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Livingston L. Biddle Jr.

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# NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

## WASHINGTON D.C. 20506



A Federal agency advised by the National Council on the Arts

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Q (97)

June 7, 1978

Honorable Claiborne Pell United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pell:

Thank you for your letter in support of Theater by the Sea, which has applied to the National Endowment for the Arts for assistance under the Architecture, Planning and Design Program and the Theatre Program.

I am pleased to inform you that Theater by the Sea's application to the Theatre Program has been recommended for funding by the National Council on the Arts, and is currently undergoing a detailed final review. As soon as this process is completed, we will send your office an official notification.

Theater by the Sea's application to the Architecture Program under the Cultural Facilities Research and Design category was reviewed by the Cultural Facilities Advisory Panel in March. The Panel's recommendations were then brought before the May meeting of the National Council on the Arts. The review process was a long and careful one, involving many difficult decisions, since the volume of worthwhile applications substantially exceeded the amount of funding available for this category. I regret that Theater by the Sea's application was not among those finally recommended for assistance.

The staff of the Architecture Program has been in touch with the Theater by the Sea staff to discuss this decision, and to let them know that the Endowment would welcome another application from Theater by the Sea.

I understand that Theater by the Sea intends to submit another application to the Architecture Program, and will do so by the June deadline. If there is any further information you may need, please do not hesitate to contact my office. You may be sure that, if Theater by the Sea applies once again to the Architecture Program, their application will be given careful consideration.

Thank you for your continued interest in the National Endowment for the Arts.

Sincerely,

Livings ton Biddle, Jr. Biddle

Chairman