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Biddle, Livingston: National Medal of Arts (1994)

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Biddle, Livingston: National Medal of Arts (1994): Article 05

Alan K. Simpson

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ALAN K. SIMPSON

United States Senate

Assistant Republican Ceader

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

December 15, 1991

Honorable John Frohnmayer Chairman National Endowment for the Arts 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear John:

As you will recall, we corresponded last year regarding the nomination of Livingston Biddle for a National Medal of Art. Although he did not receive that great honor last year, he has been nominated again this year, and I am once again pleased to "weigh in" on his behalf. Liv is truly deserving of this recognition, John, and I can certainly recommend him to you without any hesitation or reservation whatsoever.

Liv has contributed greatly to the advancement of the arts during his distinguished career. Among his accomplishments is his service with the Endowment as its liaison with Congress, its Deputy Chairman and later as its Chairman. He knows every facet of the performing arts thoroughly, and he has been a tireless promoter of them at the college, local and national levels. His reception of this award would recognize a lifetime of work and dedication -- and yes, love -- of the arts.

I have known Liv for quite some time -- having met him when I first arrived at the Senate. I immediately took a liking to this marvelous man, and found his knowledge of and dedication to the arts simply fascinating. I have always been amazed by the boundless supply of energy he possesses and the manner in which he would set his goals and accomplish them all -- one by one. I have come to know him over the years, along with Catherina, his wonderful helpmate by his side -- they are a delightful couple that we enjoy so very much.

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Over the years Liv "proved his mettle" time and time again in his ability to organize and establish bipartisan coalitions and broad based partnerships. He truly did a special job here over the years.

When I think of Liv, I recall a steady, thoughtful, powerfully efficient man who can "talk the talk" because he "walks the walk" so very well. He always does what he sets out to do because he always goes the extra mile and commits himself -body and soul -- to his work. I have greatly enjoyed him through my associations with him and our mutual love for the arts.

John, Liv has a good reputation on the "Hill" among my colleagues as a fair, articulate able fellow -- the perfect representative for the arts. I highly recommend him to you and endorse his nomination for the Medal of Art award. You will not find a more highly qualified candidate anywhere.

Respectfully submitted,

Most

Alan K. Simpson United States Senator

AKS:rh