

11-17-1978

## Kerr, John Hoare (1978-1984): Correspondence 45

Claiborne Pell

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 17, 1978

APR 16 1979

Honorable Joseph Califano, Jr.  
Secretary  
Department of Health, Education,  
and Welfare  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Califano:

As you know, I have a great interest in the relationship of arts and education. In this regard, I write to recommend to you my fellow Rhode Islander, John Hoare Kerr, outgoing Director of Education at the National Endowment for the Arts, for the newly announced post for a "Senior Official" who will work for both the Endowment and the Office of Education arts education programs.

John has served in the arts education area with distinction for almost a decade and has initiated some very innovative programs. I am very hopeful his services will be available to this Administration and take pleasure in recommending him to you.

All best wishes.

Ever sincerely,



Claiborne Pell

Enclosure

NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR  
THE ARTS

WASHINGTON  
D.C. 20506



A Federal agency advised by the  
National Council on the Arts

February 6, 1979

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Under John Hoare Kerr's direction, the Education Program at the Endowment has become most important in the development of the values of the arts in our nation's education process.

Particular attention is given to the Artists-in-Schools Program, (AIS). This pioneering effort has become clearly recognized for its effectiveness and has achieved international stature in the U.S. and in the United Kingdom and other countries\*.

The AIS Program was started some ten years ago under John's leadership and involved the cooperative efforts of artists, educators, administrators and parents working with the Endowment, the U.S. Office of Education, national arts education groups and State Arts Agencies in cooperation with state and local education agencies. The U.S. Office of Education has given emphasis in its own ESAA (Emergency School Assistance Act) to the concepts developed in the AIS model with great success.

The well-known sculptor, Ruth Asawa Lanier, has stated that the work accomplished in Education with John Kerr will serve as the real basis for all constructive future endeavors. Among many other commendations, the Music Educators National Conference has praised his work in bringing together artists and educators in an increasingly beneficial way.

The U.S. Congress has noted the achievements of the Artists-in-Schools Program, specifying it as one of the Endowment's most successful programs. Referring to the results of his skillful administration of programming, Janet Baker Carr of the Harvard University Institute in Arts Administration noted Mr. Kerr leaves the world a better place for his having served as Director of Education at the National Endowment for the Arts.

*Livingston L. Biddle, Jr.*  
Livingston L. Biddle, Jr.

\*Through cooperative pilots with the Dept. of Defense...  
outside the U.K.