

1976

Arts, Humanities, Museums: Background (1973-1976): Correspondence 03

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5-~~8~~-76

Liu -

This is what I
am giving Greg -
I left me a part
for him. He is talking
about putting in some
non-matching money
part.

Margaret

United States Senate

Respectfully referred to:

Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested. Your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with return of the enclosure, will be appreciated by

U.S.S.

The Bicentennial Era Challenge Grants-in-Aid Program

Sec. (a) The congress finds (1) that the continued vitality of our representative democracy is dependent upon a renewed commitment to, and understanding and strengthening of, the principles underlying the Constitution, (2) that the period between the two hundredth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the two hundredth anniversary of the Constitution is an appropriate time to insure such vitality by assessing where our society and Government stand in relation to founding principles and determining the most effective ways to set and pursue goals appropriate to American and its citizens in the third century and (b) that, while the commemorative efforts regarding the Bicentennial of the Declaration of Independence have been largely celebratory in nature, the observance of the Bicentennial of the Constitution should be primarily focused on projects which will bring together the public and private sectors in an effort to find new processes for solving problems facing our Nation in its third century.

(b) It is the purpose of this title to establish the Bicentennial Era Challenge Grant program and to establish the National Endowment for the Humanities as the administrator of the Bicentennial Era Challenge Grant Program.

Sec. The Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, in order to carry out the responsibilities of the Endowment with regard to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life, is authorized, in accordance with the provisions of this title, to establish and carry out a program of grants-in-aid to groups and individuals to assist in developing or supporting projects and programs which--

(1) maintain and strengthen democratic processes and institutions through encouraging citizen participation in such processes and institutions;

(2) develop fresh insights and approaches to resolving social, political and economic problems (in an integrated manner) which confront America in her third century,

(3) develop new approaches for citizen involvement in the democratic system and to fashion such approaches to make participation in the decision-making processes compatible with the daily lives of all Americans who desire to participate.