The Ziegfeld Club

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To Whom It May Concern:

As archivists and consultants for the national legacy of the Ziegfeld Follies and of the works of vaudeville legends, stars and luminaries from Fred & Adele Astaire and Judy Garland to the Gershwins and Irving Berlin, we congratulate, applaud and wholeheartedly endorse the outstanding efforts of Portals Of Wonder.

Through workshops and performances like Adventures of a Wizard, Portals Of Wonder participants and audiences embark on a magical musical journey that personifies and embodies a living connection to the Follies style review, vaudeville and the Broadway romantic musical-comedy tradition. Portals Of Wonder melds the styles of the world's most beloved entertainers of the late 19th and early 20th centuries together to educate, uplift, enchant and inspire all ages.

This body of work creates a multicultural and intergenerational celebration of the values and traditions that made America great. Programs like Adventures of a Wizard provide an historical foundation from which our youth may build a future filled with optimism, opportunity and joy depicted in glorious song, dance, magic and romance that celebrates hope and embraces dreams come true.

Following the passing of The Great Ziegfeld in 1936, his confidant and biographer, Bernard Sobel together with Billie Burke, Ziegfeld's widow, chartered the Ziegfeld Club. She was a legendary Broadway and Hollywood actress. The club was and continues to be embraced by Ziegfeld Showgirls, and Broadway and Hollywood stars. The work of the national Ziegfeld Club ranges from supporting show business artists who have fallen on hard times to funding selected theatrical organizations, curatoring rare memorabilia, books, articles, photographs and film, and consulting with PBS, Disney and other Broadway and television media giants on their productions.

As such, we are not aware of any group more capable than Portals Of Wonder, to rekindle the spirit and majestic grandeur of luminaries like Florenz Ziegfeld. The Ziegfeld Club joins Portals Of Wonder in recognizing the value of providing inspiration and assistance to young people in need as a necessary contribution to our American civic and cultural arts inheritance. Portals Of Wonder is the only organization to receive the distinction of this recognition from the national office of the Ziegfeld Club in it's sixty-nine year history.

Portals Of Wonder trustees, staff, performing artists and educators gracefully embrace this shared mission with the refinement, intimacy and pioneering showmanship so crucial to employing the arts for healing social inequities. For these reasons we wholeheartedly embrace the next generation of youth with Portals Of Wonder.

Very Sincerely Yours,

Paula Lamont President Nils Hanson Administrator

FOUNDED 1936 (A Tax Exempt Charitable Corporation)