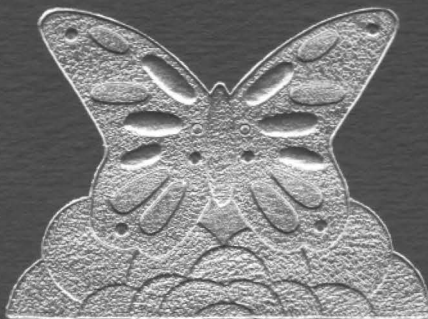


**The original documents are located in Box 9, folder “4/28/76 - Kennedy Center Gala” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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In Celebration

*"All about me may be silence and darkness,  
yet within me, in the spirit, is music and brightness,  
and color flashes through all my thoughts. . . ."*

*—Helen Keller*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

are no  
part

*Handwritten signature*



All about the way he thinks and writes  
get within me in the spirit of his  
and color flashes through all my thoughts.

—Helen Keller



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

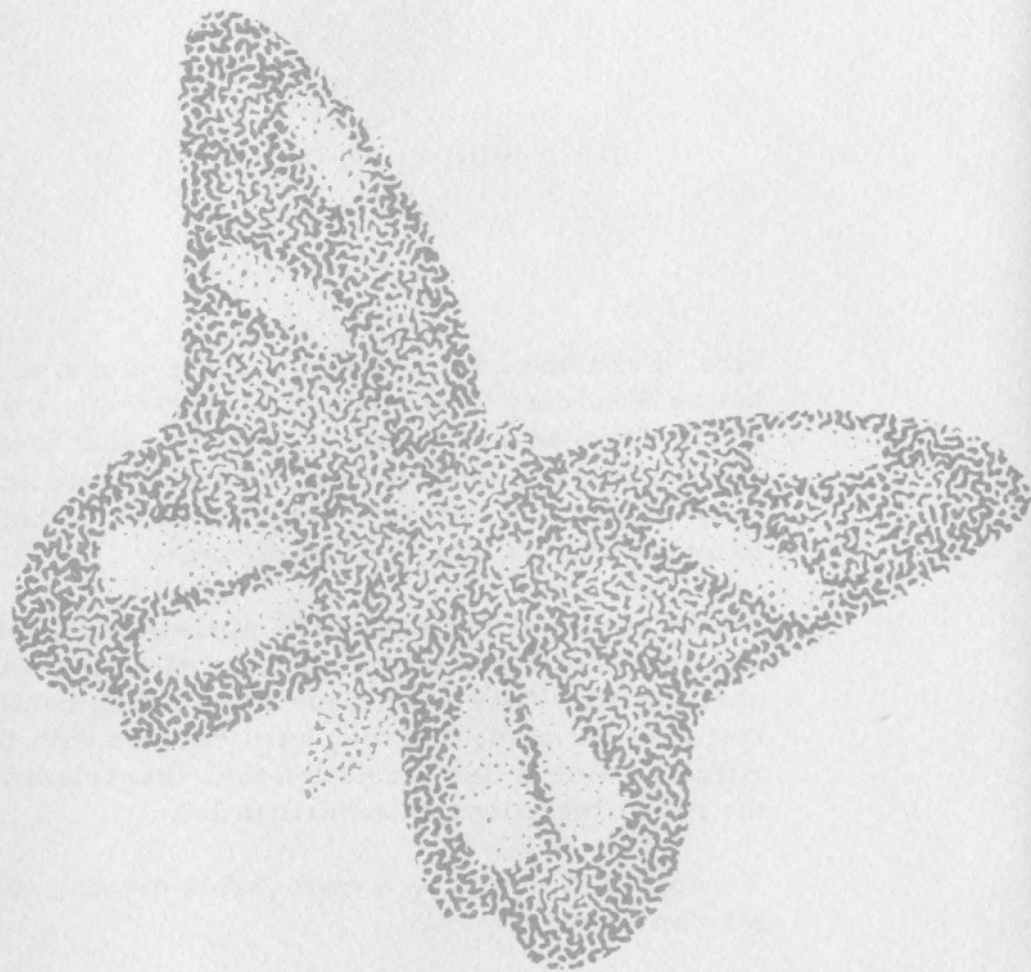
Mrs. Ford and I are proud and deeply honored to act as Honorary Chairmen of this Festival of the Arts. It is an event that emphasizes that there are no limits to achievement, and that handicapped people have as much capability to attain the heights of excellence as other fellow citizens.

We welcome the opportunity to applaud the talents and considerable accomplishments of those who participate. They have made an enduring contribution to the arts, and they have done so with the rugged spirit of determination that characterizes the finest traditions of American life.

We hope that it will be a memorable evening for all who attend.

*Ronald R. Ford*

*The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped*



*presents*

IN CELEBRATION

under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

*sponsored by*

The Alcoa Foundation  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The International Paper  
Company Foundation  
New York, N.Y.

*in cooperation with*

United States Department of  
Health, Education and Welfare  
Office of Education  
Bureau of Education for the  
Handicapped

The John F. Kennedy Center  
for The Performing Arts

Produced by  
Ruth Mondschein

Directed by  
Joshua Logan

**THE O'NEILL CENTER'S  
LITTLE THEATRE OF THE DEAF**

presents

**THE GIVING TREE**

adapted from the novel  
by **SHEL SILVERSTEIN**

**THE NEW WORLD**

from **PARADE**

as created by the company of  
**THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF THE DEAF**

**THE SILKEN TENT**

by **ROBERT FROST**

from new repertoire in progress,  
to be called "Children's Letters to God"

**CAST**  
(identifiable roles)

**THE BOY  
THE STUMP  
SPEAKING ACTOR  
PARADE LEADER  
COLUMBUS  
ISABELLA  
COUNCILLOR  
THE SILKEN TENT**

**TIMOTHY SCANLON  
EDMUND WATERSTREET, JR.  
ROBERT BLUMENFELD  
LINDA BOVE  
PATRICK GRAYBILL  
JESSICA HULL  
BETTY BONNI  
BERNARD BRAGG**

The National Theatre of the Deaf and The Little Theatres of the Deaf are funded by the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped, Office of Education, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. These companies are a division of The Eugene O'Neill Memorial Theatre Center, Waterford, Connecticut.

Producing Director, David Hays; costumes by Fred Voelpel; State Manager, Guy Bergquist.

The Little Theatre of the Deaf, sponsored by the O'Neill Center, The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, and the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped, will be performing all week in public schools throughout Washington, D.C.

(In Alphabetical Order)

Pearl Bailey

Ray Charles

The Ray Charles Orchestra

The Raeletts

Nanette Fabray

Louise Fletcher

The Gallaudet Dance  
Troupe

Dr. Peter Wisher, Director

Helen Hayes

Paul Hill Chorale

Burl Ives

The Little Theatre of the  
Deaf

David Hays, Director

Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps

Itzhak Perlman

Samuel Saunders, Pianist

Harold Russell

Tom Sullivan

The Howard Devron  
Orchestra

*The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped*

Harold Russell, Chairman

Jayne B. Spain  
Victor Riesel  
Gordon M. Freeman

Vice Chairmen

*Advisory Council*

Honorable Earl L. Butz  
Secretary of Agriculture  
Honorable Elliot L.  
Richardson  
Secretary of Commerce

Honorable W. J. Usery, Jr.  
Secretary of Labor

Honorable David F. Mathews  
Secretary of Health, Education,  
and Welfare

Honorable Carla A. Hills  
Secretary of Housing and  
Urban Development

Honorable William T.  
Coleman, Jr.  
Secretary of Transportation  
Honorable Robert E. Hampton  
Chairman

U.S. Civil Service Commission  
Honorable Richard L.

Roudebush  
Administrator of Veterans  
Affairs  
Veterans Administration

*"In Celebration"*  
*Advisory Council*

Agnes De Mille  
Claire Bloom  
Father Gilbert Hartke  
George London  
George Spota  
Helen Hayes  
Hillard Elkins

Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti  
James DePreist  
Jose Feliciano  
Nanette Fabray  
Richmond Crinkley  
Zelda Fichandler

*The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped*

*Production for In Celebration*

Continuity: Ruth Mondschein  
Albert Z. Elkes  
Production Supervisor:  
Ted Parker  
Program Cover: Zeb Rogerson  
Administrative Coordinator:  
Eleanor Sullivan  
Assistant to the Producer:  
Sharon Turner  
Assistant Stage Manager:  
Carla Badarocco  
Sound: Kenneth Persson

Wardrobe Supervisor:  
Louise C. Allen  
Assistant Wardrobe Supervisor:  
Gerald Scarbrough  
Lighting Designer: Patrika Brown  
Creative Consultant:  
Albert Z. Elkes  
Program Designed by:  
Ralph R. Dennison, Jr.  
Program Printed by:  
Creative Printing, Inc.  
Treasurer: Betty Tidrick

*Staff for the Eisenhower Theater*

Edmundstone Thompson Jr.,  
Theater Manager  
Max Woodward, Assistant  
Theater Manager  
Eleanor Paul, Head Usher

John J. Ryan, Jr., Head Carpenter  
Henry O. Becker, Flyman  
Michael Cassidy, Head Electrician  
Lawrence G. Barrett, Jr.,  
Head of Properties

*Special thanks to:*

Roger L. Stevens, Chairman  
The John F. Kennedy Center  
for the Performing Arts  
Edmundstone Thompson, Jr.  
Wayne G. Shilkret and the  
Publicity Office, Kennedy Center  
Dr. Edward Merrill, Jr.,  
President, Gallaudet College  
(Grand Foyer Art Exhibition)  
Saks Fifth Avenue  
(Miss Fabrays Gowns)  
David Roberts,  
Musical Director for  
Mr. Sullivan  
Committee for the Handicapped,  
People to People Program

Oliver Smith  
Ben Edwards  
A "Texas Trilogy" Company  
Volunteers:  
Future Homemakers of America  
Coolidge High School  
Washington, D.C.  
W. T. Woodson High School  
Fairfax, Virginia  
Nicholas Flagello  
Louis Bellson  
Musical Director for  
Miss Bailey  
Students of Kendall School  
Virginia Lewis, Dennis Cokely  
Signers

Gulf Oil Foundation





*“Each Second...*

*... we live in a new  
and unique moment of the universe,  
a moment that never was before and will  
never be again. And what do we teach our children  
in school? We teach them that two and two make four,  
and that Paris is the capital of France. When will we  
also teach them what they are? We should say to each of  
them:*

*‘Do you know what you are? You are a marvel. You are  
unique.*

*In all the world there is no other child exactly like you.  
In the millions of years that have passed, there has never  
been another child exactly like you.*

*You may become a Shakespeare,  
a Michelangelo, a Beethoven.*

*You have the capacity for anything  
Yes, you are a marvel.’”*



*Pablo Casals*

*I See America*

*I see America, not in the setting sun  
of a black night of despair ahead of us.*

*I see America in the crimson light of a rising sun  
fresh from the burning, creative hand of God.*

*I see great days ahead, great days possible  
to men and women of will and vision. . . .*

*—Carl Sandburg*



Sheila -

Harold Russell will  
be at the AFI dinner  
Ruth Mondshein the  
producer of In Celebration  
would very much like to  
get Mrs Ford + Harold  
together to get a little  
press for the event -  
Sounds like it might be  
good - please give me a  
call after you have had  
a chance to look up this  
Main





F6

# In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center. April 28th, 1976. Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

February 11, 1976

Mrs. Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Ford:

We are so proud and so delighted that you and the President have accepted the Honorary Chairmanship of what we feel will be the most unique and meaningful celebration of the Bicentennial Year. It has been said that "the arts are a means of addressing humanity," and can there be any more effective way of communicating the courage, the imagination, and the faith of the American Spirit than through the magnitude of the artists who will be gracing the stage of the Eisenhower Theater on April 28, 1976?

Nanette Fabray has had a hearing problem all her life, but she's a beautiful performer and a beautiful person; the National Theatre of the Deaf, one of the most exciting drama troupes in the world; Itzhak Perlman may be paraplegic but the magic of his violin lights up the heart and soul of everyone who hears him; one of your favorite people in the world, Pearl Bailey, is the essence of humanity and love -- and this is only the beginning of the roster of the various great artists who will grace the stage for this festive occasion.

I know that you have met on a number of occasions, Harold Russell, Chairman of the President's Committee, who starred in "The Best Years Of Our Lives" as a returning disabled war veteran. Jayne Baker Spain, Vice Chairman of our Committee, was as you know, Vice Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, and now has the exciting new challenge of being one of the first women to achieve the status and recognition as Senior Vice President of Gulf Oil Corporation.

We have the artists; we have the commitment; we have a President's Committee composed of fantastic people representing every sector of our country; and we want at this time in American history to have the opportunity to proclaim that it is the ability and not the disability that counts.

## ADVISORY COUNCIL

Agnes De Mille - Claire Bloom - David L. Byrd - Father Gilbert Hartke - George London  
George Spota - Helen Hayes - Hillard Elkin - Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti - James DePreist - Jose Feliciano - Nanette Fabray - Richmond Crinkley - Zelda Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D.C. 20210  
Ruth Mendelheim, Executive Director - Harold Russell, Chairman



Knowing your interest in the arts and your devotion and work with handicapped people, we would consider it the highest honor if you would announce the Festival of the Arts at a White House press conference, with Harold Russell and Jayne Spain attending, or anyone else you wish to designate.

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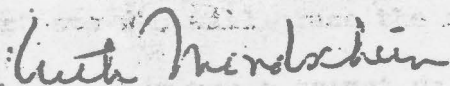
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I saw something on TV that said it beautifully, "The spirit of achievement is the spirit of America" and that is what this evening is all about -- that in the arts there are no handicaps.

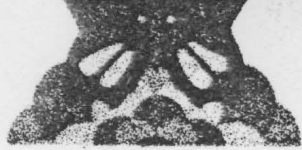
It has been said "If you will it, it is no dream" and this is a dream that will become the desired reality, by your presence, by your participation, by your personal touch and commitment.

Sincerely,



Ruth Mondschein  
Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts  
653-5044





FACT SHEET

Festival of the Arts  
"In Celebration"  
A Bicentennial Salute

Under the Honorary Chairmanship of The President and Mrs. Ford

Official Hosts: Mayor and Mrs. Walter E. Washington

Wednesday, April 28, 1976 -- 9:00 p.m. -- Eisenhower Theater, Kennedy Center,  
Washington, D. C.

THEME

In the arts there are no handicaps -- and the arts are a means of addressing humanity.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS (partial list)

Pearl Bailey.....star of a string of musicals, latest of which is a revival of "Hello Dolly" -- author -- long-time friend of the handicapped.

Nanette Fabray.....lost her hearing and regained it -- ever since has been a champion of the deaf and all the handicapped.

Helen Hayes.....still First Lady of the American stage -- many of her public appearances are for the benefit of the handicapped.

National Theater of the Deaf..... produces some of the finest theater in this country -- world traveled -- world applauded (David Hays, Director)

Itzhak Perlman.....victim of polio -- world-famous violinist -- acclaimed everywhere on the globe.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Claire Bloom, Agnes de Mille, James dePreist, Hillard Elkins, Nanette Fabray, Jose Feliciano, Zelda Fichandler, Rev. Gilbert Hartke, Helen Hayes, David Hays, George London, Itzhak Perlman, George Spota, Jack Valenti.



PURPOSE

- . to celebrate progress in breaking down environmental and attitudinal barriers against handicapped people
- . to open a new door of communication -- communication in human understanding as manifest in the arts
- . at this bicentennial season, to focus on the triumph of faith, persistence and courage of those who are handicapped
- . to emphasize the role of the arts in enhancing the quality of life

presented by The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped,  
sponsored by Alcoa Foundation and International Paper Company Foundation,  
with the support of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and  
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT OF THE HANDICAPPED

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, established in 1947, has served under six Presidents. It has brought together public and private sectors of society as well as a wide variety of national forces for the common purpose of creating greater opportunities for America's handicapped people. Harold Russell, Chairman -- Jayne B. Spain, Vice Chairman

Producer/Director: Hilly Elkins  
Executive Producer: Ruth Mondschein

For further information: Contact "In Celebration" staff - Phone 653-5044  
Eleanor Sullivan /// Sharon Turner



# Pearl Bailey Production Corp.

P.O. BOX 52  
NORTHRIDGE, CALIFORNIA 91324

PRESIDENT: PEARL BAILEY

DODI WILLIAMS  
Executive Secretary

November 19, 1975

Dear Ruth:

My love and sincere thanks for your letter and the wonderful invitation to once again participate in a program to be sponsored by the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. Of course I will be honored to join you -- I cannot say at this time what I will be, but will have something planned by that time - anything from a song to a speech - but rest assured it will be worthwhile.

Please keep in touch with me through my office (the address is above) as I don't know where I'll be in between now and then.

God's blessings always and please give my fondest love to Mr. Russell and all my wonderful friends.

All love,

Pearl

PB/dw



March 2, 1976

Only if  
Mrs. Ford  
wanted to

File  
"In celebration"

Dear Ruth:

Thank you for your recent letter and for passing along a copy of your invitation letter to Mrs. Ford concerning the program you are planning for the Kennedy Center in April. I must say that your warmth and sincerity certainly came through in your letter to the First Lady, and I am sure the request will be given every consideration.

I have forwarded your note to me to Susan Porter, Mrs. Ford's Scheduling Secretary, and her Press Secretary, Sheila Weidenfeld, with my recommendation. Let's keep our fingers crossed.

With warmest good wishes,

Sincerely,

Randy

Randall L. Woods  
Deputy Director of the  
Office of Communications

Ms. Ruth Mondschein  
The President's Committee on  
Employment of the Handicapped  
Washington, DC 20210

bcc w/copy of incoming: Sheila Weidenfeld  
Susan Porter  
Ann McGlinn

RLW:acm







## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

February 18, 1976

Mr. Randy Wood  
Associate Director  
Office of Communications  
The White House  
164 Old EOB  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Randy:

Thanks for your help. Enclosed is a letter to Betty Ford that I thought you might want to see. I know that everybody thinks that his or her project is the most important but we feel that this is really like opening the door to new images and attitudes about handicapped individuals and a wonderful medium to flow into the White House Conference. Certainly, the President and Mrs. Ford are deeply interested and have been part of this all of their lives. I know that they're bombarded and pressured with requests but this is something special, something for the future and something to be part of in pride and proudness.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Ruth Mondschein  
Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts



### ADVISORY COUNCIL

RM/bt Agnes De Mille Claire Bloom David Hays Father Gilbert Hartke George London  
Enc. George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinkley Zelda Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman



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February 11, 1976

Mrs. Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

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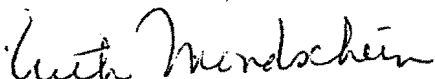
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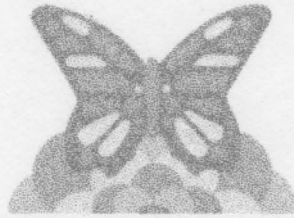
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Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts  
653-5044



## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

April 25, 1976

Ms. Sheila Weidenfeld  
Press Secretary to Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Sheila:

How marvelous and how warm the article was in today's Washington Post. What a great feeling it is to be with a person like Mrs. Ford. I once heard it said that "spirit is contagious" and I guess that's the beauty of a good relationship -- one really inspires the other -- and that's what the article reflects.

Knowing how busy your schedule is and knowing the pressures you're under constantly, I thought it might be helpful to enclose a series of releases from the Kennedy Center and a letter to Mrs. Ford -- which really outlines the concept of the show.

I hope that you will be with us on the evening of the Festival at the Kennedy Center.

We are grateful for your understanding and for your concern that the release you are preparing reflects the mood and sensitivity of our show. It will be a marvelous evening -- please share it with us.

Sincerely,

Ruth Mondschein  
Executive Producer  
653-5044



Enclosures

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

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George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinkley Zelda Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman



# In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

February 11, 1976

Mrs. Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

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Ruth Mondshein, Executive Director Harold Russell, Chairman



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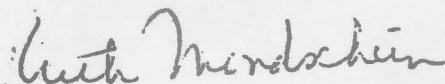
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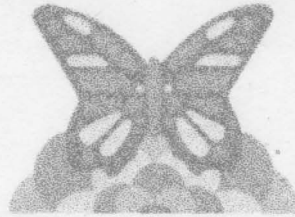
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It has been said "If you will it, it is no dream" and this is a dream that will become the desired reality, by your presence, by your participation, by your personal touch and commitment.

Sincerely,



Ruth Mondschein  
Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts  
653-5044



## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

**Contact: Wayne Shilkret, Publicity Director**  
**Harlot Stem, Associate**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BURL IVES JOINS "IN CELEBRATION." JOSHUA LOGAN TO STAGE ALL-STAR  
PRODUCTION AT THE KENNEDY CENTER, APRIL 28.**

Howard Russell, Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, announced today that the noted folk singer and "Oscar" winning actor, Burl Ives, has joined the all-star company of "In Celebration" for its single performance in the Kennedy Center's Eisenhower Theater, Wednesday evening, April 28 at 9:00. Mr. Russell also announced that Joshua Logan will stage the unique Bicentennial year festival of the arts. Under the patronage of the President and Mrs. Ford, "In Celebration" will be presented by the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

Burl Ives became a top recording artist in the 1930's, selling millions of records and popularizing the folk-song three decades before its recent "discovery." His Broadway hits include "Paint Your Wagon," "Sing Out Sweet Land," and "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," in which he played Big Daddy, a role he repeated in the film. His many other films include "East of Eden," and "The Big Country" for which he won an "Oscar."

The National Theatre of the Deaf will also perform.

Among Burl Ives' co-stars in "In Celebration" are Pearl Bailey, Ray Charles,

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

Agnes De Mille Claire Bloom David Hays Father Gilbert Hartke George London  
George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinkley Zelda Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman

his orchestra and the Raeletts, Nanette Fabray, Helen Hayes, Itzhak Perlman and Tom Sullivan. They will all be directed by Joshua Logan, who staged the Kennedy Center's recent "Gala Salute to Roger L. Stevens." His spectacular theatrical career, including such hits as "Mr. Roberts," "South Pacific," "Wish You Were Here," and "Picnic," is reviewed in his recently published autobiography, "Josh: My Up and Down, In and Out Life."

Ruth Mondschein, well known producer of international youth and arts festivals, extravaganzas and gala benefits, is Executive Producer of "In Celebration."

April 13, 1976





## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

Contact: Wayne Shilkret, Publicity Director (202) 254-3696  
Hariot Stem, Associate

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOUISE FLETCHER ANNOUNCED FOR "IN CELEBRATION" AT KENNEDY CENTER

Harold Russell, Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, announced today that Oscar winning actress Louise Fletcher is joining the other great stars previously announced for "In Celebration," at the Kennedy Center's Eisenhower Theater next Wednesday (April 28) at 9:00 PM.

When Miss Fletcher received the Motion Picture Academy's "Best Actress" Award last month for her performance of Nurse Ratchet in "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest," she touched the hearts of millions of television viewers by "signing" her acceptance speech in the language of the deaf so that her parents would be able to "hear" her tribute to them.

"In Celebration" will be presented for one performance only, under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford, in tribute to the thousands of Americans who have overcome handicaps to contribute to the quality of life in America. It also celebrates the parts played by the arts in promoting human understanding and breaking down the barriers against handicapped persons everywhere.

(more)

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

Agnes De Mille Claire Bloom David Hays Father Gilbert Hartke George London  
George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinkley Zelda Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman

Mr. Russell also announced that the Paul Hill Chorale is participating in the performance which will be staged by Joshua Logan.

Helen Hayes, who will read Stephen Vincent Benet's "American Names," Pearl Bailey, Nanette Fabray, Itzhak Perlman, Tom Sullivan, Ray Charles and the Raeletts, and the National Theatre of the Deaf have been previously announced for the production.

"In Celebration" is sponsored by the Alcoa Foundation and the International Paper Company Foundation, with the support of the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped, the Office of Education, Department of Health, Education and Welfare and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Mayor and Mrs. Walter E. Washington are official hosts.

Mr. Russell has announced that all tickets to "In Celebration" have been taken by the 3,500 members of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, who will be attending their annual two-day meeting in Washington.

This year's meeting, devoted to the artistic achievements of the handicapped, will also include exhibitions of the visual arts.

April 20, 1976



## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

Contact: Wayne Shilkret, Publicity Director 254-3696  
Harlot Stem, Associate

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT OF THE HANDICAPPED  
ANNOUNCES STARS FOR APRIL ARTS FESTIVAL

Harold Russell, Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, announced today that Pearl Bailey, Nanette Fabray, Helen Hayes, Itzhak Perlman, Tom Sullivan and the National Theatre of the Deaf are among the great stars and the performing arts groups that will appear together in a unique Bicentennial Year festival of the arts. Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford, the Festival called "In Celebration" will be presented by the President's Committee for the Handicapped for one performance only at the Kennedy Center's Eisenhower Theater on Wednesday evening, April 28 at 9:00.

The performance will pay tribute to the achievements of the thousands of Americans who have overcome handicaps to contribute to the quality of life in America. It also celebrates the part played by the arts in promoting human understanding and in breaking down the barriers against handicapped persons everywhere.

"In Celebration" is sponsored by the Alcoa Foundation and the

(MORE)

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Agnes De Mille Claire Bloom David Hays Father Gilbert Hartke George London  
George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinklev Zelda Fichandler

*The Bureau of Education of the Handicapped*

International Paper Company Foundation, with the support of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Mayor and Mrs. Walter E. Washington are official hosts.

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped was established in 1947, and has brought together the public and private sectors of society to create greater opportunities for handicapped people. Harold Russell, the chairman, starred in "The Best Years of our Lives" as a disabled war-veteran, and is now President of <sup>Harold</sup> Russell Associates, Woburn, Mass., and devotes a major portion of his time to President's Committee duties. Vice-chairman Jayne Baker Spain is a former Vice-chairman of the Civil Service Commission and is Senior Vice President of Gulf Oil Corporation.

"In Celebration" will be produced and directed by Hillard Elkins, whose many productions include "Golden Boy," "Oh, Calcutta," "The Rothschilds," and "A Doll's House." Ruth Mondschein is Executive Producer.

The National Theatre of the Deaf, directed by David Hays, has been acclaimed around the world for the skill and verve of its players, all of whom are deaf, and for its brilliant theatrical productions. Nanette Fabray, Broadway musical star of such hits as "Bloomer Girl," "High Button Shoes" and "Mr. President," overcame deafness in mid-career, and continues to be a popular star on television, where she has won three Emmy Awards.

Tom Sullivan, the young blind singer and author of "If You Could See What I Hear," has been a popular guest more than a dozen times on the "Tonight" show, and created a sensation all over the country when he sang The National Anthem at the beginning of the Superbowl game in Miami. Itzhak Perlman, a victim of polio, is a world-acclaimed concert violinist.

Throughout their long careers, both Helen Hayes and Pearl Bailey, the

first ladies of American drama and musical comedy, have given many performances for the benefit of the handicapped. Other performers are being lined up by Mr. Elkins and Ms. Mondschein.

Mr. Russell has announced that all tickets to "In Celebration" will first be offered to the 3,500 members of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, who will be attending their annual two-day meeting in Washington.

March 4, 1976



## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center. April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

Contact: Wayne Shilkret, Publicity Director (202) 254-3696  
Harlot Stem, Associate

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RAY CHARLES, ~~ARTHUR GODFREY~~ TO PERFORM IN "IN CELEBRATION."

Harold Russell, Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, announced today that the famous Ray Charles, his orchestra and the Raelettes and "Mr. Television" Arthur Godfrey have been added to the list of great stars and performing groups that will appear together in a unique Bicentennial Year festival of the arts. Under the patronage of the President and Mrs. Ford, the Festival called "In Celebration" will be presented by the President's Committee for the Handicapped for one performance only at the Kennedy Center's Eisenhower Theater on Wednesday evening, April 28 at 9:00.

Participation by Pearl Bailey, Nanette Fabray, Helen Hayes, Itzhak Perlman, Tom Sullivan and the National Theatre of the Deaf has been previously announced.

The performance will pay tribute to the achievements of the thousands of Americans who have overcome handicaps to contribute to the quality of life in America. It also celebrates the part played by the arts in promoting human understanding and in breaking down the barriers against handicapped persons

(more)

#### ADVISORY COUNCIL

Agnes De Mille Claire Bloom David Hays Father Gilbert Hartke George London  
George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinkley Zelda Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman

everywhere.

"In Celebration" is sponsored by the Alcoa Foundation and the International Paper Company Foundation, with the support of the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped, the Office of Education, Department of Health, Education and Welfare and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Mayor and Mrs. Walter E. Washington are official hosts.

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped was established in 1947, and has brought together the public and private sectors of society to create greater opportunities for handicapped people. Harold Russell, the chairman, starred in "The Best Years of Our Lives" as a disabled war-veteran, and is now President of Harold Russell Associates, Woburn, Mass., and devotes a major portion of his time to President's Committee duties. Vice-chairman Jayne Baker Spain is a former Vice-chairman of the Civil Service Commission and is Senior Vice President of Gulf Oil Corporation.

"In Celebration" will be produced and directed by Hillard Elkins, whose many productions include "Golden Boy," "Oh, Calcutta," "The Rothschilds," and "A Doll's House." Ruth Mondschein, well known producer of international youth and arts festivals, extravaganzas and gala benefits, is Executive Producer.

March 15, 1976

Sheila

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 26, 1976

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

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

EVENT: Gala Performance

GROUP: President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped

DATE: Wednesday, April 28, 1976

TIME: 9:00 p.m.

PLACE: Eisenhower Theater, Kennedy Center

CONTACT: Ruth Mondschein  
653-5044

COMMENTS: Mrs. Ford will attend the Festival of the Arts, "In Celebration," a special performance to benefit the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. As soon as the guest list for the box is fully determined, I will be in communication with you. A reception will be held following the performance but because the performance does not begin until late (9:00 p.m.) and will probably last two hours, at most I think Mrs. Ford's attendance at the reception should be a drop-by. She may wish to determine in the course of the evening whether she wishes to drop by the reception. The evening should be a lovely one with a number of distinguished performers participating including Nanette Fabray, Helen Hayes, Pearl Bailey, etc. and attended by leaders of national rehabilitation organizations, members of Congress, Embassy representatives, etc. The President and Mrs. Ford are Honorary Patrons of the evening. I understand the advancement man is Don Clarey (O: 961-8673; H: 548-9624). The file is attached. Thank you.

c: BF Staff  
Red Cavaney  
William Nicholson  
James Cavanaugh  
David Lissy  
Sara Massengale  
Rex Scouten  
Staircase





FACT SHEET

Festival of the Arts

"In Celebration"

A Bicentennial Salute

Under the Honorary Chairmanship of The President and Mrs. Ford

Official Hosts: Mayor and Mrs. Walter E. Washington

Wednesday, April 28, 1976 -- 9:00 p.m. -- Eisenhower Theater, Kennedy Center,  
Washington, D. C.

THEME

In the arts there are no handicaps -- and the arts are a means of addressing  
humanity.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS (partial list)

Pearl Bailey.....star of a string of musicals, latest of which is a  
revival of "Hello Dolly" -- author -- long-time  
friend of the handicapped.

Nanette Fabray.....lost her hearing and regained it -- ever since has  
been a champion of the deaf and all the handicapped.

Helen Hayes.....still First Lady of the American stage -- many of  
her public appearances are for the benefit of the  
handicapped.

National Theater of  
the Deaf..... produces some of the finest theater in this country  
-- world traveled -- world applauded (David Hays,  
Director)

Itzhak Perlman.....victim of polio -- world-famous violinist -- acclaimed  
everywhere on the globe.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Claire Bloom, Agnes de Mille, James dePreist, Hillard Elkins, Nanette Fabray,  
Jose Feliciano, Zelda Fichandler, Rev. Gilbert Hartke, Helen Hayes, David Hays,  
George London, Itzhak Perlman, George Spota, Jack Valenti.

PURPOSE

- . to celebrate progress in breaking down environmental and attitudinal barriers against handicapped people
- . to open a new door of communication -- communication in human understanding as manifest in the arts
- . at this bicentennial season, to focus on the triumph of faith, persistence and courage of those who are handicapped
- . to emphasize the role of the arts in enhancing the quality of life

presented by The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, sponsored by Alcoa Foundation and International Paper Company Foundation, with the support of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT OF THE HANDICAPPED

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, established in 1947, has served under six Presidents. It has brought together public and private sectors of society as well as a wide variety of national forces for the common purpose of creating greater opportunities for America's handicapped people. Harold Russell, Chairman -- Jayne B. Spain, Vice Chairman

Producer/Director: Hilly Elkins  
Executive Producer: Ruth Mondschein

For further information: Contact "In Celebration" staff - Phone 653-5044  
Eleanor Sullivan /// Sharon Turner



## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

April 25, 1976

Ms. Susan Porter  
Appointment Secretary to  
Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

*He will be in  
touch in Ruth  
Mondachera  
re: final Bod  
list.  
SP.*

Dear Susan:

How wonderful it was to hear the long awaited news that Mrs. Ford will be attending the Festival of the Arts performance at the Kennedy Center on April 28 at 9:00 P.M.

I am sure you could hear the excitement and pride in my voice when we spoke together Friday evening. I would be honored to act as your contact person at any time, any place, any hour. For your convenience my number at the office is 653-5044; at the Eisenhower Theatre at the Kennedy Center 254-3666; and at the Watergate Hotel 965-2300. I will alert everyone to be on the lookout for a message from you.

We have an extraordinary diversified number of distinguished guests including the leaders of international rehabilitation organizations; members of congress; embassy representatives; distinguished members of the President's Committee; the vice president's and executive personnel of our sponsors, Alcoa Foundation and International Paper Company Foundation; cabinet members; and other high government officials. All of our special guests will be seated in the Orchestra. The trustees of the Kennedy Center have graciously given up their boxes so we could accommodate as many handicapped people as possible. Therefore, every box, except The President's box, will be filled with outstanding handicapped people from various agencies throughout the United States.

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

Agnes De Mille Claire Bloom David Hays Father Gilbert Hartke George London  
George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinkley Zeldia Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210

The President's box will accommodate eight to ten people and the following names have been suggested to have the honor of sitting with Mrs. Ford:

- 1
- 2 The Honorable Harold Russell, Chairman of the President's Committee, and Mrs. Russell.
- 2 The Honorable Jayne Baker Spain, Vice Chairman of the President's Committee and Mr. John Spain
- 1 Lady Ramsbotham, who has been a very close friend of the Committees. (I understand Lord Ramsbotham will be unable to attend.)
- 2 Mayor and Mrs. Walter E. Washington, the Official Hosts of the evening.
- 1 Myself, as a member of the President's Committee and as the Executive Producer of the show.

~~8~~ ~~10~~  
Mrs. Ford may have her own preferences and naturally, whatever pleases her is what we want to do.

I spoke with Sheila, as you suggested, and she's planning to release the news on Monday.

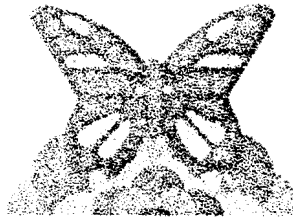
If there is any way I can be helpful, please let me know.

What else can I say except thank you -- thank you. I'm sure you know how much this means to me, to our stars, to the audience, and to our cause.

Sincerely,



Ruth Mondschein  
Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts



## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

April 12, 1976

*Eisenhower  
Theatre*

Mrs. Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Ford:

I am delighted to inform you that the greatest troubadour of all, Mr. Burl Ives, will be joining us on the evening of the 28th at the Kennedy Center. Josuha Logan the greatest director in America is so excited about the whole concept -- the arts and the handicapped -- that he has consented to direct the show for us.

We are also very happy that the beautiful young dancers of Gallaudet College will be joining us that evening. And, of course, your favorite, Pearl Bailey -- who exemplifies the American dream, will be one of our great stars.

So many marvelous things are happening as a result of this Festival. I know that it's only the beginning to the whole new awareness of careers in the arts for the handicapped gifted and talented, and the use of the arts in realizing and developing the highest potential of handicapped children.

I am proud to share with you the fact that Lady Ramsbotham will not only be present, but would like to do a similar Festival in England.

We look forward to your presence, not only because it would lend such dignity and prestige to the evening, but because you will serve as an inspiration to the hundreds of handicapped in our audience and to the millions of disabled people in our country.

On behalf of the President's Committee and Harold Russell, Chairman, our best wishes for a wonderful Easter Holiday.

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

Agnes De Mille Claire Bloom David Hays Father Gilbert Hartke George London  
George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinkley Zelda Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman

I hope you have seen the beautiful picture of Harold Russell, yourself, and the Wyler's that was taken at the affair in Hollywood.

On a very personal note, I noticed in the paper that you and Pearl Bailey are both Aries -- I am very proud to join your distinguished company.

In much admiration,

*Ruth*

Ruth Mondschein  
Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts

O: (202) 653-5044

H:

*604-0700  
Rm E620  
Rm 49*

*9-11 in no  
intermission*

*Receipt. after show  
for artists,  
sponsors,*



## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

March 12, 1976

Mrs. Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Ford:

I want you to know how delighted I was to have had a chance to chat with you at the dinner for Willie Wyler in Los Angeles. It was an evening that I'll never forget.

A brief reminder:

I had hoped to have had the chance to talk to you about the forthcoming Festival of the Arts of Handicapped Persons, "In Celebration," to be held at the Kennedy Center on Wednesday evening, April 28. You and the President are, of course, honorary patrons.

I hope very much that both of you will be able to attend. It promises to be a most unusual event -- calling attention during this Bicentennial Year to the contributions of handicapped citizens to our country, not only in the arts but in all kinds of endeavors. Participants include Pearl Bailey, Nanette Fabray, Helen Hayes, Itzhak Perlman, Ray Charles, Tom Sullivan and the National Theatre of the Deaf.

I am looking forward to seeing you again on April 28.

Sincerely,

Harold Russell  
Chairman

### ADVISORY COUNCIL


Agnes De Mille Claire Bloom David Hays Father Gilbert Hartke George London  
George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinkley Zeldia Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: SUSAN PORTER  
FROM: DAVID LISSY   
SUBJECT: Festival of Arts featuring  
handicapped performers --  
April 28

I would like to warmly endorse whatever participation in this event Mrs. Ford may contemplate.

cc: Sarah Massengale



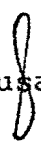
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Carolyn,

I think Mrs. Ford may want to see this before she goes to California. Harold Russell (par. 3) will be at the Amer. Film Institute Dinner.

I think this looks like a super evening--and one which combines two areas of Mrs. Ford's interests. I have in in with the things to talk to her about after she returns.

Thank you,

  
susan



APRIL  
ATTEND -  
RECEIPT

## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

February 11, 1976

*Hope to attend  
but keep  
track*

Mrs. Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Ford:

We are so proud and so delighted that you and the President have accepted the Honorary Chairmanship of what we feel will be the most unique and meaningful celebration of the Bicentennial Year. It has been said that "the arts are a means of addressing humanity," and can there be any more effective way of communicating the courage, the imagination, and the faith of the American Spirit than through the magnitude of the artists who will be gracing the stage of the Eisenhower Theater on April 28, 1976?

Nanette Fabray has had a hearing problem all her life, but she's a beautiful performer and a beautiful person; the National Theatre of the Deaf, one of the most exciting drama troupes in the world; Itzhak Perlman may be paraplegic but the magic of his violin lights up the heart and soul of everyone who hears him; one of your favorite people in the world, Pearl Bailey, is the essence of humanity and love -- and this is only the beginning of the roster of the various great artists who will grace the stage for this festive occasion.

I know that you have met on a number of occasions, Harold Russell, Chairman of the President's Committee, who starred in "The Best Years Of Our Lives" as a returning disabled war veteran. Jayne Baker Spain, Vice Chairman of our Committee, was as you know, Vice Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, and now has the exciting new challenge of being one of the first women to achieve the status and recognition as Senior Vice President of Gulf Oil Corporation.

We have the artists; we have the commitment; we have a President's Committee composed of fantastic people representing every sector of our country; and we want at this time in American history to have the opportunity to proclaim that it is the ability and not the disability that counts.

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

Agnes De Mille Claire Bloom David Hays Father Gilbert Hartke George London  
George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinkley Zelda Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman

N. 1

Knowing your interest in the arts and your devotion and work with handicapped people, we would consider it the highest honor if you would announce the Festival of the Arts at a White House press conference, with Harold Russell and Jayne Spain attending, or anyone else you wish to designate.

We realize that your schedule is so overburdened, but this is really the first time in the history of our country that we have focused on a Salute of this nature, not for just a night - not for just a day - but to communicate a new sense of awareness of the accomplishments and achievements of handicapped people, and to enhance the quality of life for all.

We hope this request merits your most special consideration. We were thinking in terms of a date for a press conference between February 18 and March 3. If this is not possible, could there be a press release, a proclamation, or whatever you feel appropriate - and, of course, your presence at the performance.

This year the Annual Meeting will highlight demonstration projects on the relationship of the arts in developing the highest quality of motor skills, reading skills and language, for handicapped children. Hank Viscardi the Chairman of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals will bring his drama troupe of severely handicapped children, in wheelchairs, and demonstrate the role of drama in their lives -- so you see -- we're all in it together. But, it's the Festival that will open the hearts and minds and nerve endings of real understanding.

I saw something on TV that said it beautifully, "The spirit of achievement is the spirit of America" and that is what this evening is all about -- that in the arts there are no handicaps.

It has been said "If you will it, it is no dream" and this is a dream that will become the desired reality, by your presence, by your participation, by your personal touch and commitment.

Sincerely,



Ruth Mondschein  
Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts  
653-5044

Path

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 26, 1976

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

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

EVENT: Gala Performance

GROUP: President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped

DATE: Wednesday, April 28, 1976

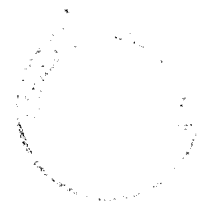
TIME: 9:00 p.m.

PLACE: Eisenhower Theater, Kennedy Center

CONTACT: Ruth Mondschein  
653-5044

COMMENTS: Mrs. Ford will attend the Festival of the Arts, "In Celebration," a special performance to benefit the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. As soon as the guest list for the box is fully determined, I will be in communication with you. A reception will be held following the performance but because the performance does not begin until late (9:00 p.m.) and will probably last two hours, at most I think Mrs. Ford's attendance at the reception should be a drop-by. She may wish to determine in the course of the evening whether she wishes to drop by the reception. The evening should be a lovely one with a number of distinguished performers participating including Nanette Fabray, Helen Hayes, Pearl Bailey, etc. and attended by leaders of national rehabilitation organizations, members of Congress, Embassy representatives, etc. The President and Mrs. Ford are Honorary Patrons of the evening. I understand the advancement man is Don Clarey (O: 961-8673; H: 548-9624). The file is attached. Thank you.

- c: BF Staff
- Red Cavaney
- William Nicholson
- James Cavanaugh
- David Lissy
- Sara Massengale
- Rex Scouten
- Staircase





FACT SHEET

Festival of the Arts

"In Celebration"

A Bicentennial Salute

Under the Honorary Chairmanship of The President and Mrs. Ford

Official Hosts: Mayor and Mrs. Walter E. Washington

Wednesday, April 28, 1976 -- 9:00 p.m. -- Eisenhower Theater, Kennedy Center,  
Washington, D. C.

THEME

In the arts there are no handicaps -- and the arts are a means of addressing  
humanity.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS (partial list)

Pearl Bailey.....star of a string of musicals, latest of which is a  
revival of "Hello Dolly" -- author -- long-time  
friend of the handicapped.

Nanette Fabray.....lost her hearing and regained it -- ever since has  
been a champion of the deaf and all the handicapped.

Helen Hayes.....still First Lady of the American stage -- many of  
her public appearances are for the benefit of the  
handicapped.

National Theater of  
the Deaf..... produces some of the finest theater in this country  
-- world traveled -- world applauded (David Hays,  
Director)

Itzhak Perlman.....victim of polio -- world-famous violinist -- acclaimed  
everywhere on the globe.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Claire Bloom, Agnes de Mille, James dePreist, Hillard Elkins, Nanette Fabray,  
Jose Feliciano, Zelda Fichandler, Rev. Gilbert Hartke, Helen Hayes, David Hays,  
George London, Itzhak Perlman, George Spota, Jack Valenti.

PURPOSE

- . to celebrate progress in breaking down environmental and attitudinal barriers against handicapped people
- . to open a new door of communication -- communication in human understanding as manifest in the arts
- . at this bicentennial season, to focus on the triumph of faith, persistence and courage of those who are handicapped
- . to emphasize the role of the arts in enhancing the quality of life

presented by The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped,  
sponsored by Alcoa Foundation and International Paper Company Foundation,  
with the support of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and  
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT OF THE HANDICAPPED

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, established in 1947, has served under six Presidents. It has brought together public and private sectors of society as well as a wide variety of national forces for the common purpose of creating greater opportunities for America's handicapped people. Harold Russell, Chairman -- Jayne B. Spain, Vice Chairman

Producer/Director: Hilly Elkins  
Executive Producer: Ruth Mondschein

For further information: Contact "In Celebration" staff - Phone 653-5044  
Eleanor Sullivan /// Sharon Turner

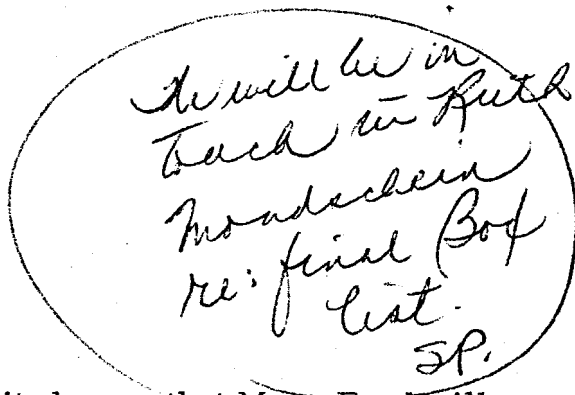


## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

April 25, 1976

Ms. Susan Porter  
Appointment Secretary to  
Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500



Dear Susan:

How wonderful it was to hear the long awaited news that Mrs. Ford will be attending the Festival of the Arts performance at the Kennedy Center on April 28 at 9:00 P.M.

I am sure you could hear the excitement and pride in my voice when we spoke together Friday evening. I would be honored to act as your contact person at any time, any place, any hour. For your convenience my number at the office is 653-5044; at the Eisenhower Theatre at the Kennedy Center 254-3666; and at the Watergate Hotel 965-2300. I will alert everyone to be on the lookout for a message from you.

We have an extraordinary diversified number of distinguished guests including the leaders of international rehabilitation organizations; members of congress; embassy representatives; distinguished members of the President's Committee; the vice president's and executive personnel of our sponsors, Alcoa Foundation and International Paper Company Foundation; cabinet members; and other high government officials. All of our special guests will be seated in the Orchestra. The trustees of the Kennedy Center have graciously given up their boxes so we could accommodate as many handicapped people as possible. Therefore, every box, except The President's box, will be filled with outstanding handicapped people from various agencies throughout the United States.

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

Agnes De Mille Claire Bloom David Hays Father Gilbert Hartke George London  
George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinkley Zelda Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210

The President's box will accommodate eight to ten people and the following names have been suggested to have the honor of sitting with Mrs. Ford:

- 1
- 2 The Honorable Harold Russell, Chairman of the President's Committee, and Mrs. Russell.
- 2 The Honorable Jayne Baker Spain, Vice Chairman of the President's Committee and Mr. John Spain
- 1 Lady Ramsbotham, who has been a very close friend of the Committees. (I understand Lord Ramsbotham will be unable to attend.)
- 2 Mayor and Mrs. Walter E. Washington, the Official Hosts of the evening.
- 1 Myself, as a member of the President's Committee and as the Executive Producer of the show.

~~8~~ ~~10~~  
Mrs. Ford may have her own preferences and naturally, whatever pleases her is what we want to do.

I spoke with Sheila, as you suggested, and she's planning to release the news on Monday.

If there is any way I can be helpful, please let me know.

What else can I say except thank you -- thank you. I'm sure you know how much this means to me, to our stars, to the audience, and to our cause.

Sincerely,



Ruth Mondschein  
Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts





## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

April 12, 1976

*Eisenhower  
Theatre*

Mrs. Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Ford:

I am delighted to inform you that the greatest troubadour of all, Mr. Burl Ives, will be joining us on the evening of the 28th at the Kennedy Center. Josuha Logan the greatest director in America is so excited about the whole concept -- the arts and the handicapped -- that he has consented to direct the show for us.

We are also very happy that the beautiful young dancers of Gallaudet College will be joining us that evening. And, of course, your favorite, Pearl Bailey -- who exemplifies the American dream, will be one of our great stars.

So many marvelous things are happening as a result of this Festival. I know that it's only the beginning to the whole new awareness of careers in the arts for the handicapped gifted and talented, and the use of the arts in realizing and developing the highest potential of handicapped children.

I am proud to share with you the fact that Lady Ramsbotham will not only be present, but would like to do a similar Festival in England.

We look forward to your presence, not only because it would lend such dignity and prestige to the evening, but because you will serve as an inspiration to the hundreds of handicapped in our audience and to the millions of disabled people in our country.

On behalf of the President's Committee and Harold Russell, Chairman, our best wishes for a wonderful Easter Holiday.

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The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman

I hope you have seen the beautiful picture of Harold Russell, yourself, and the Wyler's that was taken at the affair in Hollywood.

On a very personal note, I noticed in the paper that you and Pearl Bailey are both Aries -- I am very proud to join your distinguished company.

In much admiration,

*Ruth*

Ruth Mondschein  
Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts

o: (202) 653-5044

~~h:~~

*604-0700  
Rm E620  
Rm 49*

*9-11 in no  
intermission*

*Receipt. after show  
for artists,  
sponsors,*





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March 12, 1976

Mrs. Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Ford:

I want you to know how delighted I was to have had a chance to chat with you at the dinner for Willie Wyler in Los Angeles. It was an evening that I'll never forget.

A brief reminder:

I had hoped to have had the chance to talk to you about the forthcoming Festival of the Arts of Handicapped Persons, "In Celebration," to be held at the Kennedy Center on Wednesday evening, April 28. You and the President are, of course, honorary patrons.

I hope very much that both of you will be able to attend. It promises to be a most unusual event -- calling attention during this Bicentennial Year to the contributions of handicapped citizens to our country, not only in the arts but in all kinds of endeavors. Participants include Pearl Bailey, Nanette Fabray, Helen Hayes, Itzhak Perlman, Ray Charles, Tom Sullivan and the National Theatre of the Deaf.

I am looking forward to seeing you again on April 28.

Sincerely,

Harold Russell  
Chairman

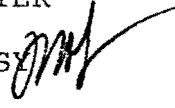
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The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 15, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: SUSAN PORTER  
FROM: DAVID LISSY   
SUBJECT: Festival of Arts featuring  
handicapped performers --  
April 28

I would like to warmly endorse whatever participation  
in this event Mrs. Ford may contemplate.

cc: Sarah Massengale

THE WHITE HOUSE .

WASHINGTON

Carolyn,

I think Mrs. Ford may want to see this before she goes to California. Harold Russell (par. 3) will be at the Amer. Film Institute Dinner.

I think this looks like a super evening--and one which combines two areas of Mrs. Ford's interests. I have in in with the things to talk to her about after she returns.

Thank you,

susan



APRIL  
ATTEND -  
REGRET.

## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

February 11, 1976

*Hope to attend  
but keep  
translation*

Mrs. Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Ford:

We are so proud and so delighted that you and the President have accepted the Honorary Chairmanship of what we feel will be the most unique and meaningful celebration of the Bicentennial Year. It has been said that "the arts are a means of addressing humanity," and can there be any more effective way of communicating the courage, the imagination, and the faith of the American Spirit than through the magnitude of the artists who will be gracing the stage of the Eisenhower Theater on April 28, 1976?

Nanette Fabray has had a hearing problem all her life, but she's a beautiful performer and a beautiful person; the National Theatre of the Deaf, one of the most exciting drama troupes in the world; Itzhak Perlman may be paraplegic but the magic of his violin lights up the heart and soul of everyone who hears him; one of your favorite people in the world, Pearl Bailey, is the essence of humanity and love -- and this is only the beginning of the roster of the various great artists who will grace the stage for this festive occasion.

I know that you have met on a number of occasions, Harold Russell, Chairman of the President's Committee, who starred in "The Best Years Of Our Lives" as a returning disabled war veteran. Jayne Baker Spain, Vice Chairman of our Committee, was as you know, Vice Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, and now has the exciting new challenge of being one of the first women to achieve the status and recognition as Senior Vice President of Gulf Oil Corporation.

We have the artists; we have the commitment; we have a President's Committee composed of fantastic people representing every sector of our country; and we want at this time in American history to have the opportunity to proclaim that it is the ability and not the disability that counts.

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

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George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinkley Zelta Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman

Knowing your interest in the arts and your devotion and work with handicapped people, we would consider it the highest honor if you would announce the Festival of the Arts at a White House press conference, with Harold Russell and Jayne Spain attending, or anyone else you wish to designate.

We realize that your schedule is so overburdened, but this is really the first time in the history of our country that we have focused on a Salute of this nature, not for just a night - not for just a day - but to communicate a new sense of awareness of the accomplishments and achievements of handicapped people, and to enhance the quality of life for all.

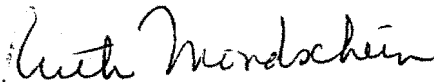
We hope this request merits your most special consideration. We were thinking in terms of a date for a press conference between February 18 and March 3. If this is not possible, could there be a press release, a proclamation, or whatever you feel appropriate - and, of course, your presence at the performance.

This year the Annual Meeting will highlight demonstration projects on the relationship of the arts in developing the highest quality of motor skills, reading skills and language, for handicapped children. Hank Viscardi the Chairman of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals will bring his drama troupe of severely handicapped children, in wheelchairs, and demonstrate the role of drama in their lives -- so you see -- we're all in it together. But, it's the Festival that will open the hearts and minds and nerve endings of real understanding.

I saw something on TV that said it beautifully, "The spirit of achievement is the spirit of America" and that is what this evening is all about -- that in the arts there are no handicaps.

It has been said "If you will it, it is no dream" and this is a dream that will become the desired reality, by your presence, by your participation, by your personal touch and commitment.

Sincerely,



Ruth Mondschein  
Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts  
653-5044

4/27/76  
6:00 pm

(Advanceman: Don Clarey)

*Sheila*

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

THE FIRST LADY'S ATTENDANCE AT  
THE FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS,  
"IN CELEBRATION"

The Kennedy Center  
Wednesday, April 29, 1976  
BLACK TIE (Optional)

8:45 pm        The First Lady boards motorcade on South Grounds.  
  
MOTORCADE DEPARTS South Grounds en route Kennedy  
Center.

(Driving time: 6 minutes)

8:51 pm        MOTORCADE ARRIVES Kennedy Center  
(Parking Level B Entrance)

The First Lady proceeds to the elevator en route  
to the Box Tier level of the Eisenhower Theater.

8:52 pm        The First Lady arrives at the Box Tier Level.

The First Lady will be met by:

Harold Russell, Chairman, President's  
Committee on Employment of the  
Handicapped

Jane B. Spain, Vice Chairman of the  
President's Committee

Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer of  
Festival of the Arts

The First Lady, escorted by Mr. Russell, Mrs.  
Spain, and Mrs. Mondschein, proceeds to the  
President's Box.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE



8:54 pm           The First Lady proceeds into the President's Box, is introduced to the audience, and is seated.

9:00 pm           The Festival of the Arts of Handicapped Persons, "In Celebration" program begins.  
                  (There will be no intermission.)

11:00 pm           The Program concludes.

11:03 pm           The First Lady, escorted by Mr. Russell and Mrs. Spain, depart the President's Box en route to the elevator.

NOTE: Mr. Russell and Mrs. Spain will bid farewell at the elevator.

11:05 pm           MOTORCADE DEPARTS Kennedy Center en route South Grounds.

(Driving time: 6 minutes)

11:12 pm           MOTORCADE ARRIVES South Grounds.

*Sally*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 26, 1976

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

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

EVENT: Gala Performance

GROUP: President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped

DATE: Wednesday, April 28, 1976

TIME: 9:00 p.m.

PLACE: Eisenhower Theater, Kennedy Center

CONTACT: Ruth Mondschein  
653-5044

COMMENTS: Mrs. Ford will attend the Festival of the Arts, "In Celebration," a special performance to benefit the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. As soon as the guest list for the box is fully determined, I will be in communication with you. A reception will be held following the performance but because the performance does not begin until late (9:00 p.m.) and will probably last two hours, at most I think Mrs. Ford's attendance at the reception should be a drop-by. She may wish to determine in the course of the evening whether she wishes to drop by the reception. The evening should be a lovely one with a number of distinguished performers participating including Nanette Fabray, Helen Hayes, Pearl Bailey, etc. and attended by leaders of national rehabilitation organizations, members of Congress, Embassy representatives, etc. The President and Mrs. Ford are Honorary Patrons of the evening. I understand the advanceman is Don Clarey (O: 961-8673; H: 548-9624). The file is attached. Thank you.

*Handicap the year*

- c: BF Staff
- Red Cavaney
- William Nicholson
- James Cavanaugh
- David Lissy
- Sara Massengale
- Rex Scouten
- Staircase



FACT SHEET

Festival of the Arts  
"In Celebration"  
A Bicentennial Salute

Under the Honorary Chairmanship of The President and Mrs. Ford  
Official Hosts: Mayor and Mrs. Walter E. Washington

Wednesday, April 28, 1976 -- 9:00 p.m. -- Eisenhower Theater, Kennedy Center,  
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Nanette Fabray.....lost her hearing and regained it -- ever since has  
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George London, Itzhak Perlman, George Spota, Jack Valenti.

*Ray Charles  
Lucille Fletcher*

PURPOSE

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- . to open a new door of communication -- communication in human understanding as manifest in the arts
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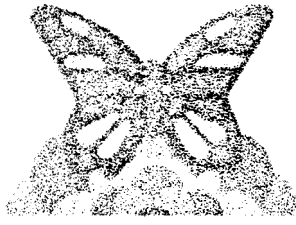
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Producer/Director: Hilly Elkins  
Executive Producer: Ruth Mondschein

For further information: Contact "In Celebration" staff - Phone 653-5044  
Eleanor Sullivan /// Sharon Turner



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Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

April 25, 1976

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Appointment Secretary to  
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The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Susan:

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I am sure you could hear the excitement and pride in my voice when we spoke together Friday evening. I would be honored to act as your contact person at any time, any place, any hour. For your convenience my number at the office is 653-5044; at the Eisenhower Theatre at the Kennedy Center 254-3666; and at the Watergate Hotel 965-2300. I will alert everyone to be on the lookout for a message from you.

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The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210

*It will be in  
touch in Ruth  
Mondachin  
re: final Box  
list.  
SP.*

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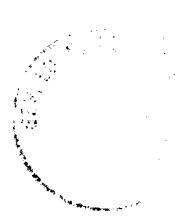
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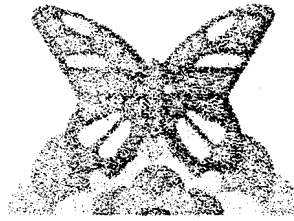
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Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts





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In much admiration,

*Ruth*

Ruth Mondschein  
Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts

o: (202) 653-5044

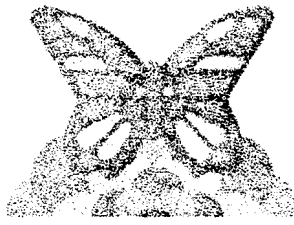
—H:

*204-6700  
Rm 2620  
Rm 419*

*9-11 am no  
intermission*

*Receipt. after show  
for artists,  
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Chairman

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Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: SUSAN PORTER  
FROM: DAVID LISSY   
SUBJECT: Festival of Arts featuring  
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cc: Sarah Massengale

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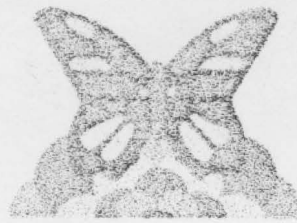
Carolyn,

I think Mrs. Ford may want to see this before she goes to California. Harold Russell (par. 3) will be at the Amer. Film Institute Dinner.

I think this looks like a super evening--and one which combines two areas of Mrs. Ford's interests. I have in in with the things to talk to her about after she returns.

Thank you,

susan



APRIL  
ATTEND -  
RECEIPT

## In Celebration

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Presents an Evening at the Kennedy Center, April 28th, 1976, Eisenhower Theater  
Under the patronage of The President and Mrs. Ford

February 11, 1976

Hope to attend  
but keep  
track

Mrs. Betty Ford  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Ford:

We are so proud and so delighted that you and the President have accepted the Honorary Chairmanship of what we feel will be the most unique and meaningful celebration of the Bicentennial Year. It has been said that "the arts are a means of addressing humanity," and can there be any more effective way of communicating the courage, the imagination, and the faith of the American Spirit than through the magnitude of the artists who will be gracing the stage of the Eisenhower Theater on April 28, 1976?

Nanette Fabray has had a hearing problem all her life, but she's a beautiful performer and a beautiful person; the National Theatre of the Deaf, one of the most exciting drama troupes in the world; Itzhak Perlman may be paraplegic but the magic of his violin lights up the heart and soul of everyone who hears him; one of your favorite people in the world, Pearl Bailey, is the essence of humanity and love -- and this is only the beginning of the roster of the various great artists who will grace the stage for this festive occasion.

I know that you have met on a number of occasions, <sup>(Chum)</sup> Harold Russell, Chairman of the President's Committee, who starred in "The Best Years Of Our Lives" as a returning disabled war veteran. Jayne Baker Spain, Vice Chairman of our Committee, was as you know, Vice Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, and now has the exciting new challenge of being one of the first women to achieve the status and recognition as Senior Vice President of Gulf Oil Corporation.

We have the artists; we have the commitment; we have a President's Committee composed of fantastic people representing every sector of our country; and we want at this time in American history to have the opportunity to proclaim that it is the ability and not the disability that counts.

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

Agnes De Mille Claire Bloom David Hays Father Gilbert Hartke George London  
George Spota Helen Hayes Hillard Elkins Itzhak Perlman  
Jack Valenti James DePreist Jose Feliciano Nanette Fabray Richmond Crinkley Zelda Fichandler

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. 20210  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer Harold Russell, Chairman



N. /

Knowing your interest in the arts and your devotion and work with handicapped people, we would consider it the highest honor if you would announce the Festival of the Arts at a White House press conference, with Harold Russell and Jayne Spain attending, or anyone else you wish to designate.

We realize that your schedule is so overburdened, but this is really the first time in the history of our country that we have focused on a Salute of this nature, not for just a night - not for just a day - but to communicate a new sense of awareness of the accomplishments and achievements of handicapped people, and to enhance the quality of life for all.

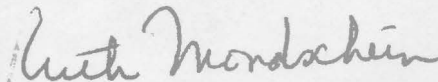
We hope this request merits your most special consideration. We were thinking in terms of a date for a press conference between February 18 and March 3. If this is not possible, could there be a press release, a proclamation, or whatever you feel appropriate - and, of course, your presence at the performance.

This year the Annual Meeting will highlight demonstration projects on the relationship of the arts in developing the highest quality of motor skills, reading skills and language, for handicapped children. Hank Viscardi the Chairman of the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals will bring his drama troupe of severely handicapped children, in wheelchairs, and demonstrate the role of drama in their lives -- so you see -- we're all in it together. But, it's the Festival that will open the hearts and minds and nerve endings of real understanding.

I saw something on TV that said it beautifully, "The spirit of achievement is the spirit of America" and that is what this evening is all about -- that in the arts there are no handicaps.

It has been said "If you will it, it is no dream" and this is a dream that will become the desired reality, by your presence, by your participation, by your personal touch and commitment.

Sincerely,



Ruth Mondschein  
Executive Producer  
Festival of the Arts  
653-5044



4/27/76

6:00 pm

(Advanceman: Don Clarey)

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

*Fran*

THE FIRST LADY'S ATTENDANCE AT  
THE FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS,  
"IN CELEBRATION"

The Kennedy Center  
Wednesday, April 29, 1976  
BLACK TIE (Optional)

8:45 pm           The First Lady boards motorcade on South Grounds.

MOTORCADE DEPARTS South Grounds en route Kennedy  
Center.

(Driving time: 6 minutes)

8:51 pm           MOTORCADE ARRIVES Kennedy Center  
(Parking Level B Entrance)

The First Lady proceeds to the elevator en route  
to the Box Tier level of the Eisenhower Theater.

8:52 pm           The First Lady arrives at the Box Tier Level.

The First Lady will be met by:

Harold Russell, Chairman, President's  
Committee on Employment of the  
Handicapped

Jane B. Spain, Vice Chairman of the  
President's Committee

Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer of  
Festival of the Arts

The First Lady, escorted by Mr. Russell, Mrs.  
Spain, and Mrs. Mondschein, proceeds to the  
President's Box.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

8:54 pm The First Lady proceeds into the President's Box, is introduced to the audience, and is seated.

9:00 pm The Festival of the Arts of Handicapped Persons, "In Celebration" program begins.  
(There will be no intermission.)

11:00 pm The Program concludes.

11:03 pm The First Lady, escorted by Mr. Russell and Mrs. Spain, depart the President's Box en route to the elevator.

NOTE: Mr. Russell and Mrs. Spain will bid farewell at the elevator.

11:05 pm MOTORCADE DEPARTS Kennedy Center en route South Grounds.

(Driving time: 6 minutes)

11:12 pm MOTORCADE ARRIVES South Grounds.

4/27/76

6:00 pm

(Advanceman: Don Clarey)

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

*Sally*

THE FIRST LADY'S ATTENDANCE AT  
THE FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS,  
"IN CELEBRATION"

The Kennedy Center  
Wednesday, April 29, 1976  
BLACK TIE (Optional)

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The First Lady will be met by:

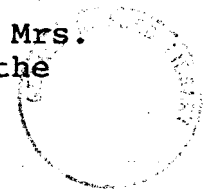
Harold Russell, Chairman, President's  
Committee on Employment of the  
Handicapped

Jane B. Spain, Vice Chairman of the  
President's Committee

Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer of  
Festival of the Arts

The First Lady, escorted by Mr. Russell, Mrs.  
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President's Box.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE





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11:05 pm MOTORCADE DEPARTS Kennedy Center en route South Grounds.

(Driving time: 6 minutes)

11:12 pm MOTORCADE ARRIVES South Grounds.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 28, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR MRS. FORD

SUBJECT: Handicapped Young Adults  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
Thursday, April 29, 1976  
1:45 p.m.

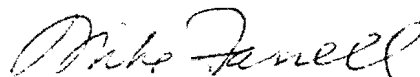
BACKGROUND

A group of Grand Rapids civic leaders have organized a special trip to Washington, D. C. for 69 handicapped young adults from Grand Rapids, Michigan. Their visit coincides with the annual meeting of the President's Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped.

They arrived in Washington on Wednesday, April 28, with plans to attend the concert at the Kennedy Center the evening of April 28. Their other plans during their stay include a tour of the memorials and monuments and special tours of the White House and the Capitol.

The individual in charge and organizer of the trip is Mr. Robert Muller, who is himself handicapped and was Michigan's Handicapped Worker of the Year in 1972.

This is the group Pete Secchia discussed with you recently.



Mike Farrell

4/28/76  
10:20 am

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

MRS. FORD'S ATTENDANCE AT THE  
FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS  
'IN CELEBRATION'

JFK CENTER  
Wednesday, April 28, 1976

8:45 pm Mrs. Ford boards motorcade on South Grounds.

MOTORCADE DEPARTS South Grounds en route  
JFK Center.

[Driving time: 6 minutes]

8:51 pm MOTORCADE ARRIVES JFK Center,  
Parking Level B Entrance.

Mrs. Ford proceeds to elevator en route Box Tier  
Level of Eisenhower Theatre.

8:52 pm Mrs. Ford arrives Box Tier Level.

Mrs. Ford will be met by:

Harold Russell, Chairman, President's  
Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Jane B. Spain, Vice Chairman, President's  
Committee on Employment of the Handicapped  
Ruth Mondschein, Executive Producer of  
Festival of the Arts

Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mr. Russell, Ms. Spain,  
and Ms. Mondschein, proceeds to Presidential Box.

OPEN PRESS COVERAGE

8:54 pm Announcement.

8:54 pm Mrs. Ford arrives Presidential Box and is seated.

9:00 pm Programs begins.

NOTE: There will be no  
intermission.

11:00 pm Program concludes.

11:03 pm Mrs. Ford, escorted by Mr. Russell and Ms. Spain,  
departs Presidential Box en route motorcade for  
boarding via elevator.

NOTE: Mr. Russell & Ms. Spain  
will bid farewell at the elevator.

11:05 pm MOTORCADE DEPARTS JFK Center en route  
South Grounds.

[Driving time: 6 minutes]

11:11 pm MOTORCADE ARRIVES South Grounds.

✓UPI  
✓AP  
✓STAR  
✓CBS  
✓NBC  
✓ABC  
✓WTOP

830 Press Arrival  
Press Room  
Hall of Nations

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of Mrs. Ford's Press Secretary

Mrs. Ford's upcoming schedule: (Revised)

Wednesday, April 28, 1976: Mrs. Ford will attend the Benefit Gala for the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped at the Kennedy Center at 9:00 P.M. For details on press coverage, please call Mrs. Ford's press office.

Thursday, April 29, 1976: Mrs. Ford will go to New York City to attend the performance of "1600 Pennsylvania Avenue" to benefit the Lyndon B. Johnson Grove in Washington, D.C., as a guest of Mrs. Johnson's. The performance is being held at the Mark Hellinger Theatre, 51st and Broadway, New York City, at 8:00 P.M.

Immediately preceding the performance, Mrs. Ford will stop by to pay her respects to the memory of Duke Ellington at the "Ellington Is Forever" concert at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Define, 111th and Amsterdam Avenue, New York City, which begins at 7:30 P.M. April 29th has been declared "Duke Ellington Day" by Governor Carey and Mayor Beam of New York, and the Duke Ellington Orchestra with Mercer Ellington conducting and the Hampton Choir is presenting this special concert to benefit the Cuttington College in Liberia, the only independent liberal arts college in Sub-Sahara West Africa.

Mrs. Ford will remain overnight in New York City.

CREDENTIALLING: Bruce Porter 212/421-9800

Friday, April 30, 1976

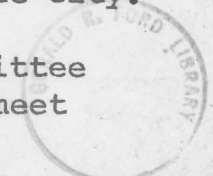
Mrs. Ford will travel to Indianapolis, Indiana.

- 11:45 A.M. Mrs. Ford will arrive at Weir Cook Field, Indianapolis.
- 12:15 P.M. Indianapolis Mayor William Hudnut will escort Mrs. Ford on a walking tour down East Market Street near Monument Circle and will present her with the keys to the city.
- 2:15 P.M. Mrs. Ford will stop by the President Ford Committee Headquarters at 1935 North Meridian Street to meet with volunteers and workers.
- 3:30 P.M. Mrs. Ford will christen Pan American's newest aircraft, a Boeing 747SP (special performance) at ceremonies at Weir-Cook Field in Indianapolis. She is the seventh in a succession of First Ladies to christen new aircrafts. The aircraft will be flown from New York the following Saturday on a round-the-world flight in an attempt to establish a new record flight-time of less than 40 hours. The aircraft will be named the Jet Clipper Liberty Bell. After the ceremony, Mrs. Ford will return to Washington.

PRESS CONTACT: John Breen 317/926-3486  
CREDENTIALLING: Monice Leww 317/926-3486 (Closes Noon, Thursday)

Tuesday, May 4 through Friday, May 7, 1976: Mrs. Ford will be traveling to Ohio and California. Her first stop on Tuesday will be in Columbus where she will attend a reception and a fund-raising luncheon at Noon at Ohio Village (a 28 acre tract north of Ohio Historical Center in Columbus. She will leave that afternoon for California. A detailed schedule will be forthcoming.

OHIO PRESS CONTACT: Jim Richards 614/221-3673  
CREDENTIALLING: Anita Williams 614/221-3673 (Closes Noon, Monday)



# Kennedy Center

*The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts / April 1976*





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Get on a Pan Am 747 at 6:15\* in the evening.

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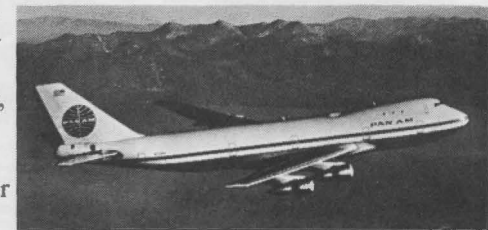
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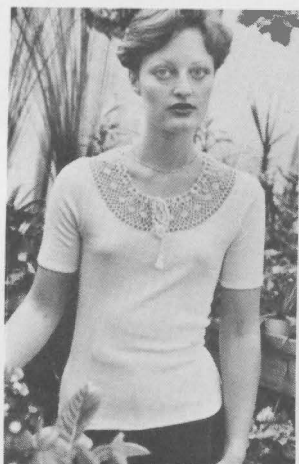
\*Leaves Washington 5:15 p.m. April 2 through April 24.



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Vee'd Tee. \$33



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# Raleighs

# stagebill

Vol. IV, No. 8 April 1976

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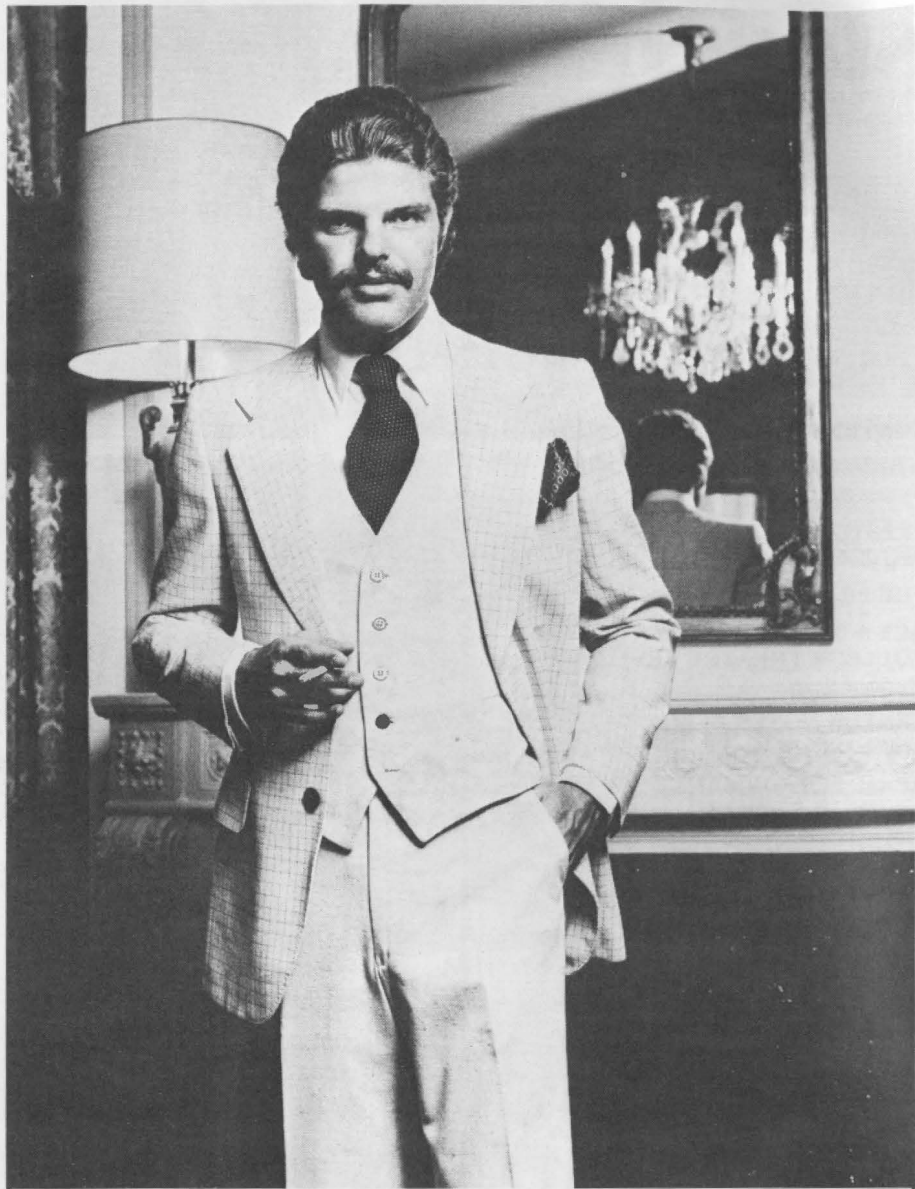
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**WOODWARD  
& LOTHROP**

# A Bicentennial “Baby Doe”



*The New York City Opera brings seven productions to the Opera House, opening on April 28th with “The Ballad of Baby Doe.”*

*The Ballad of Baby Doe*, which opens the Washington season by the New York City Opera, was created by librettist John Latouche and composer Douglas Moore for the Bicentennial of Columbia University, therefore it is entirely appropriate that it is one of the City Opera revivals honoring the United States Bicentennial.

A crazy-quilt kaleidoscope of Americana, history, biography, Broadway and

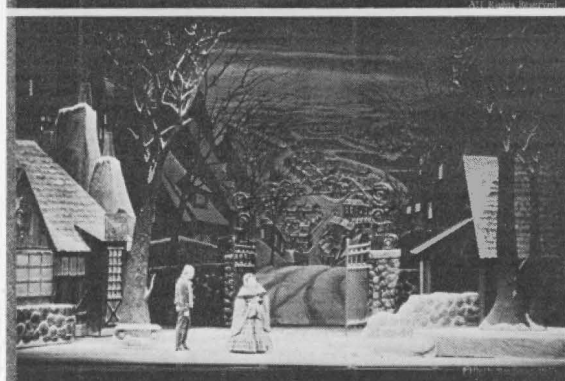
opera, *The Ballad of Baby Doe* has become the major American opera most produced since its Central City, Colorado premiere in 1956 and its introduction to the repertory of the New York City Opera two years later, with a cast headed by Beverly Sills, Frances Bible and Walter Cassel. John Latouche and Douglas Moore developed *The Ballad of Baby Doe* some years after the composer was

*Photographs of the New York City Opera by Beth Bergman*

**by Byron Belt**

haunted by newspaper accounts detailing the death of Elizabeth "Baby Doe" Tabor.

In 1935 Baby Doe froze to death in a small cabin near the entrance of the in-



Among the seven superb productions offered by the New York City Opera during its Washington season are *Un Ballo in Maschera* (top), *The Barber of Seville* (center), and *La Boheme*.

active Matchless Silver Mine, after an endless vigil following the 1899 death of her husband Horace Tabor. Once the

wealthiest man in Colorado, Tabor's fanatic faith in silver in the face of the nation's turn to gold in the 1890's, resulted in his penniless death. Having divorced his first wife, Augusta, after she helped him rise to fame and fortune during a painful twenty year struggle, Tabor and Baby Doe proved genuinely devoted. Their love survived scandal, profligate living and total financial ruin.

The true story of the three principals is filled in with a libretto bursting with a lively panoply of such unusual operatic characters as Chester A. Arthur, President of the United States, "free silver" presidential candidate and orator William Jennings Bryan, and others.

Moore's lyric delight may also be the only stage work to include not one, but two opera houses—both built by Horace Austin Warner Tabor—one in the Leadville setting of the opening scenes, and the other in Denver, on the stage of which Tabor breathes his operatic last.

Since my great-grandfather, John McCormick, reportedly lent Horace Tabor \$5,000 to help him leave Tabor Valley, near Manhattan, Kansas, to buy his first mine, I've always had a special interest in the story, and particularly in Douglas Moore's vital musical setting. Because John McCormick was one of many never repaid by Tabor, my mother never quite approved of my enthusiasm for the man and *The Ballad of Baby Doe*.

With its barmaids and glittering Washington wedding festivities, *The Ballad of Baby Doe* is a visual spectacular, but it is in the revealing smaller scenes with the indomitable but vulnerable Augusta, the boastful, expansive Horace and the superficial, but ultimately noble and touching Baby Doe that this most American of American operas comes memorably to life and to the most poignant of endings.

Although men are obviously crucial to the dramatic unfolding and musical excitement of all the operas Julius Rudel has selected for the New York City Opera's engagement here, it is the ladies who really charge the at- (Cont. on page 12)



There's a simple virtue that separates the extraordinary from the ordinary.

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Tony Stein and Gerald Dolly  
have earned more degrees under  
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than many of the people  
who drive a Mercedes-Benz.



It probably comes as little surprise that 84% of all Mercedes-Benz owners attended college. But it may shock you to learn that most Mercedes-Benz technicians have also had advanced educational training.

Take Tony and Gerald. When most boys were still dreaming about their first car, Tony Stein was learning all about one of the world's finest cars. At sixteen he started his apprenticeship in Lubrick, Germany, under the strict tutelage of master mechanics. Mechanics who knew a Mercedes-Benz blindfolded. They spent three months teaching him brakes. Three months on clutches. Tony spent almost a week learning the proper method for tightening bolts. (Too tight, and a bolt could cause a part to fail prematurely. Too loose, it could cause pressure.) He knew mechanical specifications so well, that as part of his final exam he had to build a connecting rod by hand.



Tony Stein at 19 after graduating from apprentice training. He's sixth from the left on the top row.

#### Teaching freshmen the basics.

After four years alternating between the machine shop and the classroom, Tony came to the United States. And, like all "new" technicians, he was sent through Basic Service training. This involves two weeks at one of three special Mercedes-Benz schools. The first week is spent learning engine adjustments, Diesel injection systems, and the workings of 4 and 6-cylinder carburetion.

Then, after two months of hands-on experience, Tony

returned for a second week at school. For seven hours a day, for five days, he studied ignition diagnosis, electronic injection, and the sophisticated emission systems. Finally, with certificate in hand, he graduated into the elite of the world's mechanics.

#### Every technician is encouraged to study advanced technical courses.

But Basic Service is just the elementary school of Mercedes-Benz education. Every technician has the opportunity to attend Advanced Basic Service training sessions and then specialized schools.

Gerald Dolly, who knew every nut and bolt on a car while still a boy in West Virginia, has earned three advanced degrees with Mercedes-Benz.

He studied pre-glow starting systems and infra-red exhaust testing. He can diagnose a car with an oscilloscope like a doctor with a stethoscope. And this year, he's working on his fourth degree.

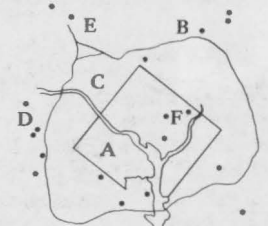
Who knows, maybe he'll bone up on 5-cylinder Diesel technology, or W116 axle alignment.

#### Two more reasons to consider the Mercedes-Benz.

In a world where gasoline prices fluctuate, it's reassuring to know that there are still some cars which combine

diesel economy with true performance and luxury. That's why more than 40% of all Mercedes-Benz cars bought in the Washington-area are Diesel-powered. And if you're worrying about fuel, relax. There are dozens of stations nearby that sell it.

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(Cont. from page 8) mosphere with blood and thunder, wit and wisdom as well as scenes of caressing or coruscating beauty.

In addition to the conflicting heroines of *The Ballad of Baby Doe* the fascinating females include the saucy, fun-loving Rosina in Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*; the exotic witchcraft of Ulrica and the grandly noble Amelia of Verdi's *A Masked Ball*; those girls of doubtful virtue but winning ways, Mimi and Musetta in Puccini's *La Bobeme*; the agonizing, deserted Santuzza in Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana* and the wandering Nedda in Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*, (although here it must be admitted the men really steal the show); climaxing everything with that

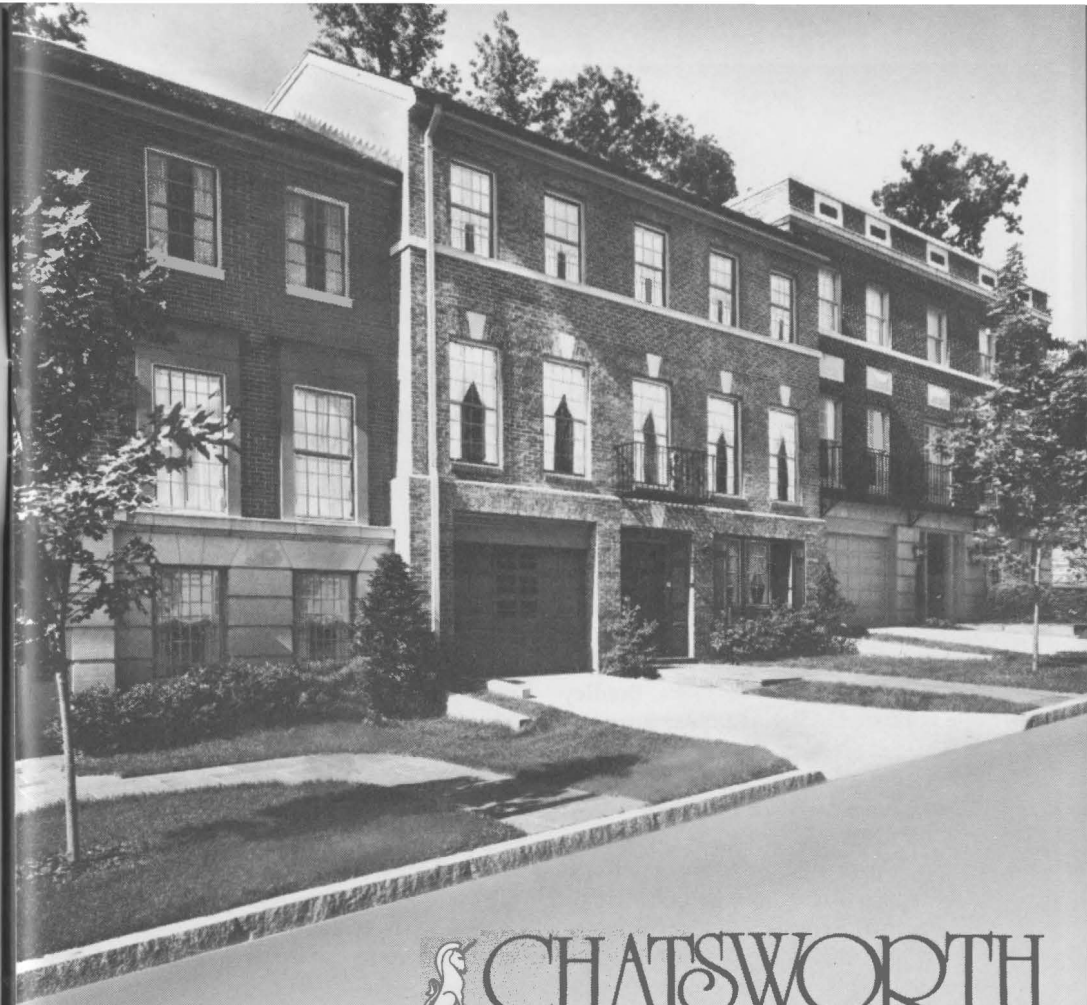


Elizabeth "Baby Doe" Tabor

rare party-thrower and dark demon, Lucrezia Borgia herself via the somewhat prettified treatment by Donizetti.

If opera is, as Samuel Johnson claimed, "an exotic and irrational entertainment," dare one—without fear of feminist revolt—imply that some of the irrationality and most of the enjoyable exoticism stem from composers' uncontrollable fascination with women who—whether fragile like Mimi, or awesome, as La Borgia—dominate and bring special glory to opera of every era and style.

Byron Belt is Critic at Large for the *Newhouse Newspaper* and *Music Journal Magazine*.



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# Preston Jones' Texas Trilogy

*"Lu Hampton Laverty Oberlander," "The Last Meeting of the Knights of the White Magnolia" and "The Oldest Living Graduate" will play in repertory in the Eisenhower Theatre beginning April 22.*

It is fitting and proper that the first new work in the Bicentennial Series at the Kennedy Center should be *The Bradleyville Trilogy* by Preston Jones. Bradleyville is located in the dusty, dry heartland of America. It is one of those little West Texas towns not far from Big Spring. Preston Jones has lived and worked there and has made this mythical town, Bradleyville, the setting for all three plays.

It is also fitting and proper that the Bicentennial Series should present a trilogy which takes a many-sided, in-depth view of life in one of America's small towns. The three plays depict decades in the lives of Bradleyville citizens. Coming from Texas by way of New Mexico, Preston Jones paints on a big canvas.

Preston Jones began writing seriously four years ago. It is a tribute to his ability that his first three plays, *The Bradleyville Trilogy*, should all be of such high caliber. Jones has written four exceptional plays within a twenty-six-month time span. He is a member of the Dallas Theater Center Professional Company and has been an actor and director at the DTC for the past fourteen years. Born in New

Mexico, he attended the University of New Mexico at Albuquerque, majoring in theatre. After graduating, he worked several years as a road builder in West Texas. Then, in the early sixties, he began his study at the Dallas Theatre Center. As an undergraduate, he was interested in writing with special attention given to beatnik poetry. He holds a Master's degree from Trinity University with his thesis being a three-act play.

His first serious writing began in 1973 as a result of his search for good plays to produce in the Down Center Stage at the Dallas Theater Center. He found many plays written about a love triangle with settings in apartments in New York or San Francisco or Los Angeles, but very little written about the people and country he knew so well—about middle America. As a result, Preston decided to try his hand at writing. *The Last Meeting of the Knights of the White Magnolia* was written first and completed in late Spring of 1973 while Jones was working in the Theater Box Office. One day he handed a hand-printed script out the Box Office window to me and (Continued on pg. 21)

*The American Bicentennial Theatre Productions are presented by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and Xerox Corporation.*

**by Paul Baker**



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(Continued from page 14) said, "Please read this." It was the first draft of *Magnolia*. Later that summer he finished *Lu Ann Hampton Laverly Oberlander*, also laboriously hand-printed. I knew we had found two fine plays. Mary Sue Jones, Preston's wife, Assistant Director, actress, and designer at the Dallas Theater Center, designed the two productions. *Magnolia* and *Lu Ann* became part of the dramatic offering of Play Market '74 where six other new plays, all by authors of the Dallas Theater Center, were produced for an audience of producers, agents and directors. The prestigious American Playwrights Theatre immediately chose *Magnolia* as their 1975-76 offering to repertory and collegiate theatres. So far, over forty productions have been booked from Alaska to Florida.

Later, in Spring 1974, Preston completed *The Oldest Living Graduate* and all three plays were produced in repertory on our main stage, the Kalita Humphreys Theater, for a five-week run opening November 19, 1974. They broke attendance records. At the end of the run, for one week all three plays were produced in one evening, opening curtain at 7:00 pm and running until 2:00 am with a break for dinner and dessert. We all held our breath. Would the audience come for three plays? Would they stay for seven hours? We were amazed at the results. Each night was a sellout. The audience came and stayed. The Trilogy received a standing ovation every single performance. The evenings were a high point in theatrical history in the Southwest.

Jones's fourth play, *A Place on the*

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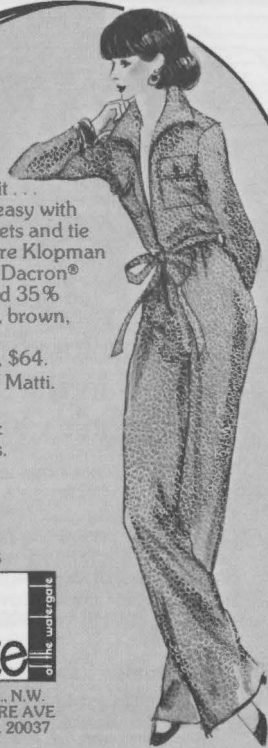
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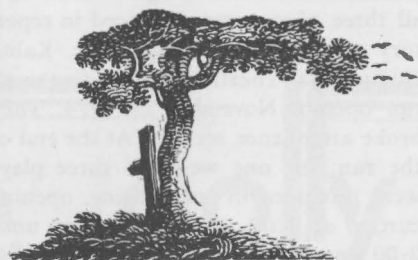
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*Magdalena Flats*, premiered January 9,  
1976, at the Dallas Theater Center to  
high critical acclaim.

Now, a word about the plays:

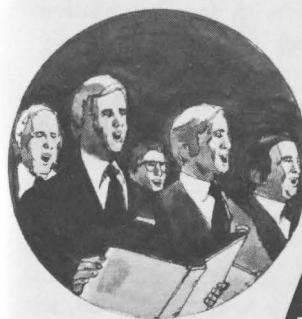
*The Last Meeting of the Knights of  
the White Magnolia* was written when  
Preston Jones became fascinated with  
what happened at the very last meeting  
of a foolish fraternal order (something  
like the Ku Klux Klan). In this play, the  
Knights have deteriorated from a large  
state organization until this (unknown  
to the members) is the last meeting of  
the last extant chapter. He placed the  
lodge hall in a small, delapidated West  
Texas hotel, one of former splendor,  
owned by its oldest member, Colonel  
Kinkaid.

In *Magnolia*, Jones mercilessly satirizes  
the members and joiners of all fra-  
ternal orders. He also searches beneath



the surface action for deeper meanings.  
The author knows that many of us need  
such societies as insulation from every-  
day, humdrum reality. When the Brothers  
in *Knights* finally face reality, the lodge  
folds. All the characters are hiding from  
something. Col. J. C. Kinkaid, a World  
War I veteran, represents the Old West—  
dottering, senile, babbling, but with a  
genuine love of the land and a deep and  
abiding love and nostalgic adulation for  
the warrior in each of us.

Jones, understands and loves the mili-  
tary. He comes from a military family.  
One of the main themes running through-  
out the Trilogy is the effect which mili-  
tary life has on the characters in the play.  
A high point of *Magnolia* is reached  
when Col. Kinkaid relives the devastat-  
ing killing and butchery in the trenches



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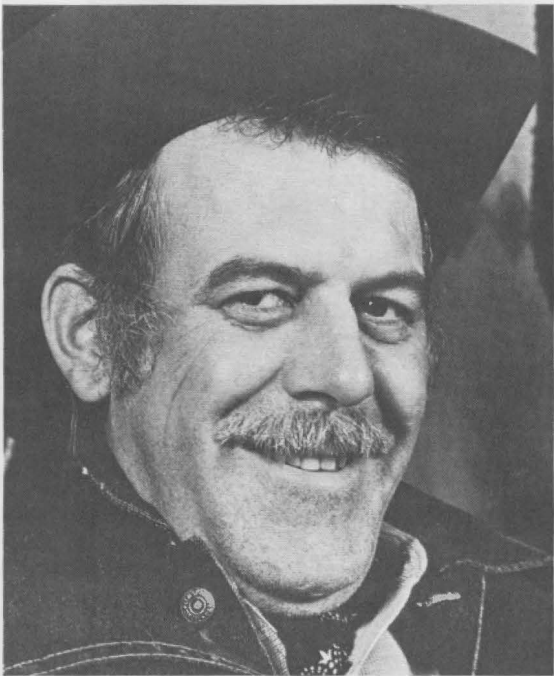
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in World War I. Skip Hampton in *Magnolia* and *Lu Ann* is forever reliving in alcoholic stupor his great moments in the Chosen Sector during the Korean conflict. Col. Kinkaid's last speech in *Graduate* is probably one of the most poignant and touching tributes ever written to the life of the Old West and the nostalgic memories of an old soldier. This great speech will become an important addition to American literature.

The Trilogy portrays the three main levels of small town society. *Lu Ann* is a most sympathetic study of what hap-



The Bradleyville Trilogy author, Preston Jones.

pens to a beautiful high school cheerleader when she remains in her insular community and marries young. The action covers twenty years. We see *Lu Ann* in Act I graduating from high school and falling in love; Act II, bounding back from one unsuccessful marriage to a truckdriver, now with a divorce and a baby girl, making a difficult and heroic adjustment to the reality of small town life; Act III, her final adjustment to life (at age 38) in the role of breadwinner

with an invalid mother, an alcoholic brother and a typical teenage daughter.

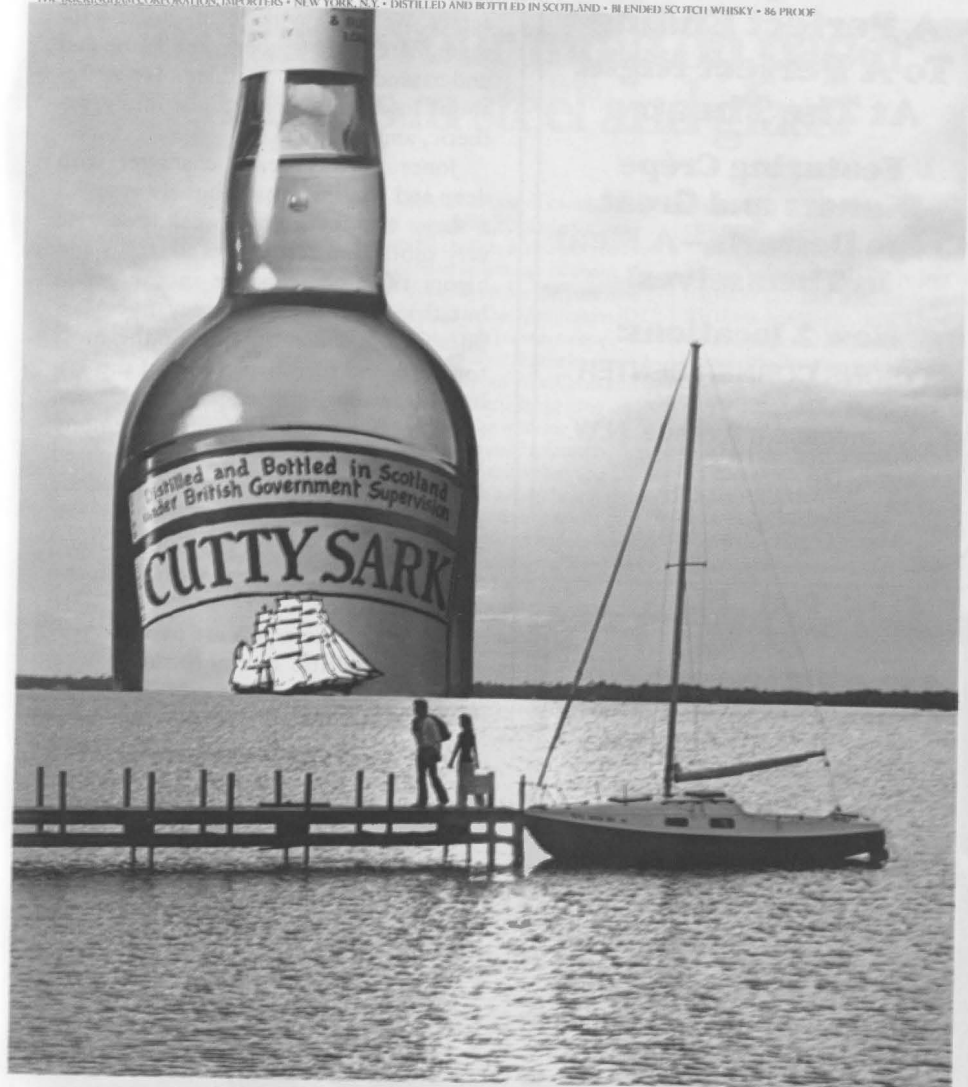
*Lu Ann* deals with the simple, pathetic and joyous events of daily living—of growing up—of aging. The play is about the lives of all the plain Janes in little towns who wait tables, clerk in stores, mind the brats, live in trailer homes. It is a play written with deep compassion for each character in the play, especially for the tragic-comic life of all the *Lu Anns* in America. In my opinion, *Lu Ann* is one of the most beautifully etched characters in the contemporary dramatic theatre.

*The Oldest Living Graduate* looks at the weaknesses, foibles and prejudices of Bradleyville's Country Club set. In *Graduate* we see how the well-to-do, second-generation aristocracy of a small town lives, thinks, wheels and deals with one another. Col. Kinkaid lives with his son Floyd, and his son's childless wife, Maureen Kinkaid. Jones draws a very strong contrast between the Colonel and his love of the soil, his memories of the Old West, and the monotony of Floyd's life as financial leader and social arbiter of the Country Club set. *Graduate* pokes fun at ceremonies, academic folderol, and small town morality.

We get to know the people and society of Bradleyville very well. It is like a visit home. The character names become familiar from play to play in the Trilogy. Colonel Kinkaid is a leading character in *The Last Meeting of the Knights of the White Magnolia* and *The Oldest Living Graduate*, and is mentioned in *Lu Ann Hampton Laverty Oberlander*. Skip Hampton, the town alcoholic; Claudene Hampton (Skip and *Lu Ann*'s mother); Red Grover, the barkeeper; and others live their lives intertwined throughout the Trilogy. They appear in at least two of the plays either directly as characters or by reference.

Preston has a fantastic ear for everyday speech. He must have total recall. He catches the rhythm and cadence of the language of his characters. They talk and

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act like real people. This is perhaps his greatest gift as a writer. We have heard all of these lines before. We love to hear them again, spoken by real people, selected, refined, woven into beautifully drawn scenes. We get to know each of the characters. We laugh with them, suffer with them, hate some of them, and in the end understand and sympathize. He writes about losers who are at once funny, pathetic, and universal.

Jones portrays each character with deep and abiding respect but always with a sharp eye for human weaknesses. He very subtly and deftly gives all racists and bigots their comeuppance in the gentle but firm handling of Ramsay Eyes' last lines in *Magnolia*. In one of the most touching and revealing scenes of the Trilogy, Ramsey Eyes, an old black man, reads part of the Magnolia ceremony while standing in front of the lighted KKK cross, then he has a big laugh at the ceremony, the Knights, and the redneck psychology. Those last few lines of Ramsey Eyes remain a great sermon on the equality of men.

All Jones' characters are part and parcel of a realistic but constricted West Texas society—quaint, humorous, narrow, human. By giving us a microscopic view of Bradleyville, the author has given us a view of ourselves, wherever we may live. Time will give us a better perspective on the true value of the Trilogy, but I agree with Bruce Cook who wrote in the *National Observer* (June 8, 1974), "The Trilogy could establish Preston Jones as the most important American playwright to come along in years."



Paul Baker is Managing Director of the Dallas Theater Center and Chairman of the Drama Department at Trinity University. He directed the premiere performance of *The Bradleyville Trilogy* for the Dallas Theater Center.

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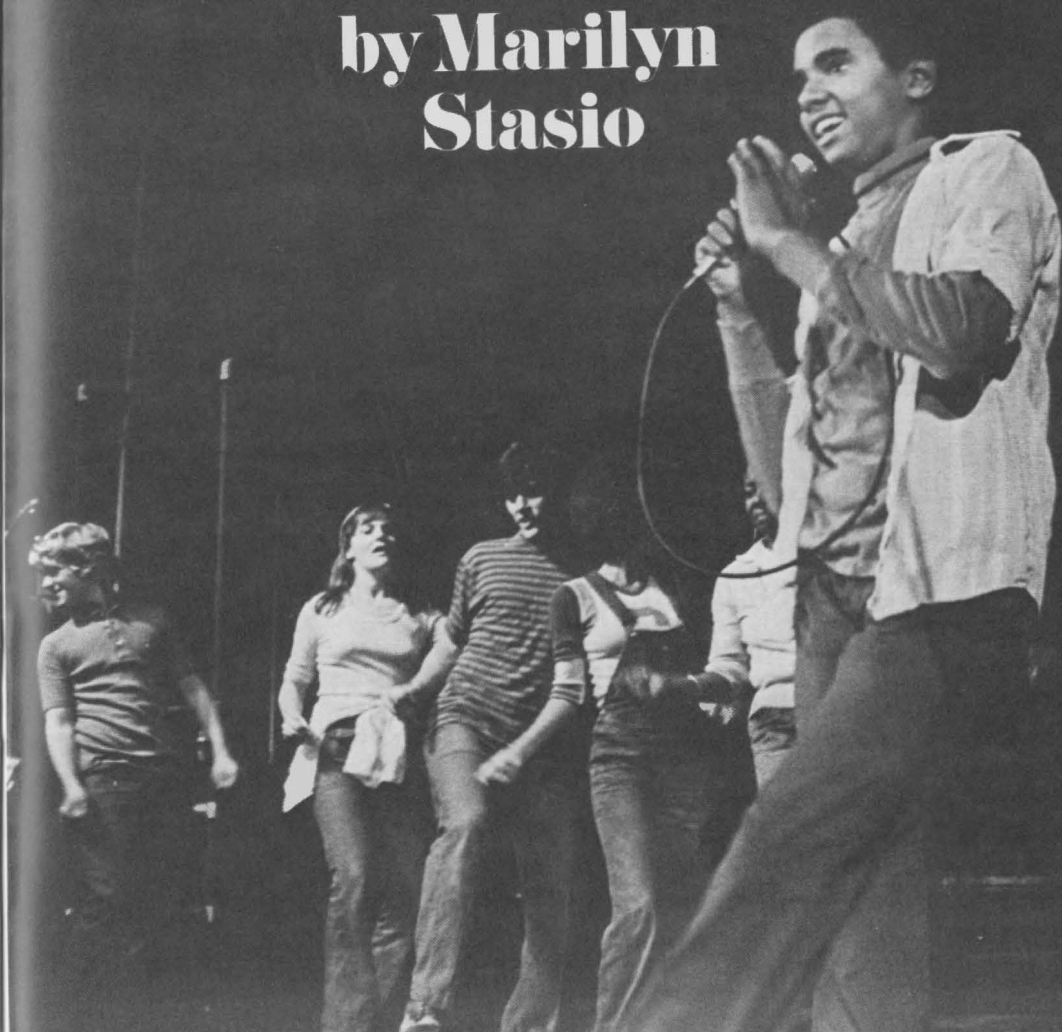
ents applauding wildly from the second row . . .

Better hang onto those memories because there's no place for them in today's colleges and universities. All across the country a quiet but remarkable revolution has been taking place in academic theatre.

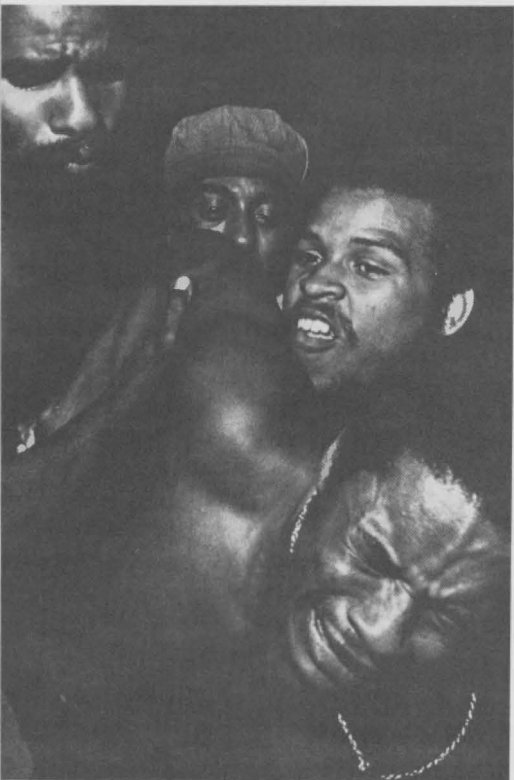
Last year, more than 10,000 campus productions took place in this country. More than half a million students work-

The Me Nobody Knows presented by the University of Detroit, Marygrove College.

# ACT 8 by Marilyn Stasio



ed on them, and another three million students attended as spectators. A growing number of universities are inviting professional theatre companies to take up residence on campus, not only to bring professional theatre to the university community, but also to offer students the opportunity to work with the pros. Even the smallest colleges are encouraging their Theatre Departments in the production of original plays written by students and faculty members.



The Brass Medallion by Ajamu is the Festival offering from Howard University of Washington.

The day of amateur productions mounted haphazardly in the gym on a shoestring budget and the strung-out nerves of a few harassed teachers is a day that now belongs to the past. Within the last seven or eight years, theatre has assumed an important new position in academic life, and the American College Theatre Festival serves as a particularly

graphic illustration of that growth.

According to David Young, Producing Director of the Festival, the annual event of the American Theatre Association has shown a dramatic rate of growth in its seven years of existence. The first Festival was launched in 1969 with 182 entries and four regional festivals. The eighth annual American College Theatre Festival, scheduled for April 5-18, represents the cream of some 350 college entries presented at thirteen Regional Festivals all over the country.

Analyzing the impressive leap, Young says, "The Festival is obviously becoming more popular and well-known. But the growth also reflects a genuine increase in theatre activity on campuses everywhere."

In Young's view, the students themselves took a key role in determining the theatre's new impact. "Seven or eight years ago," he says, "students suddenly had a lot more input into curriculum decisions. Their demand for more theatre and deeper student involvement in it reflected a more critical need. Students wanted unity, they wanted everyone to work together. A math student can be building sets while a biology student is designing costumes; and the cast can represent a dozen other departments."

In taking their cue from student needs and demands, "various disciplines within the universities learned to trust each other," Young believes. "At one time, the Liberal Arts Department never knew what the Drama Department was doing, and vice versa. But things have loosened up tremendously. In working together, the various departments learned what people in the professional theatre have known for years—that the theatre is a great social discipline. Today, the theatre is more widely recognized as a major learning experience, and the universities are now learning how to use theatre as an intra-disciplinary factor. In the vast and complex community of the university, the theatre can be the great unifier."

On some campuses, faculty plans for

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university theatre are scaling even dizzy heights. Joseph Hart speaks for them. At 31 the youngest member of the Theatre Arts Department at Rutgers University's Douglass College, Hart has been teaching since 1969. He is also a playwright, whose six plays have all been produced by university theatres, regional companies, or Off-Off-Broadway. To Joseph Hart, university theatre represents the future of the American theatre.

"University theatre has undergone a revolution," Hart declares. "Only nobody knows it yet, except us. It's not a national movement yet, but the universities are supporting new playwrights, discovering new plays, bringing professionals into the faculty, creating an environment where a playwright can create and grow.



From California State University at Fresno The Liberty Dance of Henry Sparrow will leave the Center for the Festival of Flanders in Brussels.

"Our facilities are incredible—just as good as producer Joseph Papp's at the New York Shakespeare Festival. Well, almost as good; at least, good enough to duplicate Papp's system for discovering and developing new playwrights. University theatre could become a major incubator for future professional productions. We could be an important part of the regional theatre movement around the country that has already had such a tremendous impact on the professional theatre."

In Hart's view, this golden future all depends on a certain (Continued on pg. 43)

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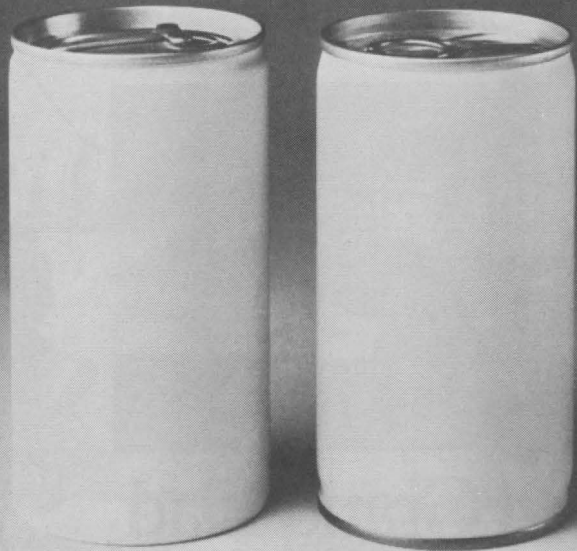


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(Continued from p. 32) degree of consciousness-raising within the universities. Although the educational institutions now recognize the power of theatre to unify students, faculty, and the various academic disciplines, they have not yet begun to see themselves as part of a larger, national network.

"The universities are doing a lot of good work," Hart insists. "They are supporting resident playwrights with small stipends that allow them to work and study and develop their plays right on campus. They're bringing a lot more professionals on campus, which helps to break down that destructive attitude the professional theatre has toward us, that university theatre is academic theatre, a kind of boondocks museum where we only do toy productions of the classics."

But the universities, Hart complains, are still unaware of their own muscle. "Too many schools still think of themselves in a vacuum. At the moment, there's too much competition and not enough communication between universities. We should be picking up each other's plays for production, and generally cooperating with each other more than we are. We should think of ourselves as part of the regional theatre movement, with an obligation to the whole country. We have the facilities, and if we use them properly—who knows? Maybe university theatre could be the basis for America's national theatre."

*Hair from Indiana University, Purdue University.*



*Marilyn Stasio is drama critic for Cue Magazine and author of Broadway's Beautiful Losers.*

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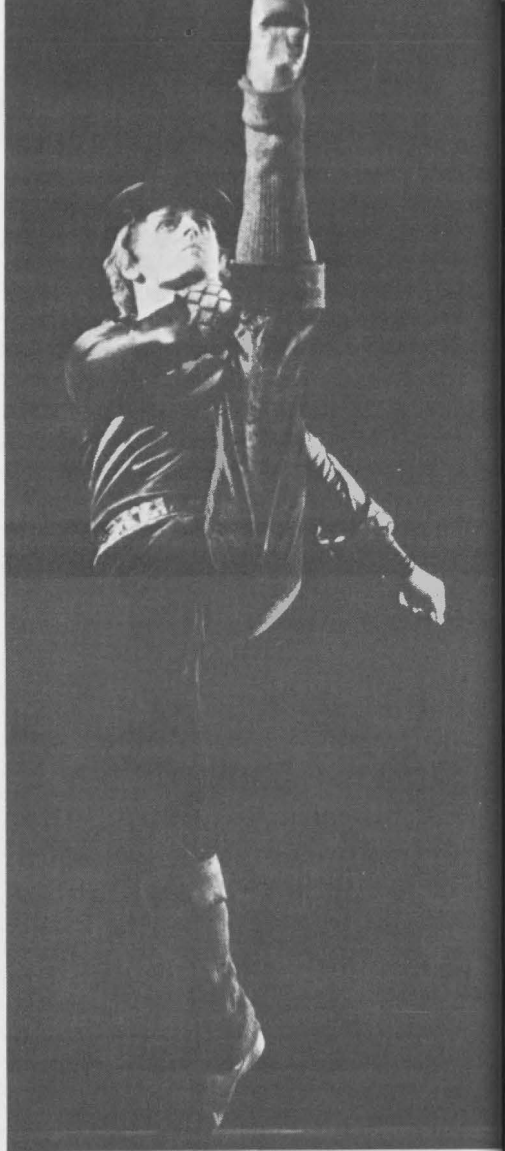
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# CenterNotes

Spring in Washington is a balletomane's delight as the finest ballet companies in the world follow each other into the Opera House in rapid succession. American Ballet Theatre with its spectacular array of international stars can be seen until April 11th. They will be followed by the Royal Danish Ballet, May 11th through 16th, Britain's Royal Ballet, May 18th through 30th, then the Australian Ballet with Margot Fonteyn, June 8th through 13.

One of the highlights of the Ballet Theatre engagement will be a *Gala Performance* on April 6 at 7:30. Sponsored



by the Washington Committee of the Friends of the American Ballet Theatre, with Mrs. Nelson Rockefeller as Honorary Chairman, participants in the Gala will include Mikhail Baryshnikov, Gelsey Kirkland, Natalia Makarova, Rudolf Nureyev, Karen Brock, Fernando Bujones, Eleanor D'Antuono, Carla Fracci, Vladimir Gelvan, Ted Kivitt, Bonnie Mathis, Ivan Nagy, Terry Orr, Marcos Paredes, John Prinz, Martine van Hamel, Lynn Seymour, Sallie Wilson, and Gayle Young. Other surprise guest stars will join in the evening of ballet pyrotechnics un-



*American Ballet Theatre:*

*Far left: Natalia Makarova and Ivan Nagy in Giselle.*

*Center: Mikhail Baryshnikov in Push Comes to Shove.*

*Above: Fernando Bujones and Eleanor D'Antuono in Les Sylphides.*

*Bottom left: Martine Van Hamel in Nureyev's Raymonda.*

*Bottom right: Gelsey Kirkland and Rudolf Nureyev in the Le Corsaire Pas de Deux.*

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precedented in Washington. Net proceeds will go to the Ballet Theatre Foundation's Production Fund.

A major exhibition, *America on Stage: 200 years of performing arts*, which opened in January 1976 at the Kennedy Center will continue throughout the Bicentennial year. The exhibition is funded by a grant from IBM. Conceived by Gene Baro, critic and cultural historian, and designed by the firm of Staples & Charles, the exhibition occupies more than 20,000 square feet on the third floor of the Center. *America on Stage* focuses on the evolution of American drama, music and dance from colonial days to the present. Admission is free and the exhibition is open every day from 10:15 am to 8:15 pm.

The more than 1,000 items on display include photographs and sketches, costume and set designs, original scripts, sheet music, posters, programs, models, musical instruments, costumes, puppets, and a fascinating array of props and objects associated with famous American performers.—JUDITH RAVEL LEABO



Dance is also prominent in the *America on Stage* exhibition. Above, a mannequin dressed in pieces of several costumes worn by modern dance pioneer Ruth St. Denis.

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SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY

**KENNEDY CENTER SPRING FESTIVAL** sponsored by McDonald's Restaurants American Music '76 Musical America Gillian Anderson and Wayne Shirley, co-musical directors A series of 25 concerts from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., April 19-24, free. Monday, April 19: 10:30 GF *American Indian Music*, 11:30 SG *American Folk Ballads*, 12:30 GF *Music from the Time of the American Revolution*, 1:30 SG *Work Songs*, 2:30 GF *Gospel*, 7:00 GF *There's No Business Like Show Business - Cole Porter*. Tuesday, April 20: 10:30 GF *Gospel*, 11:30 SG *Homemade Music*, 12:30 GF *Folk Music*, 1:30 SG *Homemade Music*, 2:30 GF *Folk Music*. Wednesday, April 21: 10:30 GF *Old Time Country Music*, 11:30 SG *Jubilee*, 12:30 GF *Barbershop*, 1:30 SG *Jubilee*, 2:30 GF *Barbershop*, 7:00 GF *There's No Business Like Show Business - Frank Loesser*. Thursday, April 22: 10:30 GF *American Folk Ballads*, 11:30 SG *Around the Blues*, 12:30 GF *Parlour Music*, 1:30 SG *Around the Blues*, 2:30 GF *Parlour Music*. Friday, April 23: 10:30 GF *Mariachi Music*, 11:30 SG *Appalachian Music*, 12:30 GF *The Colonial Singers and Players*, 1:30 SG *Appalachian Music*, 2:30 GF *American Indian Music*, 7:00 GF *There's No Business Like Show Business - Richard Rodgers*. Saturday, April 24: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. GF, River Terrace, Entrance Plaza, The Lawn Outdoor American Music, 7:00 GF *There's No Business Like Show Business - George Gershwin*.

**AMERICA ON STAGE: 200 Years of Performing Arts.** A Bicentennial Exhibition funded by a grant from IBM in the Exhibition Area (Hall of States elevators) 10:15 - 8:15 January through December 1976.

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<p>CH-3:00 <b>I MUSICI DI ROMA</b> OH-2:00 ABT <i>Giselle</i> ET-7:30 world premiere of the film <b>ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN</b> <i>benefit, by invitation</i> OH-8:00 ABT <i>Giselle</i> CH-8:30 <b>VIENNA PHILHARMONIC</b> Rafael Kubelik, cond.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>4</b></p>	<p>CH-5:30 <b>BICENTENNIAL PARADE OF AMERICAN MUSIC</b> <i>State of Illinois Day</i> ET-7:30 <b>AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATRE FESTIVAL</b> <i>The Liberty Dance of Henry Sparrow - Cal. State Univ.</i> NT-8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>5</b></p>	<p>ET-2:00 &amp; 7:30 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>Henry Sparrow</i> OH-7:30 <b>ABT BALLET GALA</b> CH-8:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY</b> Antal Dorati, cond. Robert Merrill, baritone Rosaland Rees, soprano Westminster Symphonic Choir Joseph Flummerfelt, cond. NT-8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>6</b></p>	<p>CH-10:30 <b>NATIONAL TOWN MEETING</b> CH-12:00 <b>SYMPOSIUM</b> ET-7:30 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>Conpersonas</i>, Univ. of Kansas OH-8:00 ABT <i>La Bayadere, Las Hermanas, Le Corsaire, Fancy Free</i> CH-8:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY</b> Repeat of April 6 NT-2:00 &amp; 8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>7</b></p>
<p>OH-2:00 &amp; 8:00 ABT <i>Swan Lake</i> CH-3:00 <b>CHORAL ARTS SOCIETY</b> Norman Scribner, mus. dir. ET-7:30 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>The Evening Scenes</i>, the best in collegiate acting from different universities</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>BICENTENNIAL PARADE OF AMERICAN MUSIC</b> GF-4:30 CH-5:30 <i>State of Alabama Day</i> ET-7:30 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>The Brass Medallion</i> Howard Univ., Washington D.C. NT-8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>12</b></p>	<p>ET-2:00 &amp; 7:30 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>The Brass Medallion</i> OH-8:00 <b>MARCEL MARCEAU</b> CH-8:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY</b> Antal Dorati, cond. Alfred Brendel, pianist NT-8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>13</b></p>	<p>OH-10:30 <b>NATIONAL TOWN MEETING</b> AFI-12:00 <b>SYMPOSIUM</b> ET-7:30 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>Ab, Wilderness</i>, Univ. of Evansville OH-8:00 <b>MARCEL MARCEAU</b> CH-8:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY</b> Repeat of April 13 NT-2:00 &amp; 8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>14</b></p>
<p>OH-2:00 &amp; 8:00 <b>MARCEL MARCEAU</b> CH-3:00 <b>PAUL HILL CHORALE</b> Helga Bullock, soprano Lois Marshall, mezzo soprano Howard Hensel, tenor Allen Crowell, bass <i>Bach B Minor Mass</i> CH-7:30 <b>KENNEDY CENTER SPRING FESTIVAL</b> sponsored by McDonald's American Music '76 Orchestra of the Curtis Institute of Music Mstislav Rostropovich, cond.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>KENNEDY CENTER SPRING FESTIVAL*</b> sponsored by McDonald's American Music '76 see above CH-5:30 <b>BICENTENNIAL PARADE OF AMERICAN MUSIC</b> <i>State of Maine Day</i> CH-8:30 <b>THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SYMPHONY ORCH.</b> David Epstein, cond. Marcus Thompson, violinist</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>KENNEDY CENTER SPRING FESTIVAL*</b> sponsored by McDonald's American Music '76 CH-8:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA</b> Antal Dorati, cond.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>KENNEDY CENTER SPRING FESTIVAL*</b> sponsored by McDonald's American Music '76 CH-10:30 <b>NATIONAL TOWN MEETING</b> CH-12:00 <b>SYMPOSIUM</b> OH-8:00 <b>WASHINGTON OPERA SOC.</b> <i>Tbaix</i> by Jules Massenet (Fr) Noelle Rogers, Louis Quilico Jean Perisson, cond. CH-8:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY</b> Repeat of April 20</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>21</b></p>
<p>OH-2:00 <b>WASHINGTON OPERA SOC.</b> <i>Tbaix</i> CH-7:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY POPS</b> Murry Sidlin, cond. with Victor Borge ET-7:30 <b>LU ANN HAMPTON LAVERTY OBERLANDER</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>BICENTENNIAL PARADE OF AMERICAN MUSIC</b> <i>State of Missouri Day</i> GF-4:30 CH-5:30 ET-7:30 <b>THE LAST MEETING OF THE KNIGHTS OF THE WHITE MAGNOLIA</b> CH-8:30 <b>RAVI SHANKAR</b> classical Indian sitarist</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>26</b></p>	<p>ET-7:30 <b>THE OLDEST LIVING GRADUATE</b> CH-8:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA</b> Antal Dorati, cond. Carole Farley, soprano Barbara Smith Conrad, mezzo Grayson Hirst, tenor Willard White, bass University of Maryland Chorus Paul Traver, director <i>Brahms Song of Destiny</i> Evert "Mondadnock" Beethoven Symphony 9</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>27</b></p>	<p>CH-10:30 <b>NATIONAL TOWN MEETING</b> AFI-12:00 <b>SYMPOSIUM</b> OH-8:00 <b>NEW YORK CITY OPERA</b> <i>The Ballad of Baby Doe</i> CH-8:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY</b> Repeat of April 27 ET-9:00 <b>IN CELEBRATION</b> President's Committee on Employment of Handicapped not open to the public</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>28</b></p>

THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY MAT SATURDAY EVE

<p>CH-1:00 <b>ORGAN DEMONSTRATION</b> ET-2:00 &amp; 7:30 Jane Alexander, Richard Kiley, Jan Miner, David Selby in <b>THE HEIRESS</b> OH-8:00 <b>AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE</b> <i>Les Sylphides, Las Hermanas Pas de Deux, Leaves Are Fading</i> CH-8:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY</b> Antal Dorati, cond. NT-8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>1</b></p>	<p>ET-7:30 <b>THE HEIRESS</b> OH-8:00 ABT <i>Brahms Quintet, Le Corsaire Leaves Are Fading, Push Comes to Shove</i> CH-8:30 <b>VIENNA PHILHARMONIC</b> Claudio Abbado, cond. NT-8:00 Ken Howard, Patricia Routledge, Gilbert Price in <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b> A new musical by Alan J. Lerner &amp; Leonard Bernstein</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>2</b></p>	<p>CH-11:00 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY</b> <i>Free Family Concert</i> Murry Sidlin, cond. Angela Mary Hewitt, pianist ET-2:00 <b>THE HEIRESS</b> OH-2:00 ABT <i>Les Sylphides, Pas de Deux, Leaves Are Fading, Fancy Free</i> NT-2:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>3</b></p>	<p>ET-7:30 <b>THE HEIRESS</b> OH-8:00 ABT <i>Les Sylphides, Jardin aux Lilacs Epilogue, Push Comes to Shove</i> CH-8:30 <b>LUCIANO PAVAROTTI</b> tenor, in recital NT-8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>3</b></p>
<p>CH-1:00 <b>ORGAN DEMONSTRATION</b> ET-2:00 &amp; 7:30 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>Conpersonas</i> OH-8:00 ABT <i>Raymonda</i> CH-8:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY</b> Antal Dorati, cond. Robert Merrill, baritone NT-8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>8</b></p>	<p>CH-11:00 <b>FRIDAY MORNING MUSIC CLUB</b> ET-7:30 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>The Me Nobody Knows</i> Univ. of Detroit, Marygrove Col. OH-8:00 ABT <i>Raymonda</i> CH-8:30 <b>BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCH.</b> Colin Davis, cond. NT-8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>9</b></p>	<p>ET-2:00 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>The Me Nobody Knows</i> OH-2:00 ABT <i>Raymonda</i> CH-3:00 <b>EDWARD AUER</b> piano series NT-2:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>10</b></p>	<p>ET-7:30 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>The Me Nobody Knows</i> OH-8:00 ABT <i>Raymonda</i> CH-8:30 <b>DON COSSACKS OF ROSTOV</b> folk dance series NT-8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>10</b></p>
<p>ET-2:00 &amp; 7:30 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>Ab, Wilderness</i> OH-8:00 <b>MARCEL MARCEAU</b> CH-8:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY</b> Repeat of April 13 NT-8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>15</b></p>	<p>CH-7:00 <b>ORATORIO SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON</b> Robert Shafer, mus. dir. soloists &amp; members of National Symphony <i>Bach St. Matthew Passion</i> ET-7:30 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>Hair</i> Indiana Univ, Purdue Univ OH-8:00 <b>MARCEL MARCEAU</b> NT-8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>16</b></p>	<p>ET-2:00 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>Hair</i> OH-2:00 <b>MARCEL MARCEAU</b> NT-2:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>17</b></p>	<p>ET-7:30 <b>AMER COLLEGE THEATRE</b> <i>Hair</i> OH-8:00 <b>MARCEL MARCEAU</b> NT-8:00 <b>1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>17</b></p>
<p><b>KENNEDY CENTER SPRING FESTIVAL*</b> sponsored by McDonald's American Music '76 ET-7:30 American Bicentennial Theatre Diane Ladd in <b>LU ANN HAMPTON LAVERTY OBERLANDER</b> a full-length play from the Texas trilogy by Preston Jones directed by Alan Schneider</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>KENNEDY CENTER SPRING FESTIVAL*</b> ET-7:30 Fred Gwynne, Henderson Forsythe, Thomas Toner, Patrick Hines in <b>THE LAST MEETING OF THE KNIGHTS OF THE WHITE MAGNOLIA</b> by Preston Jones directed by Alan Schneider OH-8:00 <b>WASHINGTON OPERA SOC.</b> <i>Tbaix</i> CH-8:30 <b>WEATHER REPORT</b> Rock-Jazz Group</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>KENNEDY CENTER SPRING FESTIVAL*</b> sponsored by McDonald's American Music '76 CH-3:00 <b>STEPHEN BISHOP-KOVACEVICH</b> piano series</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>KENNEDY CENTER SPRING FESTIVAL*</b> sponsored by McDonald's American Music '76 ET-7:30 Fred Gwynne Lee Richardson, Henderson Forsythe, Patricia Roe in <b>THE OLDEST LIVING GRADUATE</b> by Preston Jones directed by Alan Schneider CH-8:30 <b>CARLOS MONTOYA</b> flamenco guitarist</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>24</b></p>
<p>ET-7:30 <b>LU ANN HAMPTON LAVERTY OBERLANDER</b> opening night OH-8:00 <b>NEW YORK CITY OPERA</b> <i>Il Barbiere Di Siviglia</i> CH-8:30 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY</b> Repeat of April 27</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>29</b></p>	<p>CH-1:00 <b>NATIONAL SYMPHONY</b> Repeat of April 27 ET-7:30 <b>THE LAST MEETING OF THE KNIGHTS OF THE WHITE MAGNOLIA</b> opening night OH-8:00 <b>NEW YORK CITY OPERA</b> <i>Un Ballo in Maschera</i> CH-8:30 <b>ST. PAUL CHAMBER ORCH.</b> Dennis Russell Davies, mus. dir.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>30</b></p>	<p>APRIL PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE</p> <p style="font-size: 4em; font-weight: bold; opacity: 0.5;">April</p>	

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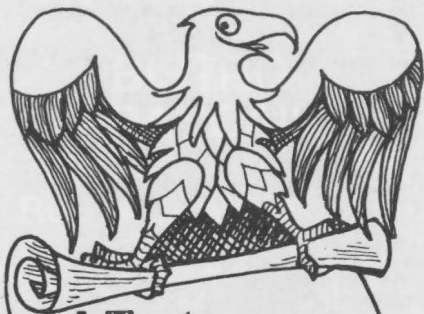


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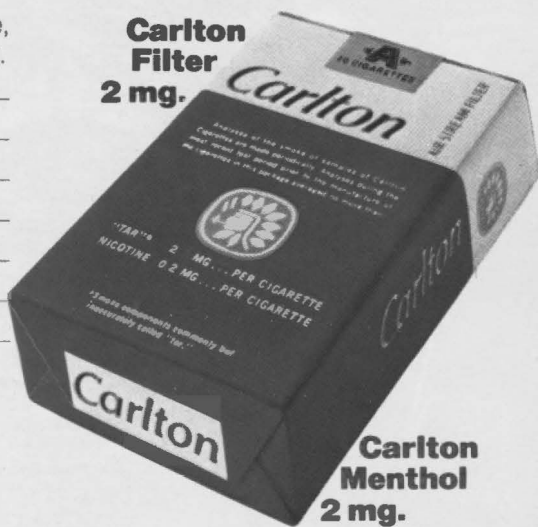
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Ken. Ctr.

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3:00

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Festival of Arts of

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Eisenhower

2 hrs.

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(General Hall 1)



IN CELEBRATION  
TENTATIVE ORDER OF  
CAST

- 1: NANETTE FABRAY
- 2: STAR SPANGLED BANNER - GALLAUDET DANCERS
- 3: TOM SULLIVAN
- 4: RAY CHARLES
- 5: HELEN HAYES
- 6: BURL IVES - AND KENDALL SCHOOL
- 7: LOUISE FLETCHER
- 8: LITTLE THEATRE OF THE DEAF
- 9: ITZHAK PERLMAN
- 10: TOM SULLIVAN
- 11: PEARL BAILEY
- 12: HAROLD RUSSELL
- 13: CREDO
- 14: NANETTE FABRAY..... FINALE

April 28  
Wed.  
9 PM  
Ken. Ctr.

Advance - Don Cleary  
961-8637

Unim?  
Jostice

- Itzhak Perlman  
violinist  
Ray Charles  
Della Hayes

All Boxes w/ Wheelchairs

254-3696  
→ Harriett Stern  
Wayne Shilvert

Press  
Ken. Ctr.

Press releases  
seats  
orchestra (20 seats)

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AP

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Ruth { Ken. Ctr. 254-3666  
Wtgate 965-2300

Announcing - Ted Parker  
Howard Devson

11 PM = End - Pearl Bailey intro.

Box

8:45 - N  
8:51 - eg

M+M. Russell  
M+M. Spain  
Mayor + Mrs Wash  
Ruth

Reception  
200 guests



Beverages 8:15  
Press - press lounge  
of Hall of Nations

UP-071

(PEARL)

WASHINGTON (UPD -- PEARL BAILEY CAME OUT OF TWO MONTHS OF "RETIREMENT" LAST NIGHT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER TO JOIN OTHER STARS IN A BENEFIT SALUTE TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS IN THE ARTS

FIRST LADY BETTY FORD, WHO WATCHED FROM THE PRESIDENT'S BOX AT THE EISENHOWER THEATRE, SPENT 15 MINUTES BACKSTAGE AFTER THE SHOW SIGNING AUTOGRAPHS AND MEETING THE CAST, WHICH ALSO INCLUDED HELEN HAYES, SINGERS BURL IVES AND RAY CHARLES, TOM SULLIVAN, OSCAR-WINNING ACTRESS LOUISE FLETCHER, ISRAELI VIOLINIST ITZHAK PERLMAN AND THE PAUL HILL CHORALE.

MISS BAILEY, WHO SAID SHE WAS RETIRING FROM 40 YEARS ON STAGE IN FEBRUARY, SANG TWO SONGS AT THE END OF THE SHOW, WITH NANETTE FABRAY -- WHO OVERCAME A HEARING LOSS IN MID-CAREER -- TRANSLATING IN SIGN LANGUAGE FOR THE DEAF AMONG THE 1,200 PERSONS IN THE AUDIENCE.

THE SALUTE, STAGED BY JOSHUA LOGAN, WAS HELD BY THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT OF THE HANDICAPPED, WHICH IS HOLDING ITS ANNUAL MEETING HERE.

UPI 04-29 01:27 PED



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Star 4/29/76

# Stars Shine for Handicapped

Betty Ford attended "In Celebration," the unique Bicentennial festival presented by the President's Committee for the Handicapped last night at the Kennedy Center, and was one of the few present who has no member of the family who is handicapped.

Harold Russell, chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, is a disabled war veteran who starred in "The Best Years of Our Lives" and is now a successful businessman. Among the guest stars were blind singer-pianist Ray Charles; violinist Itzhak Perlman, a victim of polio; Tom Sullivan, young blind singer; Oscar-winning actress Louise Fletcher, whose parents are deaf; Pearl Bailey and Helen Hayes, who have given hundreds of performances for the benefit of the handicapped.

Many in the audience including, Lady Ramsbo-

*Quotes and notes from Washington parties uncovered for The Washington Star by Ymelda Dixon.*

tham, wife of the British ambassador, and Frances Humphrey Howard, sister of Sen. Hubert Humphrey, have relatives who are handicapped, in the case of the Humphreys — grandchildren.

With the First Lady was Jayne Spain, a former vice chairman of the Civil Service Commission and now senior vice president of Gulf Oil; Ruth Mondschein, well known producer of international youth and art festivals, and Russell.

Other well known persons in the audience, where much of the conversation was in the sign language of the deaf and dumb, included seeress Jeane Dixon, Ambassador Sevilla Sacasa and Father Gilbert Hartke.

Mrs. Ford did not stay for the reception in the Atrium, but 16 staff members of the Iranian

Embassy, who footed the bill for the party, did.

A silver Mercedes blocked the driveway of the Martin Malarkey's yellow antebellum Georgetown residence Tuesday night while a party was going on in honor of Sen. and Mrs. Robert Dole of Kansas.

"Say, Hartmann," said Frank Ikard to the President's counsel, Robert Hartmann, "Do you own a silver Mercedes?" "I don't even own a gold Cadillac," returned Hartmann.

The Dole party (they were married a few months ago) had originally been planned by the Ikards for their new 28th Street residence. When the house was not completed, the Malarkeys offered their plush pad. Not only that, the Malarkeys exited from a back stairway and arrived late through the front door along with other guests. "I always wanted to go to someone else's party in my own home," said Betty Malarkey.

On the guest list — Arthur Burns and Mrs. Tazewell Shepard, who have an age discrepancy but celebrate their birthdays together; Alan Greenspan; Robert Finch, in from California and busy that night keeping tabs on the Democratic primary in Pennsylvania, the Henry

Cattos; Abigail McCarthy and Mrs. Philip Buchen.

A sure fire, if expensive, way to get instant social identity in our town is to live and entertain in a Georgetown showplace. Dr. and Mrs. Michael Lapadula — he's a surgeon and cancer specialist — attained status when they bought the former palatial residence built by the Count and Countess Andre de Limar on R Street.

Tomorrow night, the Lapadulas will have a housewarming and anniversary celebration at a seated black tie dinner. May 14 they will lend their house for the 25th anniversary ball of the Black Tie Group with proceeds going to a medical mission in India where Lapadula has taught.

## Her Family Doesn't Make Passing Grade

By Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I am a black woman married to a black man who has very light skin. Nearly everyone in his family is light-skinned, and their hair is thin, like Caucasians.

Some of my husband's relatives are trying to pass as Indians. They go around with their hair parted in the middle wearing headbands. They look ridiculous be-

Dear Abby



# Celebration Sounds

CELEBRATE, From B1

had been purchased by some of the 3,500 delegates to the conference here.

"In Celebration" was performed as a tribute to the achievements of thousands of disabled who have overcome handicaps in their lives. Among them were many of the performers on the stage—Ray Charles, the pianist who also "happens" to be blind as Sullivan said he liked to put it; Itzhak Perlman, the concert violinist and a victim of polio; Nanette Fabray, the star of Broadway musicals who overcame a hearing loss in mid-career; and the actors of the National Theater of the Deaf, who performed last night under the direction of David Hays.

Louise Fletcher, who thanked her parents in sign language after winning her Oscar during the recent Academy Awards show, also was on the program. Another performer was Helen Hayes who said she had suffered a handicap in her acting career that at the time seemed "terrific."

"I was told that I could never aspire to high places in my profession because of my size," said the diminutive actress. Also appearing for the "In Celebration" show were Burl Ives, Pearl Bailey and the Gallaudet Dancers with the Paul Hill Chorale.

After the show, Mrs. Ford spent about 10 minutes backstage talking to members of the cast and signing autographs for the young people.

Later, the Iranian Embassy was host for a reception in the Kennedy Center Atrium.

A counter-party was held earlier in the day on Capitol Hill to protest what an organizer called the exclusion of all



By Gerald Martineau—The Washington Post

*Harold Russell, chairman of The President's Council on the Employment of the Handicapped, left; First Lady Betty Ford, center left; Jayne Spain, center right, chairperson of the council; and Ruth Mondshein, executive producer of the Kennedy Center benefit, "In Celebration."*

but a "handful" of nondisabled persons from the party last night. Linda Teixeira, a freelance writer with a visual handicap, arranged the reception on the Hill in the Rayburn Building and invited representatives of disabled, feminist and aged organizations along with some Senate and House members and some staff aides. "It is another case of socially prominent people finding a reason for another party," Teixeira said. Upwards of 150 persons turned out for the informal reception, including Sen. Jacob Javits (R-N.Y.), who made a brief appearance. For some it was a chance to be together with their friends attending the committee meet-

ing for the disabled. But others joined Teixeira in anger over the party list for the Iranian reception.

Later, feeling that "I made my point," Linda Teixeira showed up at the post-concert party in the Kennedy Center Atrium. She had also gone to the concert, having been handed a ticket by a friend from the President's committee who saw her when she was contemplating crashing the concert.

There were quite a few handicapped people at the party and a member of the President's Committee agreed with Teixeira that they were there as a result of last minute in-

itations in response to her complaint. Teixeira sported as a peace offering an Iranian brooch given to her some years ago by host-in-absentia Ardishir Zabedi. She also came because she wanted to talk to singer Tom Sullivan, who had been a schoolmate of hers.

"It's really a more sensitive problem than party invitations," said one of the nondisabled persons at the party. "All those performers on the stage make us forget their disabilities because of their great talents. But then there are all the handicapped who do not have great talent and have to live out their ordinary lives day by day."

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(BETTY)  
WASHINGTON (UPD) -- BETTY FORD WILL BE AMONG THE STAR ATTRACTIONS  
TONIGHT AT A BENEFIT GALA FOR THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT  
OF THE HANDICAPPED AT THE KENNEDY CENTER.

THE FIRST LADY ALSO HAS TWO APPEARANCES IN NEW YORK THURSDAY WHEN  
SHE STOPS BY THE "ELLINGTON FOREVER" CONCERT AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH  
OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE AND LATER WHEN SHE ATTENDS A PERFORMANCE OF  
"1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE", A BENEFIT FOR THE LBJ GROVE. LADY BIRD  
JOHNSON WILL BE HER HOSTESS

ON FRIDAY, MRS. FORD WILL FLY TO INDIANA FOR A ONE-DAY ROUND OF  
CAMPAIGNING

NEXT TUESDAY, MRS. FORD WILL STOP IN COLUMBUS, OHIO, FOR A  
FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON AND THEN FLY ON TO CALIFORNIA TO CAMPAIGN  
THROUGH FRIDAY.

UPI 04-28 07:34 PED

## Celebration

By Jean M. White and Judith Martin

The performers on the stage and the audience shared a common bond last night—some of them had handicaps.

"If You Could See What I Can Hear," sang Tom Sullivan, the young singer and author who happens to be blind, while two sign interpreters at either side of the Eisenhower Theater stage moved rhythmically giving signs for the deaf in the audience.

"In Celebration," a festival of the arts, was presented at the Kennedy Center last night as an evening of entertainment before the opening of the two-day conference of The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

First Lady Betty Ford, attending the performance last night, was welcomed to the presidential box by Mayor and Mrs. Walter Washington, official hosts for the event, and Harold Russell, chairman of The President's Committee. In the box tier flanking Mrs. Ford, some of the members of the audience sat in their wheelchairs. All of the \$10 seats to the 1,100-seat Eisenhower Theater for the benefit performance

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