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12/2/94
PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON
ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

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FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON,
REMARKS TO THE PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE ON ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES
OLD POST OFFICE, WASHINGTON DC.

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(Applause.)

MRS. CLINTON: Thank you. I want to tell all of the committee members how
pleased I am to see you here, and I have been receiving reports about the
exciting and in many ways ground-breaking work you are already doing, by
looking at the issues that we all believe need to be addressed. I'm also very
conscious -- as the chairman just referred -- to the questions that are in all
of our minds about the future of federal funding for our country's vibrant and
vigorous cultural life.

Obviously none of us can predict what will happen on this front and I know
that if we could we could be making predictions that we hoped would come true,
but I believe that as Americans understand what it means to them to have their
local monuments, their museums, their theatres, their libraries, they will
understand -- as we do -- that all of our artistic and cultural institutions
are an integral part of what we call America, and a part that we must work
very hard always --
not only to preserve and nurture -- but to grow because of the impact that
they make on our lives.

Over the past 12 years, this committee, in a bipartisan way, has
vigorously supported the arts and humanities, and I know that together we
will work to continue that vigorous support. Throughout their histories, the
NEA, the NEH, the IMS, and the other federal cultural agencies have enjoyed
bipartisan deeply rooted support that extends into every community in our
country.

I know that because we value our diverse cultural traditions and we take pride in celebrating America's creative and intellectual genius that we will be prepared to make effectively the arguments that will need to be made, as to why the tradition of community, the institutions represented, and more importantly all of our institutions throughout the country need to continue to have the support of the federal government.

MORE

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