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## COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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March 24, 2017

Hon. Charles E. Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
780 Third Ave. Suite 2301  
New York, NY 10017

Hon. Kirsten E. Gillibrand  
U.S. Senator  
780 Third Ave. Suite 2601  
New York, NY 10017

Hon. Jerrold Nadler  
Congressman  
201 Varick Street, Suite 669  
New York, NY 10014

Dear Senator Schumer, Senator Gillibrand and Congressman Nadler:

At its Full Board meeting on March 23, 2017, Community Board #2, adopted the following September resolution:

### **Resolution in Support of the Protection and Preservation of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)**

**Whereas** CB2 Manhattan has a long history of supporting local cultural and educational institutions, which are vital to our community and CB2's identity; and

**Whereas** CB2 believes that access to works, exhibitions and projects that deepen the understanding of the humanities is an inseparable component of a free society and the support of the humanities a public duty; and

**Whereas** the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), established by Congress in 1965, is the independent federal agency whose funding and support strengthen our republic by promoting excellence in the humanities and conveying the lessons of history to all Americans; and

**Whereas** NEH grants enhance teaching and learning, facilitate research and original scholarship, provide opportunities for lifelong learning, preserve and provide access to cultural and educational resources and strengthen the institutional base of the humanities in communities across America; and

**Whereas** it has been reported that the Trump Administration is considering eliminating or defunding the NEH; and

**Whereas** the annual spending of the NEH is 1/21,000th of the federal budget, barely more per capita than the cost of a postage stamp; and

**Whereas** the NEH has awarded crucial grants to cultural institutions and universities in the CB2 area that depend on NEH funding for their programs or continued operation, such as:

- New School University
- New York University
- Whitney Museum of American Art
- Museum of Chinese in America
- WNYC

**Whereas** eliminating the NEH would undermine the research, education, preservation and public programs in the humanities that build a stronger and more resilient CB2 community and would leave a lasting adverse impact on the quality of life in CB2, and the City at large.

**Therefore Be It Resolved** that Community Board 2 Manhattan calls upon our local elected officials to use their political influence to block any efforts on the part of the Trump Administration to eliminate or defund the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

**VOTE: Unanimous, with 36 Board Members in favor.**

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

Sincerely,



Terri Cude Chair  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Robin Rothstein, Chair  
Arts and Institutions Committee  
Community Board #2, Manhattan

TC/EM

c: Hon. Carolyn Maloney, Congresswoman  
Hon. Nydia Velasquez, Congresswoman  
Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator  
Hon. Daniel Squadron, NY State Senator  
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member  
Hon. Yuh-Line Niou, Assembly Member  
Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President  
Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member  
Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member  
Hon. Corey Johnson, Council Member