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Endowment Advisory Panels (1976)

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## Endowment Advisory Panels (1976): Report 02

Claiborne Pell

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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

The Arts & Humanities program is aimed at helping to create a climate in which these two most important and related cultural areas may flourish. I believe the Arts Endowment and the Humanities Endowment have made great progress in fostering this climate.

When we ~~look~~ consider the level of our government's support for the arts and ~~the~~ relative parity of emphasis on the humanities and <sup>our</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>contributions</sup> ~~work~~ of our nation's scholars prior to enactment of this legislation in 1965, and when we look at the wide variety of programs both Endowments -- guided by their eminently qualified private citizen councils -- have initiated, we can see how much ~~has~~ <sup>been</sup> this legislation has advanced our

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nation's well-being.

Young artists and scholars  
have been aided, <sup>the</sup> many established  
ones have been given <sup>national</sup> recognition  
and encouragement to pursue  
their work, innovative programs  
have stemmed from the knowledge  
and wisdom of the two cohorts  
and from the leadership ~~that~~ the  
chairmen have provided. Great  
art organizations in dire financial  
stress have been assisted or  
rescued and given a new lease on  
life. Before this law came  
into being only a handful of  
states had ~~any~~ any sort of  
program to support the arts.  
Now each state has an  
established state arts agency,  
granting through matching  
Federal funds and bringing  
more <sup>as my</sup> encouragement to

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The arts at community & local levels,  
and The Humanities Endowment  
is also working <sup>with the states</sup> in regional areas.

Indeed, we have  
witnessed the <sup>genesis and growth of</sup> climate we  
sought to help create. Through  
"the quality of life" is an often  
used phrase, it is at the very  
basis of this legislation. Only  
in such a climate can our  
artists & scholars <sup>best</sup> contribute  
their talents to society and  
people. And it is in terms of  
this climate that we should  
think of our Bicentennial - not  
just as a goal in itself, but  
as a springboard forward.

Private citizen groups throughout the  
country have lauded this <sup>whole</sup> program  
as of essential and central value  
to our <sup>best</sup> country's future.

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the third century of our nation's life.  
The ~~next~~ <sup>coming</sup> future centuries. In  
my view, only in these terms  
does an actual Bicentennial  
celebration relate to the long-range  
work of the Arts & Humanities  
Program.

~~In summary~~

It is a climate for the  
encouragement of our  
cultural well-being has been  
so assisted - and it has  
grown in ~~status~~ meaning  
and effectiveness, as I  
so strongly believe it has -  
now it should be allowed  
to advance toward its  
full potentials, so that we  
can truly take our place  
among the leading civilizations  
of the world, which throughout  
history have considered, <sup>in</sup> these  
cultural areas have an abiding

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importance and value. History  
has judged traveling organizations  
in these terms, and history  
will judge our own  
civilization as it further  
develops in this fashion.

Let me say in particular  
that I am especially pleased  
that Senator Javits is co-sponsoring  
this legislation. He was  
a pioneer in this area long  
before I became involved  
myself. As we do now,  
he & I have joined together  
in the past, and at the  
inception of this legislation,  
to make possible the  
creation of the arts &  
humanities program and  
to reauthorize its advancement