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February 3, 1983

Mr. David Marshall
Executive Director
Westerly Center for the Arts
119 High Street
Westerly, Rhode Island 02891

Dear Mr. Marshall:

I am sending along a copy of the guidelines for an exciting new program being initiated in 1983 by the National Endowment for the Arts. It is known as the Test Program of Support for Local Arts Agencies and, though limited in scale this first year, it has tremendous potential for local arts organizations such as yours in future years.

During the reauthorization of the National Endowment for the Arts in 1980, I explored the status and potential of the local agencies and found that, if the Federal dollars and some encouragement were provided, the arts at the local level would gain in every possible way. The Endowment initiative is an important step in this direction.

Should you decide to apply under this test program, please be sure to let me know as I would be delighted to support a Rhode Island proposal.

With warm regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

enclosure

AC/ap