



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jose M. Serrano

## Statement from Senator José M. Serrano Re: Alleged Misuse of Public Funds at the New York State Theatre Institute

JOSÉ M. SERRANO April 22, 2010

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"The recent report by the Inspector General alleging misdeeds within the administration of the New York State Theatre Institute has brought to light issues that are very troubling.

"As Chair of the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks & Recreation, I have seen, first-hand, the positive role the Arts play in New York's communities, and as a strong Arts supporter, I find these serious allegations extremely disturbing.

"The Arts provide major benefits to our state by offering educational opportunities, serving as an economic engine, and enhancing our overall quality of life. However, it is vital that these facilities continue to inspire confidence- especially when public money is involved.

"This incidence affirms my belief that any publicly funded operation should be subject to full standards of transparency, accountability and ongoing scrutiny."

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