

and I believe we must work overtime to correct the previous indifference toward one of America's greatest resources, namely, its musicians, artists, writers, actors, dancers and poets. By helping them we also help our symphonies, theaters, universities and cultural foundations."

It may be sensibly argued that a mere building or group of buildings in Washington, even if dedicated to the arts, can do but little to spark the idea of general subsidy, especially since the Federal government takes a part in the project only by making the ground available, while the money for the construction of the facilities must be raised by voluntary contributions.

Still, this act brings with it a new concept of the nation's capital as a patron, defender and stimulator of the Performing Arts. It implies recognition of music and musicians as a significant aspect of our society.

It is a beginning.

