report that, despite the tight fiscal climate, the settlement to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) in the 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR 07) would guarantee an inflation increase for the arts, free access to museums and galleries and deliver the Cultural Olympiad for the 2012 Olympics.

As outlined in our dialogue with you over the last 18 months, the success of the arts and culture in the UK and its international reputation for excellence, has been underpinned by the increased and then sustained levels of financial support that the Government has invested since 1997. We are delighted that the CSR 07 settlement acknowledges this and makes available resources which will enable the sector to build on its achievements over the next decade.

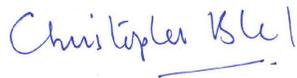
We look forward to continuing to work with you, your Ministers and officials, to champion the value of the arts across government and to ensure that the sector continues to prosper and deliver the best and most innovative art to a wide and diverse number of people.

Yours sincerely

Joan Bakewell
Chair, National Campaign for the Arts

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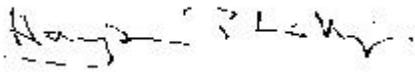
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Sir Christopher Bland
Chair, Royal Shakespeare Company



Lord Hollick
Chair, South Bank Centre



Sir Hayden Phillips
Chair, National Theatre



Paula Ridley
Past Chairman, V&A Museum

Copied to:

Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rt Hon Alistair Darling MP

Secretary of State for Culture, Media & Sport, Rt Hon James Purnell MP

Minister for Culture, Creative Industries and Tourism, Rt Hon Margaret Hodge MP