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Anne Utter

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Anne Utter

54 Elm Street • Westerly, Rhode Island 02891

Sandy Crary

July 13, 1980

Senator Claiborne Pell
418 Federal Building
Providence, Rhode Island

JUL 16 1980

Dear Senator Pell,

I am writing to you about a project which I believe will appeal to you a great deal. In August, 1981, the Community Chorus of Westerly has been invited to present two services of Evensong at King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England - on August 9 and August 11 - and we have also been invited to sing at Ely Cathedral in honor of its 900th Anniversary, on August 10th.

We will be taking approximately 80 - 100 singers and a chamber orchestra and have been fortunate in arranging housing and board for ourselves at a school in Ipswich in Suffolk. We will have to secure busses.

This is an important event for a Rhode Island Chorus, don't you think? There is of course a bit of a link. George Kent spent several weeks at King's College Chapel, with grant assistance - once in 1968 and again in 1970, and in 1976, when that noble choir came to the US for its first tour ever, it spent a day in Westerly and performed at the Center for the Arts and at Christ Church.

I am writing to inquire - 1) whether the Embassy in London would be able to do anything for the Chorus - some recognition, perhaps, such as a reception to which some musical people would be invited; 2) whether you have any advice about places to perform other than the wonderful ones already scheduled. We will be in England August 6 - 16; and 3) - of course - is there any financial help available? We expect to pay, and we are raising funds ourselves, besides, but some help would be most welcome.

As you know, the Chorus recently applied for a grant from the new NEA Choral Program and was awarded \$4000. That, too, was wonderful news. It also indicates the stability and stature of this chorus.

As you can see, I am very enthusiastic about this group, which I consider one of Rhode Island's leading cultural assets. We will welcome any assistance you can give us in this project.

Sincerely,

Anne Utter

P.S. I still recall with pleasure your day at the Center for the Arts. Your visit was an occasion of importance in the progress of that organization and also, I may add, a memorable occasion for me personally.