The original documents are located in Box 3, folder "Blue Ribbon 400 Luncheon, Los Angeles, California, April 2, 1975" of the Francis K. Pullen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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REMARKS

APRIL 2, 1975

THANK YOU SO MUCH. THE LUNCHEON HAS BEEN WONDERFUL, AND I HAVE THOROUGHLY ENJOYED MEETING AND VISITING WITH ALL OF YOU. MRS. CHANDLER, I THANK YOU AND ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE BLUE RIBBON 400 FOR INVITING ME TO BE A PART, THE HONOR HAS BEEN TRULY MINE.

This is an event for sometime I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR LUNCHEON but also Not only ~~BOTH~~ BECAUSE OF MY INTEREST IN THE ARTS AND BECAUSE OF MY GREAT ADMIRATION FOR YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS. I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE RAISED OVER $4 MILLION dollars FOR THE MUSIC CENTER OVER THE PAST 6 YEARS. YOU really DESERVE TO BE CALLED "AMAZING".

AS YOU MAY KNOW, ~~I HAVE SPENT~~ has been spent A GOOD PART OF MY LIFE WORKING WITH CHILDREN IN THE FIELDS OF MUSIC AND DANCE, YOUR FOCUS ON CHILDREN AND THE ARTS CONSEQUENTLY IS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO ME.

I HAVE ALWAYS FELT IT VERY IMPORTANT FOR YOUNGSTERS TO GROW UP WITH THE ARTS AS A VERY INTEGRAL PART OF THEIR LIVES -- TO GROW UP KNOWING MUSIC AND ART AND LITERATURE AS SOMETHING CLOSE TO THEM -- SOMETHING WHICH IS EXCITING AND FUN. Something to grow with — Something to broaden their vision —

YOU APPARENTLY FEEL THE SAME WAY, AND I AM GRATEFUL FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING TO HELP MAKE THIS HAPPEN IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA.

I THINK WHAT MATTERS IS THAT BY OPENING OURSELVES UP TO THE ENDLESS EXPRESSIONS AVAILABLE IN ART, WE OPEN OUR SENSES AND MINDS TO ALL KINDS OF NEW EXPERIENCES. AND THROUGH THIS WE do GROW. THIS IS WHAT MAKES ART SO IMPORTANT.

IT'S A PLEASURE BEING HERE WITH YOU AND BEING ABLE TO BE A PART OF WHAT YOU ARE TRYING TO DO. YOU ARE DOING A

FANTASTIC JOB AND YOU CAN BE ASSURED I WILL BE WATCHING YOUR ACTIVITIES WITH GREAT INTEREST.

Thank you again for allowing me to spend this time with you—

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