



POST-  
CARD  
KIT

# apan POSTCARD KIT

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ARTISTS are a powerful voice and can speak out as a huge community of voters.

Artists Political Action Network (APAN) supports the act of postcard writing to representatives. A hand-made, physical postcard cannot be ignored. APAN uses branded blank postcards for participants to not only write a personal message but also create a unique image on the blank side of the postcard. Postcard writing workshops are a standard activity at each APAN event.

This kit offers the opportunity to create an postcard writing workshop in solidarity with APAN at your home, school, or office. A workshop is a great way to gather, discuss the issues, have fun, and take action!

## GOALS

- send out postcards to representatives who will vote on important issues moving toward policy legislation
- through a network of networks, engage more artists in this interactive form of activism
- stand out with a piece of snail mail—rare in the age of emails, texts, social media, and calls

## YOU WILL NEED

- workshop time (1-2 hours)
- a printer or access to a printer/print service (FedEx Office)
- cardstock paper for postcards
- some drawing tools (pencils, pens, markers, other)
- postage stamps for postcards (check current postcard rates)
- a “Take Action” sheet of issues you’d like to write representatives about with the postcard. They can be Federal issues that affect all in America or local issues that affect your community.

This kit provides an activity that can enhance any gathering. It can also be a learning opportunity for youth to participate in grassroots activism. The gathering can be any size—from a few friends to a large convening. The goal is to make postcards that stand out and get the point across.

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Many times, there are time sensitive issues where a vote by a government representative can lead to positive or negative policy and/or legislation. It is up to the constituents of these representatives to voice their opinions. There are 4 easy steps:

## 1. PREPARE TAKE ACTION SHEET

Create a “Take Action” sheet with one or more issues to present at your gathering.

Here are some helpful sources:

[indivisible.org](http://indivisible.org)

[www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/](http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/)

[NEA.org](http://NEA.org) (National Education Association—take action section)

[artsforla.org](http://artsforla.org)

[whoismyrepresentative.com](http://whoismyrepresentative.com)

## 2. PRINT OUT POSTCARDS

Take the postcard template page from this kit and either print it out on your own home printer or go to a local printing/copier service (ex: FedEx Office or Staples) and print out your postcards. Cut them to size with either a paper cutter or by hand with scissors.

## 3. HOSPITALITY

- provide food/drinks at your workshop
- provide the necessary drawing and writing implements (pencils, pens, markers, other)
- provide printed labels with representatives names and addresses
- mail finished postcards; collect at the end and place in the mail

## 4. FEEDBACK TO APAN

Please send an email to [info@artistspoliticalaction.org](mailto:info@artistspoliticalaction.org) with:

- a summary of your event
- a description of what issues were the focus
- the amount of postcards created and mailed

If there were any pictures taken, we would love them for our records to track the impact we are making as an organization.

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