

University of Rhode Island DigitalCommons@URI

Community Arts Partnership Act: Correspondence
(1994)

Education: National Endowment for the Arts and
Humanities, Subject Files I (1973-1996)

1994

Community Arts Partnership Act: Correspondence (1994): Correspondence 10

Stephen A. Scott-Martin

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/pell_neh_I_16

Recommended Citation

Scott-Martin, Stephen A., "Community Arts Partnership Act: Correspondence (1994): Correspondence 10" (1994). *Community Arts Partnership Act: Correspondence (1994)*. Paper 6.
http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/pell_neh_I_16/6

This Correspondence is brought to you for free and open access by the Education: National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities, Subject Files I (1973-1996) at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in Community Arts Partnership Act: Correspondence (1994) by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu.

THE FINE ARTS CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AT AMHERST



PROGRAMMING OFFICE

2 Curry Hicks
University of Massachusetts
Box 31810
Amherst, MA 01003-1810

413.545.0190
Fax 413.545.0132

May 2, 1994

The Honorable Claiborne Pell
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pell:

I am writing you to encourage your support for the Community Art Partnership Act as a provision of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (S.1513). This important program would help improve educational performance and future potential at-risk children and youth by bringing the arts to them through partnerships between the schools and community cultural institutions.

I speak from experience. In 9th grade, I was well on my way to a life that would end up in prison. Two of my best friends did. Instead of skipping school one day, I went on a field trip to see the Asolo Theater Company perform Shakespeare's "As You Like It." To say that experience changed my life is an understatement. It gave me one. I have earned a living in the presenting the arts for the last twenty years. I have been in the position to see the positive effect on at-risk youth that the arts can have. Funding this provision will help the schools and cultural agencies fund these important programs at a fraction of the cost of incarceration or rehabilitation.

The University of Massachusetts Fine Arts Center has two programs which this would benefit. One, a pilot project on the elementary school level which will redesign the curriculum around the fine and performing arts with the Springfield schools, and, two, a residency/performance project with the Pittsfield schools which has resulted in the establishment of a Fine and Performing arts cluster of study at the high school level. Both programs however need continuing sources of support. This provision will provide some of the funding mix.

I urge you to support this provision.

Sincerely your,

Stephen A. Scott-Martin
Director of Programming