

The following excerpts from a letter sent on August 4, 1971 from Esther M. Jackson to Patricia A. Rowe, Chairman of CORD, will most certainly deeply disturb the members of our organization. Dr. Rowe has given permission for the reprinting knowing that we shall all want to do whatever we can to help in this situation.

Dear Pat:

I learned yesterday with deep dismay of the threat of closing the Research Collections in Theatre, Dance, and Music of the Lincoln Center Library for the Performing Arts.

Inasmuch as the Research Collections are the National Archives for scholars in these fields, the implications of such an action for scholarship in the performing arts are profound.

It would seem to me urgent that organizations concerned with research in theatre, dance, and music would join to urge the Arts and Humanities foundations and/or other agencies to grant an interim and emergency fund which would allow these collections to function while the problem is examined.

It should be remembered that these are the only research collections which are unrestricted in their use. Scholars in some private institutions might not feel the loss of this research privilege so keenly, but thousands of faculty and students in other institutions would be severely hampered. The implications for international scholars studying the American arts are profoundly distressing.

I hope that the Arts professions will be able to help in some way. Many kind regards to you.

Yours sincerely,

(signed)

Esther M. Jackson