

1980

Letters (1980): Correspondence 131

Claiborne Pell

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File: Jeffrey James
Center for the Arts
Westerly, R.I.

August 20, 1980

Honorable Livingston L. Biddle
Chairman
National Endowment for the Arts
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Mr. Chairman:

It has come to my attention that The Center for the Arts in Westerly, Rhode Island has recently submitted a grant application to the Presenting Organizations category of the Special Projects Program at the National Endowment for the Arts.

The \$11,000 sum which is being sought from the Endowment will assist the Center with an important audience development project. The project will attempt to broaden the Center's audience by focusing on three key areas, 1) educating personnel in better promotional skills, 2) recruiting more volunteers and 3) streamlining administrative practices that deal with audience development.

Since it was founded six years ago, the Center for the Arts has had a remarkable string of successes which make it today one of Rhode Island's leading cultural organizations. It is administered well and has the loyal support of its community. I am confident that the relatively small grant from the Endowment will be put to the best use possible by the Center and ultimately show an impressive return on the investment.

I am strongly supportive of this grant request and sincerely hope that, after careful consideration, the Endowment will act favorably on it.

With warm regards.

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

AC/ap