

Dear Friend,

As you are well aware, the current financial crisis has affected families, businesses and non-profit organizations of all sizes. In fact, Leslie/Lohman's income—from memberships, contributions resulting from art sales, and other donations—has decreased significantly over the past year, down nearly 15% in 2008 compared to 2007. Unfortunately, this is a trend we expect will worsen before it gets better—*unless we get your help!*

Along with this drop in income, we have also seen a precipitous rise in expenses—the cost of everything from printing, postage and office supplies to insurance, utilities and mounting of exhibitions has increased. Additionally, over the past three years we have embarked on an ambitious (and more costly) schedule of exhibitions—including the critically acclaimed *StageStruck: The Magic of Theatre Design* and *The Line of Fashion: The Great Fashion Artists*.

With rising expenses and dropping income, we are now faced with the likelihood of a substantial reduction in the Foundation's programming, including exhibitions, events and publications such as *The Archive*. We have no endowment—like you, we have to operate on the income we receive each year. A reduction in programming would be a great loss to the makers, collectors and researchers of LGBTQ art, but it may be the only solution to ensure our long-term viability.

For the past 19 years, Leslie/Lohman has been the vanguard in exhibiting, preserving and promoting explicitly gay art—there is no other organization in the world like us. With our collection of more than 4,000 artworks spanning three centuries of gay and lesbian art; frequent exhibitions of contemporary and historical LGBTQ artists; *The Archive*, the only publication of its kind dedicated to the discussion of gay art and artists; lectures, tours and other special events; the Leslie/Lohman Gay Art Foundation is the premier source for anyone interested in the rich art legacy of the LGBTQ community and its influence on and confrontation with the mainstream art world.

The Leslie/Lohman Gay Art Foundation needs your support! We realize that the economic downturn of the past year has affected everyone's ability to make charitable contributions. If your budget still allows you to support your favorite organization(s), we hope you will choose Leslie/Lohman as a recipient. Please make a tax-deductible donation of \$100 or \$50 or any amount you can afford.

With appreciation,
LL Board of Directors