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Jean Osowski

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Ed

The Rhode Island Civic Chorale & Orchestra

Room No. 422, 334 Westminster Mall, Providence, Rhode Island 02903, (401) 521-5670

FOUNDER: LOUIS PICHIERRI

PRESIDENT: STANLEY OSOWSKI

MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR: DR. EDWARD MARKWARD

January 5, 1990

The Honorable Claiborne Pell
The Senate, 335 Russell Senate Bldg.
Washington, DC. 20510

Dear Senator Pell:

The Civic Chorale has received notification of grant of \$2,160 from the New England Foundation for the Arts.

The grant program, Meet the Composer/New England, will support in part our joint venture with Mr. Paul Nelson, composer, a Providence resident.

"Cantata Psalmorum" by Paul Nelson, for chorus, orchestra and soloists will be performed on Saturday, March 17th, 1990.

The N.E. Foundation for the Arts includes as members both the National Endowment on the Arts and our own R.I. State Council on the Arts. We are most appreciative of the help that we are receiving. As these are in part NEA funds, the Chorale wishes to thank you personally as our Senator for continuing to support funding that makes it possible for us to bring programs such as commissioning of a new work to the people of Rhode Island.

The Civic Chorale has applied to the NEA directly for a choral grant for the 1990/91 season for general operating support. We will be performing Elie Seigmeister's "I Have a Dream" as part of the celebrations for Martin Luther King's birthday. It will be part of our second concert of the season. We hope to work closely with the Commission that organises the events during the weeklong celebrations and have been in touch by letter with the chairman, State Senator Castro.

You may not be aware of the fact that in 1988 the NEA awarded the amount of \$2,800 for choral grants to Rhode Island. Of the total sum awarded nationwide, \$450,000, N.E. choruses received \$23,700. Of that amount five Boston chorales received the lion's share and Connecticut the rest, with the exception of the grant to the Westerley Chorale.

Apart from a part-time manager we are a volunteer organisation and grantwriting is handled by volunteers at the present time. For the Civic Chorale it is of great importance that we can state "supported in part by a grant from the NEA", when applying for funds to other foundations. It sets a seal of recognition.

Life Members:

Dr. Marisa Allegra
Prof. Arlan Coolidge
Mr. Ernest Falciglia

Mrs. Robert H. I. Goddard
Mrs. C. Woodbury Gorman
Mrs. Jay Isenberg

Mrs. John Lawson
Miss Beatrice Ward
Mrs. Russel C. Wiley

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We sent in our application last July 1989, if we are successful we will know by March 1990, and will use the funds for the concert in January 1991. Any assistance you can give in helping to get more funding into Rhode Island, especially through our current application with the NEA, would be appreciated.

We would be happy to meet with you or your staff at any time convenient to furnish any further information you may require.

Respectfully Yours,


Jean Osowski

Grants Committee

cc: RISCA
NEFA
File.

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