**Board of Directors**

Steve Bass

Oregon Public Broadcasting

Portland, OR

Peter Bilotta

Chamber Music Northwest

Portland, OR

Neil Bryant

Bryant, Lovlien, and Jarvis

Bend, OR

Chris Coleman (President)

Portland Center Stage

Portland, OR

Adam Davis

Oregon Humanities

Portland, OR

Scott Freck

Eugene Symphony

Eugene, OR

Jeff Hawthorne

RACC

Portland, OR

George Kramer

Kramer & Company

Ashland, OR

JS May

Portland Art Museum

Portland, OR

Paul Nicholson

Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Ashland, OR

Stanley Penkin

ArtPAC

Portland, OR

Tina Rinaldi (Secretary)

UO Arts & Admin Program

Eugene, OR

John Tess

Heritage Consulting Group

Portland, OR

Kerry Tymchuk (Vice Pres)

Oregon Historical Society

Portland, OR

Janeanne Upp (Treasurer)

High Desert Museum

Bend, OR

**Issue Brief: Percent for Art**

**Background:** Oregon’s Percent for Art program sets aside not less than one percent of the direct construction or renovation costs of state and university system building projects for the purchase or acquisition of artwork. The percent for art program first adopted 1975, is one of the oldest and deepest collections in the nation. More than 2,500 works of fine art make up Oregon’s Public Art Collection. The 2,500+ works range from paintings to large scale sculptures to artist designed benches or plazas. The Collection has been built by citizen selection committees over thirty-five years and is owned by each agency or university on behalf of the State of Oregon.

**Issue:** The Oregon Arts Commission is charged with overseeing Oregon’s percent for art program and currently relies on one FTE, funded by a small percentage of the art budget, not to exceed 10% to manage the program. The program has relied on contractors to manage workload and is requesting two FTE to support the growing workload of this important program. OAC management responsibilities include: facilitating the selection of artwork with building users and the public,negotiating and overseeing the creation of each work of art, leading projects to deepen the Collection’s educational impact and collaborating with each university or agency to shape art programs that are in keeping with their institutional goals.

**Position:** Oregon’s Percent for Art program has placed high quality, accessible, permanent art in public buildings since 1975. The percent for art program, which is also a public works program, is essential to preserving and enhancing Oregon’s public buildings and surrounding environment. The Coalition supports increasing the FTE dedicated to this Other Funds program to protect Oregon’s strong tradition of public art in public spaces.