

Sunday, October 18, 1998

2

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

HONORARY PARTICIPATION REQUEST

Please return to Neal Sharma, Room 97

Today's Date: October 6, 1998

'98 OCT 16 PM3:57

Date of Request: 7/22/98
Request for: POTUS/FLOTUS
Type of Request: Honorary Chairs
Requestor Name: Mr. Wynton Marsalis
Title: Artistic Director
Address: Jazz at Lincoln Center
140 West 65th Street
New York, New York 10023-6969
Contact Tel. #:
Event Date: 11/2/98
Event Description: Jazz at Lincoln Center's annual gala benefit

Notes: The theme of this year's gala benefit is "With a Song in my Heart," and will be hosted by CBS News Correspondent Ed Bradley. The evening will consist of performances by Bobby Short, Diana Krall, and Joe Williams. In addition, Benny Carter and June Noble Larkin will be honored. The event is expected to raise \$1 million in support of performances, tours, and education and archival programs. The education programs will reach 100,000 elementary and secondary students who do not have access to arts programs. A NEXIS search revealed no reason why the President and First Lady should not serve as Honorary Chairs.

The President and First Lady should ACCEPT.

Recommendations:

MV _____ PC de ml 10/18/98
(Unless otherwise noted) a yes answer will automatically generate a message as well as acceptance of the honorary position).

Comments:

cc: Meredith Cabe, 136

Scheduling
11/2/98

July 22, 1998

2+8128
rec'd 9/18/98
[Signature]

Kathy Braun
212-875-5436

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The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Invites printing
Program Book - 2wks

Dear President and Mrs. Clinton,

I am writing to you about one of Jazz at Lincoln Center's (J@LC) most important events - our annual gala benefit. Scheduled for Monday, November 2, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall, the evening raises over \$1 million in support of our performances, tours, and education and archival programs. We would be honored if you would consider serving as Honorary Chairs and joining us at Lincoln Center on this important evening.

The theme of this year's gala is "With a Song in my Heart," and the evening program, hosted by CBS News Correspondent Ed Bradley, will consist of performances by renowned jazz singers including Bobby Short, Diana Krall and Joe Williams among others. In addition, we will be honoring jazz great Benny Carter with J@LC's Award for Artistic Excellence, and June Noble Larkin, one of our Board members and a longtime generous supporter of the arts, with the Award for Leadership. Our gala Chairs are Pamela Fiori, Editor-in-Chief of Town and Country Magazine, and Matthew C. Blank, President of Showtime Networks.

This benefit provides crucial support in enabling J@LC to achieve its mission of making jazz music available to people of all ages and economic backgrounds throughout the United States and abroad. In addition to our programs in New York, the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra (LCJO) tours nationally and internationally, and during 1998-99 will present concerts and educational activities to audiences in more than 100 cities on five continents. Unfortunately, it is these touring commitments which have prevented my accepting more of your welcome invitations!

Next year our education programs alone will reach 100,000 elementary and secondary school students, many of whom would otherwise not have access to arts programs of this caliber. Through our high school band competition, Essentially Ellington, we provide Ellington scores free of charge to bands across the country. The bands then compete for the opportunity to attend a weekend-long festival in New York culminating with a performance with the LCJO at Avery Fisher Hall.

I cannot imagine the overwhelming demands on your time and the number of requests like this you must receive, but your presence in support of the jazz constituent at one of the country's foremost cultural institutions would make a very important statement to the nation and the world about the significance of this indigenous American art form. It would mean a lot if you could share in our benefit evening. Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Wynton Marsalis
Artistic Director

JUL 29 1998