

# Tuccille GOVERNOR

22 August 1974  
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## TUCCILLE BLASTS SUBSIDY OF ARTS

"Why should a factory worker in Peekskill be forced to provide financial support for a Manhattan sculptor of dubious talent?" asked Jerry Tuccille (pronounced "two-chilly") today.

"New York State aid to the arts exceeds \$34 million annually," continued Tuccille. "Certainly it's worthwhile for New York to have culture, but at whose expense? Surely not at the expense of those who would prefer to spend their hard-earned money on a new car or on a vacation, but instead are taxed to finance 'cultural' projects they may not enjoy and may in fact disapprove of."

Tuccille said that the proper way to support theater, music and the fine arts is via a free market and voluntary exchange rather than government subsidy. "Concert halls and art galleries can and do operate at a profit through ticket sales, concession fees and program advertising," he observed. "If this proves to be insufficient, the institution may solicit contributions from the public or from private foundations."

"Like Hemingway, I believe that talent rises or falls on its own merits. An artist who demands a public subsidy doesn't deserve it."

The gubernatorial candidate noted that many State-supported cultural institutions are in financial trouble. "It would be far better to have them run by private organizations than to allow them to continue stealing from the pockets of taxpayers," he said. "The average New Yorker has better things to do with his money than to pay the legal fees for the latest Metropolitan Museum scandal or to build another ArtPark."

"Government has no place in the arts," continued Tuccille. "Let's get New York out of the business of running museums, and maybe it will get back to the business of preventing violent crime."

PRESS RELEASE

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