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EUGENE R. SCANLAN

AUGUST 10, 1976

DEAR MRS. FORD,

IT IS ALWAYS A DELIGHT TO WELCOME  
OUR FIRST LADY TO HER NEW YORK HOME.

WISHING THE PRESIDENT AND YOU A  
SWEEPING VICTORY AT NEXT WEEK'S CONVENTION,  
I AM,

SINCERELY

Gene



MRS. GERALD R. FORD

APARTMENT 30-A

**Eugene R. Scanlan**  
**The Waldorf-Astoria**  
**New York, N.Y. 10022**



EUGENE R. SCANLAN  
VICE PRESIDENT AND MANAGER

*The Waldorf-Astoria*

A HILTON HOTEL  
NEW YORK 10022

(212) ELDORADO 5-3000

FRANK G. WANGEMAN

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER  
THE WALDORF-ASTORIA CORPORATION  
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WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
Schedule	Proposed Schedule - Mrs. Ford's Trip to New York City (4 pages)	8/5/1976	B

File Location:  
 Betty Ford Papers, Box 16, "8/10/76 New York City" JNN-7/30/2018

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Suggested Remarks, Ellington-Ailey Opening Night

In this very special year, we honor those original and daring dreamers who created and won our first Revolution. This marriage of the music of Duke Ellington and the dance of the Alvin Ailey Company celebrates what America cherishes most---those who reach for the stars.

In music, in dance, in all of life---it is the Revolutionaries who chart new territory for us to explore. I know we are in for a marvelous journey tonight.

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For Mrs. Ford's approval.  
BF approved 8/9

For immediate release  
Wednesday, Aug. 4, 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

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Mrs. Ford will open a six-day celebration of the music of Duke Ellington by the Alvin Ailey City Center Dance Theatre in New York Tuesday, August 10. The opening, which will launch Alvin Ailey's tribute to the Bicentennial, will be at the New York State Theater at Lincoln Center at 8 p. m.

The opening night program includes the Ailey Company and the Ellington Orchestra, with a special guest performance planned by Mikhail Baryshnikov. Mr. Baryshnikov will perform Alvin Ailey's "pas de 'DUKE' " with Judith Jamison. Among performances by the Ailey Company and the Ellington Orchestra will be "Night Creature" and "Caravan." The Alvin Ailey Repertory Workshop will also perform.

Baryshnikov is a permanent guest artist with the American Ballet Theatre.

# # # #





*Nancy*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 29, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: PETER SORUM  
FROM: SUSAN PORTER  
SUBJECT: Action Memo

Mrs. Ford has accepted the following out-of-town invitation:

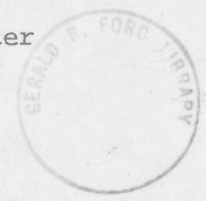
EVENT: Opening night of Alvin Ailey Dance Company and the Duke Ellington Orchestra

DATE: Tuesday, August 10, 1976

TIME: 8:00 p.m.

PLACE: New York State Theater at Lincoln Center  
New York, New York

CONTACTS: Mr. Edward Lander  
O: 212-832-1740  
H: 212-866-6241



Press Contact:

Meg Gordean  
212-245-4771

COMMENTS: Mrs. Ford will participate in the opening evening of a six-day celebration of the music of Duke Ellington. On this evening, Alvin Ailey will launch his long-planned contribution to the Bicentennial with some sixteen ballets choreographed to Duke's compositions. The Duke Ellington Orchestra will join the Alvin Ailey City Center Dance Theater for this engagement with guest performances by American Ballet Theatre and the Alvin Ailey Repertory Workshop.

The invitation was originally extended to Mrs. Ford by Ruth Ellington, Duke Ellington's sister, on behalf of the Dance Theater Foundation and is to be a major event in the Bicentennial celebration.

As you know, Mrs. Ford dropped by a special Duke Ellington concert held at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine when she was in New York on April 29th. Mrs. Ford will overnight and return to Washington Wednesday morning, August 11th.

Thank you.

c: BF Staff  
Red Cavaney  
William Nicholson  
Jerry Jones  
Terry O'Donnell  
David Gergen  
Warren Hendriks  
Sarah Massengale  
Milt Mitler  
Rex Scouten  
Staircase



Handwritten notes in top left corner, including a circled "#1" and some illegible text.

**The Alvin Ailey**

**City Center**

**Dance Theater**

**229 East 59th Street**

**New York, New York 10022**

**(212) 832-1740**

Contact:

- Mr. Edward Fisher,

(212) 832-1740, Sch.#

(212) 846-6241, Home

- Max Gordon, Free agent

(212) 245-4771

June 29, 1976

Ms. Susan Porter  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

8:00 pm. (-11:0)

Dear Ms. Porter:

As a member of the Board of Trustees of Dance Theater Foundation, Inc., I would like to extend an invitation to Mrs. Betty Ford to join us on the opening evening, Tuesday, August 10, of a six-day celebration of the music of my late brother, Edward "Duke" Ellington. On this evening, Alvin Ailey will launch his long-planned contribution to the Bicentennial at the New York State Theater at Lincoln Center with some sixteen ballets choreographed to Duke's compositions. The Duke Ellington Orchestra will join the Alvin Ailey City Center Dance Theater for this engagement with guest performances by American Ballet Theatre and the Alvin Ailey Repertory Workshop.

The opening night program includes the Ailey Company and the Ellington Orchestra in performances of "Night Creature", choreographed by Mr. Ailey, and "Caravan", last season's popular addition to the Company repertoire, choreographed by Louis Falco, and, Judith Jamison will perform Mr. Ailey's "pas de 'DUKE'" with guest artist, Mikhail Baryshnikov.

We were delighted that Mrs. Ford joined us recently at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine to open Duke's Birthday Celebration and regret that her busy schedule did not allow her to remain with us for the entirety of that thrilling evening. Now I would like to invite Mrs. Ford to join us for this opening evening of a major event in our Nation's Bicentennial Celebration.

Very truly yours

*Ruth Ellington*  
Ruth Ellington

(212) 249-7500

