

Pell Letters (1978)

Education: National Endowment for the Arts
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Claiborne Pell

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June 7, 1978

Honorable Humphrey J. Donnelly III
Mayor
City of Newport
City Hall
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

Dear Harp:

Thank you for your letter with your thoughts on establishing a cultural development office within the Newport municipal structure. Alexander Crary, of my staff, has filled me in on his talk with Alex Walsh.

I would like to assist you in any way I can, but I know that locating a source of funds in the Federal government for such a venture may take some time and certainly will prove very difficult.

As a start, I recommend that you contact Mr. Henry Putsch, who is the Director of the Federal-State Partnership Division at the National Endowment for the Arts. His address is 2401 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20506. This division makes grants available on a matching basis to State arts agencies for the development of community arts programs. The Rhode Island State Council on the Arts should be able to advise you on just how to approach this division.

An application could also be made to the Rhode Island State Council itself. If the Council is unable to meet your full request, perhaps a smaller grant would get your project underway while other sources are pursued.

Since you emphasize the economic aspect of such a venture, you might want to contact Mrs. Louise Wiener, who is Special Assistant for Cultural Resources at the U.S. Department of Commerce. She should be able to suggest funding sources as well as provide ideas on structure and programs for a cultural development office.

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Please keep me informed as to your progress and be sure to let me know if a grant application is made, because I would be happy to add my support.

Again, thanks so much for your letter, and please do not hesitate to call on me whenever you think I can be of help to you.

Warm regards.

Yours,
Ever sincerely, ever

Claiborne Pell

AC:CF
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