



June 9, 2009

OFFICE OF CITY MANAGER

Mr. David Willard, Executive Director
Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts
556 Parkway, P.O. Box 567
Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738

Dear David:

Please accept this letter as a statement of the City of Gatlinburg's appreciation and support of the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts.

Specifically, this document is for the purpose of expressing appreciation and support to Arrowmont and the Pi Beta Phi fraternity for the 96 plus years of service. Beginning with the Settlement School when Pi Beta Phi brought education to the then isolated community of Gatlinburg, along with health care and the preservation of the mountain arts and crafts, and continuing with the world renown Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, this service has been a beacon. As the mountain residents became capable of providing education, Pi Beta Phi expanded the scope of its philanthropy and its positive influence to the arena of the arts and crafts, so much a vital component of the local heritage. Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts has brought the very "soul" of the mountain heritage to students, not only locally, but extending to every state, as well as to other countries.

The City of Gatlinburg would like to express support and desire to keep Arrowmont here, and would like to participate in celebrating the centennial in 2012. The City, in recognition of the long history of Pi Beta Phi and Arrowmont, would further like to work with Arrowmont in finding new ways of cooperation and assistance. The City is vitally interested in keeping this critically important part of the heart of our town, and indeed of the art culture of our Nation, located just where it is. It was born here, has served myriads of children and adults, and has become the standard for literacy in the arts.

Hopefully, this information clarifies this City's appreciation and support of the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts. If you desire any additional information, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Cindy Cameron Ogle
City Manager

Jerry Hays
Mayor