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March 15, 2018

Dr. Jane Chu
Chairman
National Endowment for the Arts
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20506

Dear Chairman Chu:

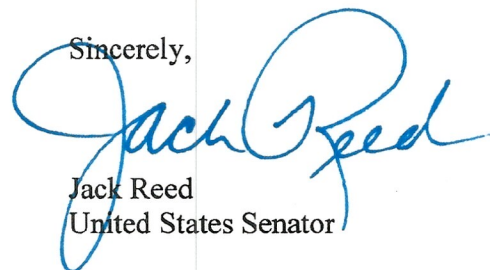
I write in strong support of the application submitted by the Providence Children's Museum for funding through the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Art Works program under the Design Discipline. This funding will support the Museum's new Creativity Initiative.

Established in 1977, the Providence Children's Museum has grown to be an anchor for inspiring and educating children in Rhode Island. Each year, the Museum engages over 178,000 children and families from all backgrounds and economic means.

NEA funding would support the Museum's Creativity Initiative; a multifaceted venture that seeks to engage very young children and build creative confidence in the next generation. Through programming that emphasizes the processes of brainstorming, prototyping, sharing and revamping ideas, the program seeks to instill the important skill set of creativity, problem-solving and critical thinking in young children. The Museum will collaborate with local schools, the Rhode Island School of Design and youth arts organizations to create exhibits, programs, and workshops in both the Museum and throughout the community that will inspire and help develop the skill of creativity in young children.

I support the Providence Children's Museum's proposal and respectfully request that you give this application all due consideration in accordance with the rules and regulations of your agency. If I can be of assistance to you in this matter, please contact Christopher Albert in my Providence office at 401-528-5200. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jack Reed
United States Senator