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May 23, 1978

Mrs. Duncan M. Spencer
Brooklyn Botanic Garden
1000 Washington Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11225

Dear Mrs. Spencer;

Thank you for your letter ~~with~~ your thoughts about botanical gardens as deserving of support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

As you know, the Institute of Museum Services was established to help museums in areas of general operational need. Botanical gardens are specifically included in the legislation as institutions that are eligible to apply to the Institute. The largest grant in the first years will be limited to \$25,000.

Your argument about whether or not botanical gardens are arts institutions is an interesting one and is certainly worth pursuing with Livingston Biddle or his Deputy Chairman for Programs, Miss Mayy Ann Tighe.

With warm regards.

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell
Chairman
Subcommittee on Education,
Arts, and Humanities

q
AC:CF