

**The original documents are located in Box 71, folder “Schedule Proposals (1)” of the John Marsh Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 24, 1975

APPEARANCE AT EISENHOWER THEATER  
KENNEDY CENTER

Sunday, January 26, 1975  
6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

From: Jack Marsh

I. PURPOSE

To attend the premiere showing of a film, "City Out Of Wilderness" and to participate in the official Bicentennial recognition of this project undertaken by the United States Capitol Historical Society.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS & PRESS PLAN

- A. Background: The United States Capitol Historical Society, of which you serve on the Honorary Board of Trustees, has two major Bicentennial projects: A film entitled "City Out Of Wilderness" and a sound and light production for the East Front of the Capitol Building.

The Kennedy Center showing of the film is its premiere to members of the federal establishment and attendance is by invitation only. Official Bicentennial recognition will be presented to Mr. Fred Schwengel, President of the Society, by John Warner at the end of the film showing.

"City Out Of Wilderness" was made to be shown in the new National Visitor's Center and also will be made available to the media and educational groups.

The film, which is 28 minutes long, shows the District of Columbia as it is today and how the city and the Capitol Building were built. Production of the film was underwritten by a combination of federal and private funding.



Those who participated in the funding were: The National Endowment for the Humanities, The National Park Service, The Ford Foundation, Ford Motor Company, the Rockefeller Foundation, The Washington, D. C. business community, and individual donations.

At this event, Mr. Schwengel will also introduce the National Advisory Board for the Society's second Bicentennial project, "Our Capitol: Freedom Speaks," the sound and light production. You supported this project in a House Joint Resolution in November of 1973. Mrs. Ford serves as Co-Chairperson of this National Advisory Board along with Mr. William M. Batten and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. A list of the National Advisory Board is attached.

B. Participants:

The Honorable Fred Schwengel, President  
United States Capitol Historical Society

The Honorable John Warner, Administrator  
American Revolution Bicentennial Administration

C. Press Plan: Full Press Coverage

III. TALKING POINTS

Speech material being provided by Paul Theis' office.

OUR CAPITOL: FREEDOM SPEAKS CAMPAIGN  
NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

CO-CHAIRPERSONS: The First Lady, Mrs. Ford  
William M. Batten  
Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

MEMBERS: Joe Allbritton  
L. Berkley Davis  
Felix DeWeldon  
Ernest A. Hayes  
Senator Daniel K. Inouye  
Austin Kiplinger  
Goddard Lieberman  
Clare Boothe Luce  
Jane Marilley  
Honorable George Romney

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL FOR THE PRESIDENT

DATE: May 21, 1975

FROM: Ted Marrs *Ted Marrs*

THRU: Jack Marsh *Jack Marsh*

VIA: Warren Rustand

RECEPTION: For Honor America officers and Board of Directors and spouses.

DATE: Week of September 14, 1975.

PURPOSE: To show appreciation to this patriotic group for all their efforts and hard work in the past and particularly in reference to planned Bicentennial activities scheduled for July 3 and 4, 1976.

FORMAT: The Mansion  
List of participants attached  
One hour

CABINET PARTICIPATION: None

REMARKS: To be provided by Ted Marrs.

PRESS COVERAGE: None

STAFF: Jack Marsh  
Ted Marrs

RECOMMEND: Jack Marsh  
Bill Baroody  
Ted Marrs

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: President has met with Mr. Marriott, Chairman, several times but has not participated in meeting with entire group. Mr. Marriott has advised that President agreed with idea of reception but no date set.

BACKGROUND: Honor America, a program of the American Historic and Cultural Society, Inc. originated as one of the greatest patriotic rallies ever staged in America. It was appropriately titled "Honor America Day" and was held on July 4, 1970. This program was a tremendous success.

There was open division, criticism and bitterness heard throughout our land before this rally, but the good result from this display of love for God and Country helped change the tide.

The Honor America Day Committee decided to continue an annual observance each July 4.

They are in the midst of planning their Bicentennial July 3-4 program. The President has agreed to participate in their Kennedy Center Bicentennial program on July 3, 1976. This was stated by Mr. Marriott at a recent meeting.

AGREE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAGREE \_\_\_\_\_

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 27, 1975

To: Donna

From: Maria Downs

Participation list of Honor Americans to  
go with Schedule Proposal for the President.

HONOR AMERICA MEMBERS

OFFICERS

J. Willard Marriott  
Chairman  
5161 River Road  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Vice Chairmen

Hobart Lewis  
Leonard H. Marks

Treasurer

Charles S. O'Malley, Jr.

Secretary and General Counsel

Herbert E. Marks

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C. Robert Yeager  
Charles J. Zwick

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John P. Cosgrove  
927 National Press Building  
Washington, D.C. 20004

GENERAL CHAIRMEN

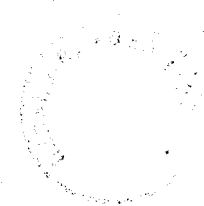
Bob Hope  
Rev. Billy Graham

CONGRESSIONAL SPONSORS

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The Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.  
The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
The Honorable Michael J. Mansfield  
The Honorable Hugh Scott

HONORARY CHAIRWOMEN

Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower  
Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson  
Mrs. Harry S. Truman



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL FOR THE PRESIDENT

DATE: June 6, 1975

FROM: TED MARRS *sem*

THRU: JACK MARSH *gm*

VIA: WARREN RUSTAND

PRESENTATION: To David Eisenhower, Caroline and John Kennedy, and John Augustine Washington  
Of first Bicentennial circulating coins---the quarter, half-dollar, and dollar bearing the likeness of their ancestors

DATE: Before July 7, 1975

PURPOSE: To present the new half-dollar Bicentennial coin and the newly re-designed quarter and dollar

FORMAT: Oval Office or Cabinet Room  
List of participants attached  
15 minutes

CABINET PARTICIPATION: William Simon

SPEECH MATERIAL: Remarks to be prepared by Editorial Division

STAFF: Jack Marsh  
Ted Marrs

RECOMMEND: Jack Marsh  
Ted Marrs  
William Simon  
Mary Brooks

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: The President has received a silver proof set of Bicentennial coins, but has not participated in circulation coin ceremony of any kind

BACKGROUND: The first of the Bicentennial circulating coins, the half-dollar, is scheduled for release on July 7, 1975 to be followed by the newly re-designed quarter and dollar before the end

of the year.

Mary Brooks, Director of the Mint, has suggested that you may like to make a presentation of these historic coins to descendants of President Washington, President Kennedy, and President Eisenhower, whose profile appear on the front of the 1776-1976 dated quarter, half-dollar, and dollar, respectively.

For presentation purposes, the individual silver coins can be attractively contained in lucite and an appropriate plaque attached.

The back of the coins were designed by Jack L. Ahr (quarter), Seth Huntington (half-dollar), and Dennis Williams (dollar), winners of the New Bicentennial Coin Design Contest. The theme was emblematic of the Bicentennial of the American Revolution. The portraits on the front are of Presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, and George Washington. The date inscription on the obverse of the coins was changed by the Mint to 1776-1976 in honor of the Bicentennial year.

PUBLICITY OPPORTUNITY:

Full press coverage

APPROVED:

---

DISAPPROVED:

---

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

John Kennedy  
Caroline Kennedy  
David Eisenhower  
Julie Nixon Eisenhower  
John Augustine Washington  
William Simon  
Mary Brooks  
Jack Marsh  
Ted Marrs  
John Warner



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

OFFICE OF  
DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

June 4, 1975

Dear Mr. President:

It gives me great pleasure to advise you that the first of the Bicentennial circulating coins -- the half dollar -- is scheduled for release by the Federal Reserve System on July 7, 1975, to be followed by the newly re-designed quarter and dollar before the end of the year.

Last November, I had the privilege of presenting you with a silver proof set of the three Bicentennial coins. Now, the thought occurs to me that you might like to make presentations of these historic coins to descendants of Presidents Washington, Kennedy and Eisenhower whose profiles appear on the front of the 1776-1976 dated quarter, half dollar and dollar, respectively.

The designs on the reverses -- a colonial drummer on the quarter, Independence Hall on the half dollar and a combination Liberty Bell and moon on the dollar -- were selected in a national competition.

The Mint, of course, is very proud of these coins. To me, the Bicentennial coins -- like all our coins -- are small pieces of our historical and cultural heritage that will touch the hands of every American man, woman and child and the new designs represent the most important coinage change in the Mint's history.

For presentation purposes, the individual silver coins could be attractively contained in lucite and an appropriate plaque attached. Then, for example, you could present the dollar to President Eisenhower's grandson, David; the half dollar to President Kennedy's children, Caroline and John; and the quarter to John Augustine Washington, a collateral descendant of George Washington.

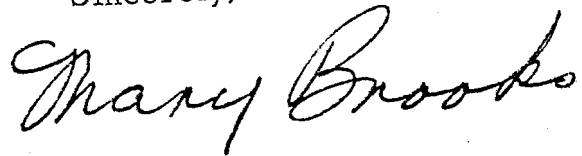


*Keep Freedom in Your Future With U.S. Savings Bonds*

If you consider my suggestion has merit, I would be happy to discuss with a designated member of your staff the various possibilities of a White House Presentation ceremony involving the new Bicentennial coins at a time and date most convenient to you.

Thank you for whatever disposition you make of this request. I know how busy you are during these trying times. My heart goes out to you and I want you to know of my continuing friendship and support. You are doing a great job and I wish you continued success and good health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Brooks". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first letters of "Mary" and "Brooks" being capitalized and prominent.

Mary Brooks  
Director of the Mint

The President  
The White House

THE WHITE HOUSE SCHEDULE PROPOSAL FOR THE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON DATE: June 10, 1975  
FROM: TED MARRS *TCM*  
THRU: JACK MARSH *JM*  
VIA WARREN RUSTAND

MEETING: With religious leaders to accept collection of Prayer Proclamations of America

DATE: Before July 24, 1975

PURPOSE: To receive the first known collection of Prayer Proclamations of America beginning in 1775

FORMAT: Oval Office  
List of participants to be submitted in future 5 minutes

CABINET PARTICIPATION: None

SPEECH MATERIAL: Remarks to be provided by Editorial Division

PRESS OPPORTUNITY: Press Photo opportunity

STAFF: Jack Marsh  
Bill Baroody  
Ted Marrs  
..

RECOMMEND: Jack Marsh  
Bill Baroody  
Ted Marrs  
John Warner  
John Niedecker

OPPOSED: None

BACKGROUND: Peter Stewart, president of the Thanks-Giving Square Foundation, is the man who suggested that the President make the Proclamation on June 12, 1975 designating July 24, 1975 as a "National Day of Prayer, 1975." It was suggested for that date since the first national prayer day was proclaimed for a Thursday in July, 1775, by the Second Continental Congress on June 12, and ties in with the Bicentennial.

Mr. Stewart and others have put together the past proclamations of this nature in a large green leather box with a covering

religious leaders representing many denominations.

This presentation is endorsed by such people as Joseph L. Bernardin, Archbishop of Cincinnati and President of the NCCB, by Dr. Muhammad Abdul Rauf, Director of the Islamic Center, by David E. Sleeper, The Christian Science Board of Directors, and John M. Allin, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. W. Ralph Ward, Jr., of the United Methodist Church, and Anne Armstrong, former Counselor to the President, have also expressed positive opinions on this idea.

These 179 proclamations compose the first known collection of Prayer Proclamations of America.

AGREE: \_\_\_\_\_

DISAGREE: \_\_\_\_\_



June 10, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: TED MARRS  
FROM: RUSS ROURKE

I have the original of the attached schedule proposal.  
I do not know the derivation nor the justification  
of the official "1776-Bicentennial-1976" bed quilt.  
My assumption is that the word official is a personal  
designation by Mr. and Mrs. Fleming.

Do you have any problem with the attached proposal?

RAR:cb



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

TO: RUSS

FROM: NANCY KENNEDY *WK*

Is this okay with you from  
a bicentennial standpoint?

Ta!

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 13, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: RUSS ROURKE

FROM: TED MARRS

There are many people making quilts for the Bicentennial using very attractive designs. One class is working on one that they want to present next year...a woman called about a month ago and practically cried on the phone saying she felt like Betsy Ross sewing away on her quilt...! Also, we have had quite a bit of correspondence on quilts.

If the President receives this quilt and designates it the "official" Bicentennial quilt, we are going to have some angry "Betsy Rosses" on our hands!

I would make decision on basis of Senator Byrd's interest level and would not let it be the official quilt.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

JUN 12 1975

June 10, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: TED MARRS

FROM: RUSS ROURKE *R*

I have the original of the attached schedule proposal. I do not know the derivation nor the justification of the official "1776-Bicentennial-1976" bed quilt. My assumption is that the word official is a personal designation by Mr. and Mrs. Fleming.

Do you have any problem with the attached proposal?



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL  
DATE: 6/9/75  
THRU: MAX FRIEDERSDORF  
FROM: Patrick E. O'Donnell  
VIA: Warren Rustand

MEETING: Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Fleming and Senator Robert C. Byrd (D-W. Va.)

DATE: At the President's convenience

PURPOSE: Senator Byrd will introduce Mr. and Mrs. Fleming who will present the President and Mrs. Ford with an official "1776-Bicentennial-1976" bed quilt.

FORMAT: Oval Office  
The President and Mrs. Ford  
Senator Robert C. Byrd  
Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Fleming  
Patrick O'Donnell

PRESS COVERAGE: White House Photo

BACKGROUND: Although this is a bed quilt, it is also suitable as a wall hanging. There is a map of the U. S. A. in the center with individual State maps around the border.

Senator Byrd, Majority Whip, has requested a brief meeting with the President in order to introduce a West Virginia couple who have put a great deal of work into an official "1776-Bicentennial-1976" quilt.

Senator Byrd normally avoids this kind of a request. Accordingly, we are well advised to accommodate by allowing a brief meeting.

*Marsh copy*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL FOR THE PRESIDENT

DATE: June 20, 1975

FROM: Ted Marrs *TM*

THRU: Jack Marsh *JM*

VIA: Warren Rustand

ATTEND: Premiere performance of American Bicentennial Theatre at the Kennedy Center.

DATE: July 9, 1975

PURPOSE: To commemorate the launching of the American Bicentennial Theatre.

FORMAT: °Eisenhower Theater of the Kennedy Center  
°List of participants attached  
°7:00 PM

CABINET PARTICIPATION: None

REMARKS: To be prepared by Editorial Division.

PRESS COVERAGE: Full press coverage.

STAFF: Jack Marsh  
Ted Marrs  
Bob Goldwin

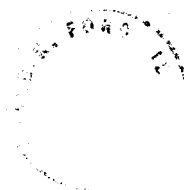
RECOMMEND: Jack Marsh  
Ted Marrs  
Bob Goldwin  
John Warner

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

BACKGROUND: The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts will present a major American Bicentennial celebration as a result of unprecedented funding by private industry.

This celebration will be supported by IBM, Xerox Corporation, Exxon Corporation, Amoco Oil, Prudential Insurance Company of America, Mobil Oil and McDonalds Restaurants. Each will underwrite Bicentennial



programs that will focus worldwide attention on the performing arts in the Nation's Capital.

The Center's Bicentennial season will include an entire year of American plays both old and new, free festivals, scores of special Bicentennial music programs, American musicals and operettas, appearances by internationally renowned American and foreign opera and ballet companies as well as a huge exhibition of the history of the performing arts in America.

The Governments of Canada, Germany, England, France, Italy, Denmark and the Soviet Union are playing major roles in this celebration as a result of invitations extended by our country.

The invitation to the President and Mrs. Ford was extended by Mr. C. Peter McColough, Chairman of the Board of Xerox Corporation and Mr. Roger Stevens, Chairman, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

The performance is Thornton Wilder's comedy, "The Skin of Our Teeth" starring Elizabeth Ashley, Alfred Drake and Martha Scott. It will be followed by a supper on the terrace for the cast and special guests.

AGREE \_\_\_\_\_ DISAGREE \_\_\_\_\_

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The President and Mrs. Ford

Mr. and Mrs. C. Peter McColough

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Stevens



JUN 15 1975

June 3. 1975

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

On Wednesday, July 9, 1975 the Kennedy Center and Xerox Corporation will present the premier production of our American Bicentennial Theatre, the Thornton Wilder comedy "The Skin of Our Teeth" starring Elizabeth Ashley, Alfred Drake and Martha Scott.

This launching of American Bicentennial Theatre is a very significant event in the life of the Center. It marks the first time that the Center itself has undertaken to produce a whole season of plays which has been made possible thanks to a substantial grant from Xerox. As you know it is the policy of the Center to use private funds rather than asking for government support.

C. Peter McColough, Chairman of the Board of Xerox and I will be enormously pleased if you and Mrs. Ford will honor this occasion by being our guests at the premier performance which will take place at 7:00 p.m. in the Eisenhower Theater, followed by a supper on the terrace for the cast and special guests.

Yours sincerely,

*Roger L. Stevens*  
Roger L. Stevens  
Chairman

RLS/dkw

cc: R. Goldwin  
R. West  
N. Lammerding

Washington, D. C. 20566. phone: 202 872-0466

111111 111111 111111  
JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

June 5, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Robin West  
The White House

FROM: Mr. Roger L. Stevens, Chairman

As I mentioned to you before, we have a very important Bicentennial program, which John Warner admits is the only one of substance in the country.

In theatre, Xerox has given us a line of credit up to \$400,000, which will be used to produce ten American plays. The first production, Thornton Wilder's SKIN OF OUR TEETH, will open on July 9th.

Prudential has given us \$163,000 for a production which will feature all types of songs representing different segments of American music.

IBM has given us \$500,000 for an exhibit which will illustrate the history of the performing arts in this country over the past 200 years.

Mobil Oil has pledged sufficient funds to have free concerts during the Christmas season, as we did last year. This grant will be at least \$50,000, if not more. McDonald's is financing a similar series of concerts during the Easter season for approximately \$50,000. Both series will be largely devoted to American music appropriate to the Bicentennial.

Exxon has put up \$200,000 to enable the Center and the National Federation of Music Clubs to present a State Days Program, whereby each of the fifty states will select one of their performing arts groups to come to Washington and perform free concerts at the Kennedy Center. Also, Exxon is giving serious consideration to another large grant to finance other special Bicentennial music events at the Center. I expect to have final word from them on this before such a press conference is arranged.

The Cafritz Foundation has given us a grant of \$175,000 to bring the Bolshoi Opera here in July. In addition, we are bringing the Berlin, Paris and LaScala Operas here during the celebration, which are mostly being financed by their own Governments. As a matter of interest, the Berlin and LaScala Operas will be exclusive to Washington and will not play anywhere else in the United States.

It would be appreciated if you could arrange for the Fish Bowl Room to be used for a press conference in which we could set forth all of these activities in detail. It would be a great credit to the Administration and would show that private enterprise is willing to help a Government Institution in achieving a truly fine Bicentennial celebration. So, if the President could give his official blessing in whatever manner he wishes - whether it be by attending the conference or receiving some press in his office - it would be a great benefit to all concerned.

I know that handling the press announcement in this manner would make the participating companies very happy and might lead to continuing support from them in the future.

D R A F T

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KENNEDY CENTER TO HAVE MAJOR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION  
AS A RESULT OF GENEROUS FUNDING BY PRIVATE INDUSTRY

Washington, D. C., Tuesday, July 8 ...The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts will present a major American Bicentennial celebration as a result of unprecedented funding by private industry.

At a press conference which took place today at the White House, Roger L. Stevens, the Kennedy Center's Chairman of the Board of Trustees, announced that the Center's Bicentennial celebration will be supported by IBM, Xerox Corporation, Exxon Corporation, Amoco Oil, Prudential Insurance Company of America, Mobil Oil and McDonalds Restaurants. Each will underwrite Bicentennial programs that will focus world-wide attention on the performing arts in the Nation's Capital.

The Center's Bicentennial season will include an entire year of American plays both old and new, free festivals, scores of special Bicentennial music programs, American musicals, and operettas, appearances by internationally renowned American and foreign opera and ballet companies as well as a huge exhibition of the history of the performing arts in America.

Mr. Stevens said, "This extraordinary gift to the Nation in its capital was made possible by the unprecedented generosity and cooperation of these great American corporations who were concerned with reflecting the strength and beauty of our American performing

(MORE)

arts. As a result of sending invitations to governments all over the world to participate in our Bicentennial, the Administration helped us enormously. The Governments of Canada, Germany, England, France, Italy, Denmark and the Soviet Union responded, and are playing major roles in our Bicentennial celebration. Mr. Feinstein, our Executive Director of Performing Arts, as a result was able to make arrangements for a two-week Canadian festival, the Berlin Opera, the Royal Ballet, the Paris Opera, La Scala, the Royal Danish Ballet, and the Bolshoi Opera. All these governments contributed substantially to production and transportation costs. We are also grateful for the cooperation of John Warner, Administrator of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration. Also we were fortunate in having the help of The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz and George Gund Foundations. The cooperation of private industry, the Administration, ARBA, and the foreign governments has made it possible for the creation of this major celebration. We are told by John Warner that at the Kennedy Center we will have the most comprehensive Bicentennial celebration of its sort that will be held anywhere in the country."

#### AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL THEATRE

Xerox and the Kennedy Center will launch an entire season of American plays called American Bicentennial Theatre tomorrow (July 5). The opening play is Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy "The Skin of Our Teeth" starring Elizabeth Ashley, Alfred Drake and Martha Scott and directed by Jose Quintero. Nine more productions, featuring top stars and directors are scheduled including Percy MacKaye's "The Scarecrow," a 1901 fantasy drama starring William Athert and Barbara Baxley; the 1894 William Gillette comedy, "Too Much John

starring Jason Robards; Tennessee Williams' "Sweet Bird of Youth"  
starring Irene Worth and Christopher Walken; the George S. Kaufma  
and Edna Ferber comedy "The Royal Family" starring Rosemary Harri  
"Rip Van Winkle" starring Anthony Quayle; and Eugene O'Neill's  
"Long Day's Journey into Night" directed by Jose Quintero and  
starring Jason Robards and other plays possibly including some  
commissioned works.

MAJOR BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION

IBM has provided a grant to the Center for a major Bicentennial exhibition. Called "AMERICA ON STAGE: A Bicentennial Exhibit of the Performing Arts," it will reflect the history and development of the performing arts in the United States. The exhibit is scheduled to open in late Fall and will be housed in the Center's Atrium, a multi-purpose room and North Gallery.

"AMERICA ON STAGE" will portray a spectrum of entertainment from Colonial days to the present including theatre, dance and music. It will be the most extensive exhibit presented at Kennedy Center since its opening in 1971 and will be located on the roof terrace level.

MUSIC PROGRAMS AND FESTIVAL

Exxon is underwriting a 20-month "Bicentennial Parade of American Music" as well as an important retrospective of American music featuring the achievements of lesser known composers of the past two centuries. The "Bicentennial Parade," launched last month features free concerts by outstanding music groups from the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The program was conceived and produced for the Kennedy Center by the National Music Council.

(MORE)

major Bicentennial celebration

The retrospective of American music series began last Friday (July 4) with "THE STAR SPANGLED PIANO" a midnight marathon with four pianists performing works for one, two, four and eight hands, ranging from Sebastain Mill's concert paraphrase of "Hail Columbia" to a contemporary work entitled "Quodlibet on American Folk Tunes."

This September 8th, The Prudential Insurance Company of America will sponsor an historical cavalcade in song, dance and legend to be produced by the Kennedy Center. Starring John Raitt and written and directed by Oscar Brand, the production will appear in the Concert Hall for two weeks.

Mobil Oil, which funded Kennedy Center's Holiday Festival last year is currently working with the Center on a special Bicentennial program to be presented free to the public once again spanning the 12 days of the Christmas season.

McDonald's Restaurants last May officially opened the Kennedy Center Bicentennial celebration with a week-long free Spring Festival of American Music. Plans are currently underway for producing a similar series in 1976.

#### INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES

The Kennedy Center has already begun its first Bicentennial Opera Series with a two-week sold-out appearance by the New York City Opera. The Bolshoi Opera and The Berlin Opera will appear in the Center's Opera House in their long-anticipated first American visits. The Bolshoi appearance, made possible by a grant from

(MORE)



The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation will perform for two weeks beginning July 22nd in five of its most famous productions - Eugene Onegin, Pique Dame, Boris Godunov, War and Peace and The Gambler. An exciting new work, The Dawns Are Quiet Here will also be presented. The Berlin Opera will make its only appearance in America at the Kennedy Center bringing three productions: Lohengrin, Tosca and Cosi Fan Tutte. Also scheduled for 1976 are the first and exclusive appearances of La Scala Opera, Milan and Paris Opera.

Kennedy Center's Bicentennial Ballet Series will include appearances by London's famed Royal Ballet, the Royal Danish Ballet and the American Ballet Theatre. Funding for the Royal Danish Ballet's appearance will be provided by the George Gund Foundation.

Beginning on October 26, 1975, the Canadian Government and the Kennedy Center will present a two-week Festival of theatre, ballet and music. The Canadian Government will send The Royal Winnipeg Ballet, The National Arts Centre Orchestra, The Mendelssohn Choir with Canadian Brass, The Shaw Festival and two opera companies, the National Arts Centre Opera and the Canadian Opera Company to Washington in the largest single enterprise of its kind ever undertaken by Canada.

#### VISITING MUSICALS

A number of American musicals are tentatively scheduled to play Kennedy Center's Opera House in the course of the season:

(MORE)

by Harold Prince; 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, a new musical by Leonard Bernstein with lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner; REX, a new Richard Rogers-Sheldon Harnick musical, and a new musical version of Shakespeare's Hamlet by composer-lyricist Cliff Jones are planned.

#### RESIDENT COMPANIES

In addition to attractions produced or presented by the Kennedy Center resident companies such as the National Symphony Orchestra and Washington Performing Arts Society will have their own Bicentennial projects on the Center's stages.

The Washington Performing Arts Society's bicentennial program made possible by a grant from the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation will feature gifted young American pianists in a series of concert of specially commissioned American works. The National Symphony will play specially commissioned works and plan their concerts to highlight American composers throughout the bicentennial period.

#### OTHER EVENTS

It is important to note that practically every day of the Bicentennial, visitors will be able to have their choice of Bicentennial events. In addition to all the attractions already announced, there will be free seminars, symposiums, other free concerts in the Grand Foyer, free organ demonstrations as well as our usual free tours of the Center.

The Friends of the Kennedy Center, The Alliance for Arts Education, the National Park Service and the National Endowment for the Humanities will all be heavily involved in supporting one or more of these projects.

*Marsh copy*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL FOR THE PRESIDENT

DATE: June 20, 1975

FROM: Ted Marrs *TM*

THRU: Jack Marsh *gm*

VIA: Warren Rustand

MEETING: With sponsors of American Bicentennial Theatre and representative members of the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

DATE: July 8, 1975 (first choice)  
July 7, 1975

PURPOSE: To discuss the American Bicentennial Theatre, a major year long presentation of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Meeting to be followed by a Roger Stevens press conference in the White House.

FORMAT: °Oval Office or Cabinet Room  
°List of participants attached  
°15 minutes

CABINET PARTICIPATION: None

REMARKS: To be prepared by Editorial Division.

PRESS COVERAGE: Press Photo Opportunity

STAFF: Jack Marsh  
Ted Marrs  
Ron Nessen  
Bob Goldwin

RECOMMEND: Jack Marsh  
Ted Marrs  
Ron Nessen *KHW*  
Bob Goldwin *RAG (Q)*  
John Warner

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

BACKGROUND:

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts will present a major year long American Bicentennial celebration as a result of unprecedented funding by private industry.

This celebration will be supported by IBM, Xerox Corporation, Exxon Corporation, Amoco Oil, Prudential Insurance Company of America, Mobil Oil and McDonalds Restaurants. Each will underwrite separate programs.

Canada, Germany, England, France, Italy, Denmark and the Soviet Union are playing major roles in this celebration as well as all elements of the American performing arts.

It would be extremely beneficial if the President recognized this endeavor by meeting with the representatives of private industry and the John F. Kennedy Center who made it possible.

The program would also receive important impetus if a press conference with Roger Stevens could be held in the White House Press Room following the above meeting.

AGREE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAGREE \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Frank T. Cary, President and Chief Executive Officer  
International Business Machines Corporation  
Old Orchard Road  
Armonk, New York 10504  
(914) 765-1900

Mr. C. Peter McColough, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer  
Xerox Corporation  
Stamford, Connecticut 06904  
(203) 329-8711

Mr. Donald S. MacNaughton, Chairman of the Board  
Prudential Insurance Company of America  
Prudential Plaza  
Newark, New Jersey 07101  
(201) 336-1234

Mr. J.K. Jamieson, Chairman of the Board  
Exxon Corporation  
1251 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10020  
(212) 974-3000

Mr. Fred L. Turner, President  
McDonald's Corporation  
1 McDonald's Plaza  
Hinsdale, Illinois 60521  
(312) 887-3200

Mr. W.R. Pierson, President  
Amoco Oil Company, Inc.  
200 East Randolph Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60601  
(312) 856-5111

Mr. Rawleigh Warner, Jr., Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer  
Mobil Oil Corporation  
150 East 42nd Street  
New York, New York 10017  
(212) 883-4242

Mr. Rogers Stevens  
Chairman  
John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL FOR THE PRESIDENT

DATE: JULY 16, 1975

FROM: TED MARRS

THRU: JACK MARSH *gjm*

VIA: WARREN RUSTAND

ATTEND: New York opening of "The Age of Franklin and Jefferson" exhibit produced by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration

DATE: March 5, 1976

PURPOSE: To head the official delegation to the opening of this widely acclaimed Bicentennial exhibit in the United States

FORMAT: Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, New York  
List of official delegation will be submitted at a later date  
3 hours

CABINET PARTICIPATION: None

SPEECH MATERIAL: To be provided by the Editorial Division

STAFF: Jack Marsh  
*gjm* Ted Marrs  
Milt Mitler

RECOMMEND: Jack Marsh  
Bill Baroody  
Robert A. Goldwin  
Ted Marrs  
Milt Mitler

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

PRESS COVERAGE: Full press coverage

BACKGROUND: The concept of the exhibit spans 130 years of American history (1700-1830)--- from the roots of the American colonial experience and its European heritage to the point when the young Nation was about to make its great move westward. It

shows how the careers of Franklin and Jefferson intersected at important times, especially during the preparation of the Declaration of Independence; during the Revolution; and during the early stages of our Constitutional government.

The exhibit was designed for the ARBA by the distinguished American architect and film maker, Charles Eames. The ARBA is presenting this exhibit in cooperation with the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York through a grant from the private sector (IBM). It is the only exhibit sponsored by ARBA overseas and is being managed and operated abroad by U. S. I. A.

"The Age of Franklin and Jefferson" exhibit opened in Paris on January 10, 1975. It is now being presented in Warsaw, Poland and will go to London, England in September. After coming to New York, which will be its first United States appearance, the exhibit will proceed to Chicago and San Francisco. The exhibit has been breaking all attendance records set by previous showings.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL FOR THE PRESIDENT

DATE: JULY 17, 1975

FROM: TED MARRS *scm*

THRU: JACK MARSH *gm*

VIA: WARREN RUSTAND

MEETING: With the National Commander and other representatives of the Disabled American Veterans

DATE: Between September 10 and September 19

PURPOSE: To receive an official Bicentennial 1975 Sterling Silver medal. To discuss and express appreciation for the part the Disabled American Veterans will play in the sale of these medals which finance Bicentennial projects

FORMAT: Cabinet Room  
List of participants attached  
5 minutes

CABINET PARTICIPATION: None

SPEECH MATERIAL: Remarks to be provided by the Editorial Division

STAFF: Jack Marsh  
Bill Baroody  
Ted Marrs  
Milt Mitler

RECOMMEND: Jack Marsh  
Bill Baroody  
Ted Marrs  
Milt Mitler

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

PRESS COVERAGE: Full press coverage

BACKGROUND: The Disabled American Veterans are a Congressionally chartered organization that represent 2.5 million disabled veterans and their families. The organization provides invaluable assistance in obtaining benefits for disability



compensation, hospitalizations, unemployment and rehabilitation for the veteran injured while in military service. The Disabled American Veterans work closely with the Veterans Administration, Congress, and other Federal units and state agencies responsible for veterans' programs.

The Disabled American Veterans have volunteered to help the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration increase the non-tax dollars needed to help fund thousands of Bicentennial projects by acting as sales agents for the American Bicentennial Administration's official 1975 commemorative Medal and Philatelic-Numismatic combination. They will participate on a nationwide basis. They are the only service organization with a Bicentennial project of this magnitude.

One of the major responsibilities of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration is to help finance projects in every state in the country with non-tax dollars raised by the sale of the Congressionally authorized official Bicentennial medal and other items. Through this means, the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration has been enabled to grant more than \$6,000,000 on a matching basis to Bicentennial projects since 1973.

## PARTICIPANTS

Mr. Walter T. Greaney  
National Commander, Disabled American Veterans and  
National Chairman for the DAV/ARBA Bicentennial program.

Mr. Lyle T. Pearson  
National Senior Vice-Commander, Disabled American Veterans  
and candidate for National Commander, to be elected the  
week prior to this proposed meeting.

Mr. Richard M. Wilson  
Assistant National Adjutant for Public Relations  
Disabled American Veterans

Honorable John W. Warner  
Administrator  
American Revolution Bicentennial Administration

Mrs. Mary Brooks  
Director of the Mint  
U. S. Department of the Treasury

Mr. Sidney Eiges  
Assistant Administrator for Resource Development  
American Revolution Bicentennial Administration

Mr. Henry v. Z. Hyde, Jr.  
Director, Commemorative Sales  
American Revolution Bicentennial Administration

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL FOR THE PRESIDENT

DATE: AUGUST 15, 1975

FROM: TED MARRS *DM*

THRU: JACK MARSH *RKW*

VIA: WARREN RUSTAND

PRESENTATION: Of a replica of the Declaration of Independence in Braille.

DATE: At the President's convenience.

PURPOSE: To present a Bicentennial gift to the nation which represents Mrs. Goldblatt's interest in the educational development of the blind as well as her personal esteem for the President's human qualities.

FORMAT: Roosevelt Room  
15 Minutes  
Participants will include representatives of the prominent national organizations for the blind.  
List will be provided at a later date.

CABINET PARTICIPATION: None

REMARKS: To be provided by the Editorial Division.

PRESS COVERAGE: Full press coverage.

STAFF: Jack Marsh  
Ted Marrs  
Milt Mitler

RECOMMEND: Jack Marsh  
Ted Marrs  
Milt Mitler

OPPOSED: None

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: None

BACKGROUND: Mrs. Goldblatt has voluntarily contributed extensively towards the educational development of the blind and deaf-blind. She undertakes such projects as "a gift of love to humankind" and has received many commendations for her efforts. She

is with the Department of Education at Manhattanville College in Purchase, New York.

The completed document is 30 X 40 in dimension, and is an exact replica of the Declaration of Independence. It incorporates the Liberty Bell, is painted in bronze, has the Government Seal in gold and American blue, and bears the markings of its original counterpart. It will be presented by Mrs. Goldblatt.

Representatives of the national organizations dedicated to the blind will also be invited to witness this presentation. As far as we can determine, there is no other Braille Declaration of Independence in existence.

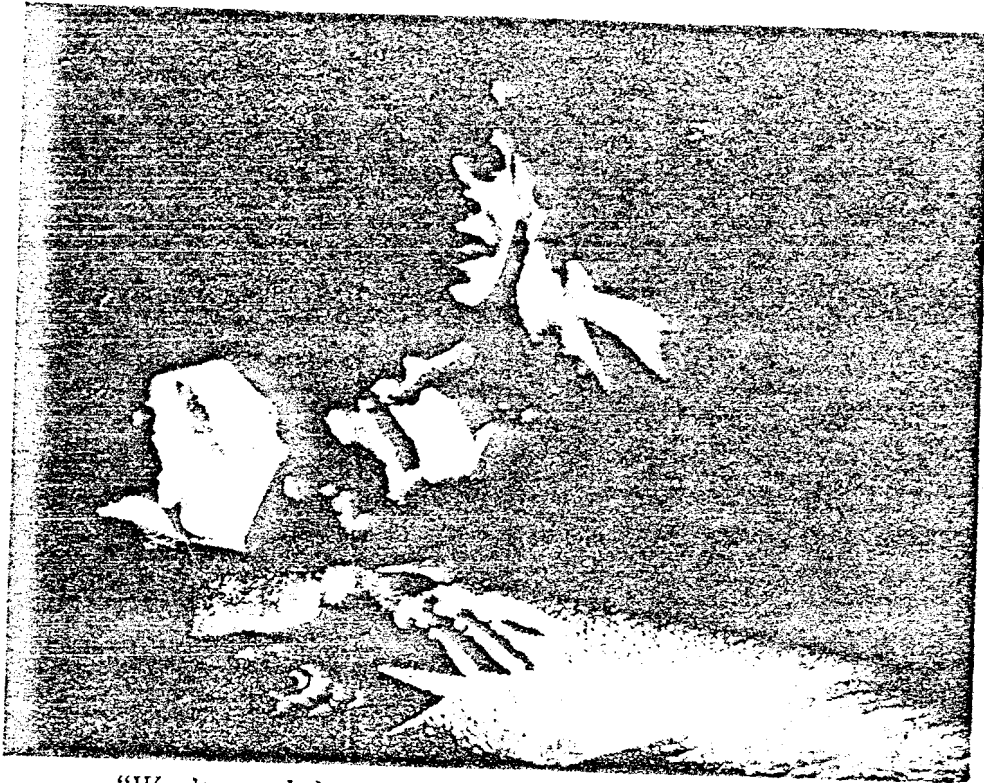
This has exceptional humanitarian values and the preparation of the Declaration of Independence in Braille is a very unusual but laudatory Bicentennial contribution.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

# Braille — A PATHWAY TO KNOWLEDGE



*"Won't you help me continue this much needed work?"*

## *Fights Blindness by Teaching Braille*

DEAR FRIEND AND NEIGHBOR:

The following are facts which must concern us all. In this area . . . Greenwich, Stamford, Darien and New Canaan there are more than fifty blind children under 12 years of age. There is another large number of boys and girls between the ages of 17 and 21 who are also totally blind. There are over 200 adults between the ages of 25 and 65 who are totally blind. There are unknown numbers of blind citizens in our midst above the age of 70 unregistered.

I work among these people. I made it possible for the young children to attend public schools throughout the state by teaching classes, working with their parents and providing trained workers and trained teachers in every community. I also impressed the Governor with the necessity for provision of funds for a Special Services Teacher.

My work with individual students make it possible for their acceptance to schools of higher learning.

For the adult groups I have provided trained women to serve their needs. There are among them professional writers, teachers and other learned individuals whose minds must be kept enlightened. Not only have I done this through the magazine I publish "THE ARC LIGHT", but through special transcriptions to fit the individual needs.

You may be asking, why I tell you these truths. Frankly, I need your help. I know I can't ask each of you to give of your time and energy. I ask only for your help so that I can fill the numerous growing demands and needs of these human beings who live in our midst in a realm of their own darkness. Please! Won't you help by sending a contribution?

Faithfully yours,

CHARLOTTE FAGAN GOLDBLATT

## ENDORSED BY

The Tr. Reverend Walter H. Gray, D.D. — Bishop Diocese of Connecticut  
His Excellency Bishop Walter Curtis — Diocese of Bridgeport  
National League (Women's) — United Synagogues of America

## RECOGNITION

"To light a candle of understanding" between those who can see and those who must go through life in darkness. This is the objective of Mrs. Charlotte Fagan Goldblatt who strictly as a volunteer, heads a state wide program aid for the blind.

HARRY SUTCLIFFE  
Stamford Advocate

Think big and you are a giant. This is the advice of Mrs. Charlotte F. Goldblatt of Stamford, Conn. Strictly a volunteer she has devoted 22 years of her life in a determined effort to help the blind live normal lives.

N.Y. SUNDAY NEWS

"A ball of fire who knows her stuff". That is how Albert N. Sherberg, Executive Secretary of the Connecticut State Board of Education refers to Mrs. L. Jay Goldblatt of Stamford, who unaided has stirred the whole state of Connecticut into activity to help the blind.

DONALD ROSS  
New York Herald Tribune

You must take great pride in the fact that you have prepared the people in this state for such necessary work. I hope we can continue to receive your invaluable knowledge and talents. I must congratulate you for your selection of Centers throughout the state where the Transcribing units have been set up.

GUY MARCHESIO  
Special Services Teacher  
Connecticut State Board of Education

## WORLD WIDE COMMENTS

Prime Minister Nehru has asked me to thank you for the Braille Magazines which you so generously send to our blind people. They are deriving immense benefit from these.

K. RAM I.C.S.  
Principal Premier Secretary to the  
Prime Minister — New Delhi, India

Thanks to your generosity and understanding we now have forty students learning English Braille. I think it is too much work for you to send the Braille lessons in English and explain them in French. I often think of you and the example of your life is for me a comfort and encouragement to continue.

JANINE LECAUT, Director  
American Braille Library—Paris, France

You are certainly doing a great deal to maintain the higher standard of content of Braille magazines and the wonderful work which is so close to your heart. I am sure that the blind all around the world have reason to be grateful to you.

JOHN E. JARVIS  
Royal National Institute—London, England

How pleased I am to hear from someone who has devoted herself to making life pleasanter for the unfortunate ones who cannot see the light of day and the beauties of nature. Please send your magazine to the Society for the Blind here.

NINA ALENEYANA  
North American Radio Service  
Moscow, USSR

"Which she distributes free throughout the world, she has given countless people the opportunity to fulfill their lives . . . To become ministers, lawyers, teachers, musicians. We at Junior League are grateful to her for the course she gives free to our members"

JUNIOR LEAGUE  
Fairfield County

May we congratulate you for the miracle you have performed in your state. You have built an oasis from a barren desert.

DR. GEORGE FREID, *Executive Director*  
Jewish Braille Institute of America  
REV. HARRY SUTCLIFFE  
Council of Episcopal Churches

### LETTERS FROM GRATEFUL RECIPIENTS

Through your generosity in working out Greek and French Braille codes for me you have made it possible for me to qualify for entrance to Purdue University where I hope to get my Ph.D.

REVEREND CHARLES CARSON — Blind  
Louisville, Kentucky

Although I have contacted many organizations I was completely unable to find anyone to help me. I came at last to the point of giving up as I could not keep up with my class. I felt I could not withstand the ordeal of eternal dependency. That you, a perfect stranger should be so willing to provide me with my Braille text books, has given me new hope. No, I promise, I will not give up.

SYLVIA SAMMONS — Blind  
Box 28230 — Furman University  
Greenville, South Carolina

We don't mind telling you that we have been in contact with many people in the past three years. At no time have we met anyone who has shown such earnestness and concern for us.

Many people are aware that we are inmates without sources of income: without financial support or sponsorship: that we do not even have what it takes to purchase a four cent stamp: that we are perishing for assistance. But it seems that some people look without seeing and listen without hearing, and live without caring. And we ask only that someone would care enough to help us set up a Braille unit here in the prison.

We took the liberty of making copies of your letters to us which we sent to various people and organizations. The response has been remarkable. Our chaplain thinks that the story you sent in to the Detroit Press will also help.

We wish there were some tangible evidence of our appreciation to present to you for your help and understanding. But all there is is thanks. We hope that you will look upon it not as a compensating token of your effort in our behalf but simply as a debt we can never hope to repay.

CHARLES E. HANNA 99028  
Michigan State Prison

(I am happy to report that as a result of this a group of prisoners, serving life terms are now taking care of the needs of all the blind children in the State of Michigan.)

You have been a veritable mountain of strength and inspiration to us when we needed encouragement most. Sponsorship and promise of apparently much easier sledding which you made possible does not in the slightest degree lessen our sense of appreciation for all that you have given our program in the past. And we deeply appreciate your generous offer of continued support and advice in the future. We shall certainly take advantage of it.

Sincerely yours,

NEIL L. FINLEY, *Director*  
Special Services, Michigan State Prison  
Middletown, Conn.

You are generous indeed to give your time and energy to help our blind student here without remuneration or compensation for expenses incurred. Ralph is doing very well and he is grateful to you for giving him the chance to study here. I shall continue to ask for your help in special programs. It is such splendid work you are doing.

MOSES BAILEY, Ph.D.  
Nettleton Scholar in the Old Testament  
Hartford Seminary

We are so grateful to you for taking an interest in our students here. We have 45 children who can read grade II Braille. The text books you sent are very helpful. We would be grateful if you could possibly send us 50 copies more of each one.

ELYENA ISSACHAROFF  
Ministry of Education  
Jerusalem



## OTHER ACTIVITIES

Taught for Stamford Board of Education

PETER DURAN (now at Trinity College, Hartford)

CLARISSA CAMPBELL (graduate Connecticut State College)

Provide Greek and Latin text books in Braille for Dr. Adolph Pauli — Professor of Greek Literature at Wesleyan University.

Work with Dr. Moses Bailey at Hartford Seminary Foundation — Divinity Students.

Music copy — Symphonia — Librette — for blind concert pianist in Hartford.

Provided 150 copies each of Holy Hymn and Prayers for (Annual) Retreat for blind women at Villa Marie Convent, Stamford.

Presented Metropolitan Opera Guild with copies of programs in Braille, enabling blind to follow cast in order of appearance, costuming, stage settings and synopsis of the play. If you desire to see these, contact Mrs. Ezio Pinza, Guild Room at the Met.

Presented opera programs to Music Library — New York Lighthouse.

On faculty of Manhattanville College since 1956.

Instructing students from foreign lands in preparation for work with blind in their native lands.

Instructed correspondence course in English Braille through American Library in Paris, France making it possible for young blind foreign students to read American literature.

Conducting Braille classes — Junior League, Stamford.

Working with parents in Westchester.

Publish Braille Magazine "THE ARC LIGHT".

(Available at leading libraries in the U.S.A., including Library of Congress. Also available through Braille libraries in France, England, New Zealand, Italy, Germany, Austria, India, Malaya, Yugoslavia, Jerusalem, Singapore and Russia.)

Chairman Special Board — Stamford Community Council.

Provide Braille scripts for groups of blind dramatic players—  
The Elbee Players, New York.

---

THIS IS THE SECOND SOLICITATION FOR FUNDS IN 22 YEARS TO AID IN CARRYING ON THIS MUCH NEEDED WORK. THE GREATLY ENLARGED SCOPE OF THESE ACTIVITIES HAS MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO CONTINUE WITHOUT ADDITIONAL SUPPORT. WILL YOU HELP?

THANK YOU.

MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE TO:

THE ARC LIGHT, INC.

% CHARLOTTE F. GOLDBLATT, *Director*

Dogwood Lane

Stamford, Conn.

or

% FAIRFIELD COUNTY TRUST

300 Main Street, Stamford, Conn.

Manhattanville College

Department of Special Education  
Reid Hall 4323  
June 4, 1975

JUN 16 1975

TM  
The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
President of the United States  
1600 Pennsylvania  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

The enclosed circular will serve the purpose of establishing my credibility.

As we approach the two-hundredth anniversary of the birth of our beloved nation, my thoughts have been dwelling upon the idea of creating something out-of-the ordinary, but of purpose, to commemorate this most eventful period in the life of every American.

In my work, devoted to the inspired purpose of educational development of the blind and deaf-blind, work which by an uncommon spectacle I undertook not as a means of earning a living but as a gift of love to humankind, it has been my policy annually, to accomplish a specific project pertinent to the sacred sanctum sanctorum of those who live in eternal darkness

I am, at this time, contemplating the creation, in Braille, of an exact replica of the Declaration of Independence incorporating the Liberty Bell, painted in bronze, and the Governmental Seal in gold and American blue, the document bearing the markings of its original counterpart. I should like very much to present it as a gift to the Government in your honor as a mark of my personal esteem. You may then choose its most appropriate permanent place on the wall of history.

If, in any small measure this may be helpful as a gesture of your awareness of the existence of those among us who live in total darkness and as a token of concern of their rights of our common inheritance, that would certainly add to the purpose of this offer to you. Further, if such a gesture can stir the spirituality of our materialistic society the document will have served a three-fold purpose.

I would appreciate hearing from you regarding this matter and I sincerely hope the idea is receptive. With my kindest best wishes to you and your good family, I beg to remain,

Sincerely yours,  
Charlotte Helen Fogar, Gold  
Charlotte Helen Fogar, Goldblatt

Home address: 205 Dogwood Lane  
Stanford, Conn. 06383

(Mrs. L. Jay S.)

AUG 6 1975

Manhattanville College

Department of Special Education  
Reid Hall #323  
July 31, 1975

Theodore C. Marrs  
Special Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Marrs :

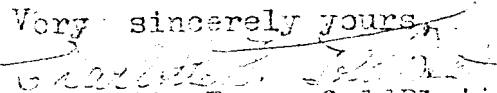
An apology is due for the long delay in acknowledging your very kind letter of June 27, 1975. A seminar and lecture tour intervened and this is my first opportunity to write to you regarding the brailled replica of the Declaration of Independence which I suggested to the President for his Bicentennial display.

It pleases me immensely that the idea appealed to the president and I am confident that the completed document will not only serve the purpose which inspired it, but will also be a thing of beauty to the seeing eye as well as a conversation piece to all viewers.

The offer grew out of my esteem for the president's human qualities and what he, as our leader, represents by precept and example to a nation so recently torn asunder. The family is the launching pad for a concept of loyalty to the whole of our species--a concept which in itself can save us from an ignominious self-destruction so much at variance with the glory of our dimly seen rendezvous with infinity.

In your letter you state that plans are already underway for insurance of an appropriate display of Bicentennial gifts. Perhaps it would be proper for me to state that as near as I can tell at this time, the completed document will be approximately 30X40.

Would you kindly let me know when it should be delivered. Since it is such a meticulous piece of work I am planning to present it in person and also for the purpose of explaining its proper interpretation.

Very sincerely yours,  
  
Charlotte Pagan Goldblatt  
Mrs. L.J.G.