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Livingston L. Biddle Jr.

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NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

WASHINGTOR D.C. 20506



A Federal agency advised by the National Council on the Arts

October 30, 1979

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

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Dear Senator:

I am writing to follow up on our previous correspondence concerning the application for the Third Round of the National Endowment for the Arts' Challenge Grants Program submitted by the Foundation for Repertory Theatre of Rhode Island.

Applications submitted to the Challenge Grant Program were given very careful consideration, first by the appropriate Advisory Panel, then by the Endowment's principal advisory body, the National Council on the Arts. We received 284 applications requesting \$85 million in Federal funds. Unfortunately, limitations in our available funding made it impossible to support all the fine applications submitted, and the Foundation's application was not among those recommended for assistance in the Third Round. I have enclosed a press release listing Third Round Challenge Grantees for your information.

The Foundation for Repertory Theatre of Rhode Island has been notified of the decision reached on their application, and been assured that we will be pleased to provide any additional information possible.

I am sorry to have to send disappointing news, and I hope that the Foundation will be successful in their financial planning.

Thank you for contacting the National Endowment for the Arts. We very much appreciate your interest.

Sincerely,

Livingston L. Biddle, Jr.

Chairman

Enclosure