Endowment Advisory Panels (1976): Report 02

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The Arts and Humanities programme 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 at the level of our government's support for the arts and the relative paucity of emphasis on the humanities and the 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 been achieved.
nurturing well-being.

Young artists and scholars have been aided, many established ones have been given recognition and encouragement to pursue their work, innovation practices have stemmed from the knowledge and wisdom of the two councils 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 sort of program to support the arts. Now each state has an established state arts agency, growing through matching Federal funds and bringing more encouragement to
United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

The arts at community and local levels, and the Humanities Endowment, is also working in neglected areas.

Indeed, we have witnessed the climate we sought to help create. Through "The quality of life" is an often-used phrase, it is at the very heart of this legislation. Only in such a climate can our artists and scholars best 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 program as of essential and crucial value to our country's future.
The third century of our nation is like the future centuries. In my view, only in these terms does an actual bicentennial celebration relate to the long-range work of the Arts and Humanities program.

In short,
If a climate for the encouragement of our cultural well-being has been so assisted - even if it has grown in stature 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, chancing the legendary civilizations of the ancient, which throughout history have considered cultural allures races an abiding
importance and value. History has judged teaching capabilities in these terms, and history will judge our careers as it further develops in this fashion.

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