Dear Colleague,

We are pleased to inform you that Art Beyond Sight, one of the nation’s leading arts service organizations for people with disabilities, is hosting the first-ever Project Access New York City: Best Practices for Inclusion in the Arts symposium at the Museum of Modern Art on Thursday, May 2, 2013.

Presented with support from the Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD) and the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA), the day-long symposium will highlight best practices for arts groups to serve disabled audiences by presenting an update on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), as well as presentations about new technologies and innovative programming to serve these vital audiences.

In order to provide a robust program for you and your staff, the forum has been divided into two sessions. In the morning, executive leadership and board members are invited to hear a discussion, including the US Attorney’s Office, on the ADA and its impact on cultural organizations. The morning session will also inform arts leaders about the changing demographics of people with disabilities in New York City, and innovative programs at organizations across all arts disciplines. To attend the morning session, please RSVP at rsvp@culture.nyc.gov by Friday, April 26 and include “Session 1” in the subject line.

While there will be some overlap in the morning and afternoon session topics, the latter part of the day should be especially beneficial for cultural organization staff members working in education, visitor services, marketing and digital media. Topics include marketing to people with disabilities, and updates on the newest technological developments that are improving access to facilities and arts programming. To attend the morning session, please RSVP at rsvp@culture.nyc.gov by Friday, April 26 and include “Session 2” in the subject line.

Please see enclosed the complete program. We hope that you and your colleagues will join us at this important event.

Sincerely,

Victor Calise                                   Kate D. Levin
Commissioner                                  Commissioner
Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities    NYC Department of Cultural Affairs

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