April 17, 2001

Dr. William Ferris Chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20506

Dear Mr. Ferris:

As Governor of the State of Mississippi, I am honored to support the application of the Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration for the National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant.

The Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration was formed in 1990 and attracts thousands of people every year. The Celebration has won awards on many levels for Humanities Programming and by recognizing writers throughout the South and particularly those from Mississippi; it celebrates the effects of art on our lives, as well as its influences on the cultural and entertainment industries.

I believe that programs, such as those made possible by the National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant will continue to raise awareness and appreciation of the arts in people of all ages. I am pleased to offer support for this application and the projects that will follow. Please feel free to contact me if any additional information is needed.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM:kfg