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### Letter, 1982 October 24, from James E. Cheek to Eva Jessye

James E. Cheek

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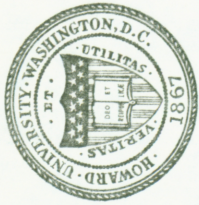
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# HOWARD UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20001

JAMES E. CHEEK  
PRESIDENT

October 24, 1982

## A TRIBUTE TO DR. EVA JESSYE

Dr. Eva Jessye, Howard University is honored to have its Campus graced by your presence and to join with the Association for the Preservation and Presentation of the Arts in paying tribute to you and to your accomplishments. Exceptionally talented, incredibly vivacious, and undeniable redoubtable, you have captured all our hearts and your outstanding contributions to humanity are a source of inspiration to your many colleagues and admirers.

As recently as 1978, spurning the leisure of well-deserved retirement, you answered the call from your native state of Kansas by again wielding your baton. For the next three years --- by then the recipient of the coveted State Medal of Achievement --- you shared your genius with students, faculty and community at the Pittsburgh State University.

Never content to rest on your many laurels, you will always be the "keeper of the score," the reverential title conferred on you during revivals of "Porgy and Bess" some decades after you had served as choral director in Gershwin's most famous and beloved opera.

On behalf of Howard University, I am pleased to salute you and to convey to you our warm and best wishes for your continued enjoyment of life's richest blessings.