

who would wonder whether or not they too could paint a brush and make a picture. He has been very instrumental in a program in Houston, TX, called the artists in residence program.

What does that mean? It takes middle-school children and introduces them to famous artists and allows them to have the same creativity and spark of interest and thrill and excitement about being creative. This project is sponsored by the Museum of Fine Arts and, yes, it receives dollars from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Pornography? No. Sinfulness? No. opportunity? Yes, I salute both John Biggers and these many artists who have contributed to this program but more importantly I think it reinforces the value of the National Endowment for the Arts and likewise the history-telling of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

We wonder about art and whether or not it is part of culture. I would say if you asked the Houston Grand Opera or the Museum of Fine Arts or the Ensemble Theater or Mecca or the Asian Dance Company in Houston or the Acres Home Dance Theater, they could be able to tell the story of the eyes it has opened of children, children who thought for a moment that they had no creativity, that they could not be a danger, a speaker, an orator or an artist, or maybe someone who might have never had the opportunity to see some of our history unfold, not so much in a story book but on the theater stage as produced by the Human Grand Opera or any opera in this Nation.

I always believe that we must do things constructively and positively. I also believe we should do it with reason and a focus on the future. I do not think this country directs itself well if we take away the value of our culture, if we do not preserve it, if we do not teach it, if we do not understand it.

The National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities captures the spirit of what America is. It reflects on its diversity but more importantly it helps to uplift those who want to share our story.

It is important to have your story shared, whether it is in music, whether it is in the story teller or the history professor, whether it is in the opera singer, whether it is in the actor or on the stage, it is important to have the story of a nation told so that all people can understand the story.

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Mr. Speaker, let me share with you that the American public is willing to spend \$15 of its tax money, per family, to have the National Endowment for the Arts. Does that sound like a nation that wants to cut from underneath its very soul the opportunity to spread its culture? How proud we are when we share European history and African history and history from Latin America and history from Canada and history from the Pacific Rim. All of that is valuable.

Should we deny the American public the same opportunity to preserve both its history and its culture? I think not. Let us be instructed wisely. Shakespeare said the first thing we should do is kill all the lawyers. Some would say, as a trained lawyer, I would want to burn that and not want to hear the play that offered those words.

But I think in the spirit of art, certainly, there are limitations, but it is important to have that kind of diversity, that kind of contradiction and conflict, but as well, the opportunity for artists to express themselves.

The National Endowment for the Arts helps us do that. The National Endowment for the Humanities helps us preserve our culture. And with the great culture of the American Indian and all that is rested in this Nation, we would not want to lose that.

So my instruction, Mr. Speaker, is that we as Americans should draw together, yes, and be fiscally responsible. We have many, many challenges and many, many tasks. Many, many responsibilities for this Government. But I would say to you that to the child who stands in the classroom learning about his or her culture, or expressing himself or herself creatively through art or in the inner city or down in the stages in downtown Houston or New York or Chicago or Los Angeles, it is valuable to have entities that help us preserve who we are.

I support the National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities and I think the amendments cutting these particular entities do us a disservice in this Nation. Let us preserve who we are.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CLINGER (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today, on account of weather/mechanical travel-related difficulties.

Ms. HARMAN (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of official business.

Mr. UNDERWOOD (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week, on account of official business.

Mr. TUCKER (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of official business.

Miss COLLINS of Michigan (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week, on account of medical reasons.

Mr. RUSH (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today, on account of travel problems.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore, entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. LUTHER) to revise and ex-

tend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. SKAGGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. OWENS, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. CANADY of Florida, for 5 minutes, on July 18.

Mr. GOSS, for 5 minutes each day, on July 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following members (at the request of Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. BAKER of California.

Mr. HANSEN.

Mr. BACHUS.

Mr. LAUGHLIN.

Mr. MARTINI.

Mr. CALLAHAN.

Mr. WALKER.

(The following members (at the request of Mr. LUTHER) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota in two instances.

Mr. SERRANO.

Mr. SKELTON.

Mr. GORDON.

Mrs. MALONEY.

Mr. BONIOR.

Mr. MENENDEZ in two instances.

Ms. WOOLSEY.

Mr. WARD.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, July 18, 1995, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1203. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a report on revised estimates of the budget receipts, outlays, and budget authority for fiscal years 1995-2000, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1106(a) (H. Doc. No. 104-98); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

1204. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting amendments to the fiscal year 1996 appropriations requests for the Department of Defense, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Social Security Administration, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1106(b) (H. Doc. No. 104-99); to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

1205. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting amendments to the fiscal year 1996 appropriations