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6-23-1989

## Obscenity: Andres Serrano Controversy (1989): Correspondence 07

John M. Ludwig

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# NATIONAL INSTITUTE *for* MUSIC THEATER

*Advancing Opera and Musical Theater* 89 JUN 26 AM 10:53

June 23, 1989

Senator Claiborne Pell  
335 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

I know you are concerned about the Mapplethorpe/Serrano flap, and I thought you might want a copy of the enclosed letter in which I ask Rep. Yates to reconsider the prohibition on sub-grants as a suitable response to the complaints of Rep. Arney and his colleagues.

Prohibiting sub-grants will not stop NEA panels from recommending support for artists whose work is challenging and, at times, offensive. It will deprive the NEA of many productive Public/Private partnerships and it will severely diminish the amount of support America affords its outstanding young artists.

Sincerely,



John M. Ludwig  
Executive Director

cc: Alexander Creary

*Best - as always - from Pamela and myself to you.  
Diana and the family - J.*