

The OPERA America Advocacy Guides were designed to address the best practices, needs, and challenges related to government relations. Numerous resources were reviewed, referenced, and quoted as part of this project. For more information — and inspiration — take a look at the following list, which is just a highlight of resources reviewed in this project.

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION: WRITING YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

aclu.org/writing-your-elected-representatives

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION: PUBLIC POLICY

ala.org/advocacy/advocacy-public-policy

BOARDSOURCE

boardsource.org/

BOARDSOURCE: TEN BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES OF NONPROFIT BOARDS

boardsource.org/product/ten-basic-responsibilities-nonprofit-boards/

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES: ACTION CENTER

crs.org/get-involved/campaigns/action-center

COUNCIL OF NONPROFITS: FEDERAL LAW PROTECTS NONPROFIT ADVOCACY & LOBBYING

councilofnonprofits.org/federal-law-protects-nonprofit-advocacy-lobbying

COUNCIL OF NONPROFITS: TAKING THE 501(H) ELECTION

councilofnonprofits.org/everyday-advocacy/taking-501h-election

COUNCIL ON FOUNDATIONS: ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

cof.org/advocacy/advocacy-toolkit

GRANTMAKERS IN THE ARTS: PUBLIC FUNDING FOR THE ARTS 2022

acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:32464f5d-9d43-480c-848d-7e3514e10d02

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (IRS): EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS TECHNICAL GUIDE; TG 3-1 OVERVIEW, APPLICATIONS, EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS — IRS SECTION 501(C)(3)

irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p5859.pdf

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (IRS): POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS AND CHARITIES; THE BAN ON POLITICAL CAMPAIGN INTERVENTION COURSE

stayexempt.irs.gov/se/files/downloads/PoliticalCampaigns_Print.pdf

LEAGUE OF AMERICAN ORCHESTRAS: ADVOCATE

americanorchestras.org/learn/advocate/

MCKINSEY & COMPANY: ORGANIZING THE GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS FUNCTION FOR IMPACT

mckinsey.com/capabilities/strategy-and-corporate-finance/our-insights/organizing-the-government-affairs-function-for-impact

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF STATE ARTS AGENCIES: ADVOCACY TOOLS

nasaa-arts.org/advocacy/#advocacy_tools_container

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF STATE ARTS AGENCIES: ARTS AND CREATIVITY STRENGTHEN OUR NATION; A NARRATIVE AND MESSAGE GUIDE FOR ADVOCATES

nasaa-arts.org/nasaa_advocacy/arts-and-creativity-strengthen-our-nation-a-narrative-and-message-guide/

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS: 1965–2000; A BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS

acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:279e4097-486f-42a7-8692-a848545a42e6

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL: GUIDE TO COMMUNICATING WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS

nvfc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/ElectedGuide.pdf

PERFORMING ARTS ALLIANCE: ARTS ADVOCACY BASICS

theperformingartsalliance.org/tool-kit/advocacy-basics

STAND FOR YOUR MISSION

standforyourmission.org/

THEATRE COMMUNICATIONS GROUP: ADVOCACY

tcg.org/Web/Web/Our-Work/Advocacy/Advocacy.aspx?hkey=55281f32-03fb-4be9-9ef7-ef017b393aef

UNICEF: ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:235e924f-af24-44a4-9551-c2332a4849a4

VENABLE LLP: GRASSROOTS LOBBYING; A LEGAL PRIMER

venable.com/-/media/files/publications/2011/07/grassroots-lobbying-a-legal-primer/files/grassroots-lobbying-a-legal-primer/fileattachment/govt_political_law_grassroots_primer_summer_2011.pdf

WESTAF: REGIONAL PARTNER HANDBOOK

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:abca7cd8-f40b-4de2-8283-c0e66ba918ae>

OPERA America's advocacy guides were developed in 2024 by Amy Fitterer, consultant, with support from The Music Man Foundation.