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NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR
THE ARTS

WASHINGTON
D.C. 20506



A Federal agency advised by the
National Council on the Arts

November 1, 1978

MEMORANDUM

TO : Program Directors

FROM: Livingston L. Biddle, Jr. *L.B.*

The National Endowment for the Arts and the U.S. Office of Education are exploring the establishment of a joint position to assist in carrying out the "arts in education" objectives of both Federal agencies.

The discussions to develop the dual-agency position are being coordinated by the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities of which both the Arts Endowment and the Office of Education are members.

The basic objective for the joint position is to permit greater flexibility, in a structural way, for the two agencies to work together on mutually-shared goals: to increase the opportunities for arts experiences in education and to help implement the upcoming report of the Endowment's Task Force on the Education, Training, and Development of Professional Artists and Arts Educators.

The discussions between the two agencies are centered around designing the new position so as not to disrupt and/or confuse existing programs related to arts in education at either the Endowment or the Office of Education.

Both the Office of Education and the National Endowment for the Arts are genuinely excited about the concept of a greater sharing of interests and expertise through the mutually-shared position...a position which has been agreed upon in principle by the two Federal agencies.

It is felt that a new, jointly-shared position, would result in a higher degree of cooperation, communications and coordination, and would substantially assist the two agencies