

COPY

26 Broadway, New-York

April 21, 1925

Mr. Louis L. Horch,
Master Institute of United Arts
310 Riverside Drive.
New York.

My dear Sir:-

Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., duly received your complete statement with regard to the activities connected with the Master Institute of United Arts in this City. He is appreciative of the activities set forth in these papers. He regrets that he would not be inclined to take financial interest in this building program. He is committed to a considerable number of subjects in the interest of varied forms of art and would not wish to add this to his commitments.

Very truly,

W.S. Richardson.

COPY

Ormond Beach, Fla.
March 16, 1927

Dear Miss Grant,

Mr. Rockefeller has shown me your letter to him of February 2nd. I am very much interested in the paintings of young American Indian Artists of the Pueblos Southwest. I have bought a few paintings, which I have given to our boys who thoroughly enjoy them.

Unfortunately, it was not possible for me to visit your exhibition, and I shall not return to New York before the first of April. I am writing to ask if you will still have any of these paintings at that time?

With many thanks for your note, and regretting that I was not able to see your exhibition, I am

Sincerely

Abby A. Rockefeller.

COPY

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December 13, 1927

Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.,
10 West 54th St.
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Rockefeller:-

We trust that the efforts of the Roerich Museum and its affiliated institutions, Master Institute of United Arts and Corona Mundi, International Art Center, in the fields of art and education, have come to your attention. Since its foundation the Roerich Museum has worked for wider international understanding through art.

During the last few years the work of the institutions has so grown, that we have found it necessary to make plans for the erection of a large building on our present site, which will house our own institutions as well as other activities in accordance with our program. This will enable us to carry out in a practical way our plan for a center of cultural intercourse.

We would sincerely value an opportunity to tell you personally of our plan for fulfilling this aim and to invite your assistance in any way which you may designate to see our work and convince themselves of the worthiness of our efforts.

Anticipating the pleasure of a reply, we are,

Very sincerely yours,

President

Vice-President.

H.S.

CoPY

26 Broadway, New York.

December 20, 1927

Mr. Louis L. Horch
310 Riverside Drive.
New York City.

My dear Mr. Horch:-

Mr. Rockefeller has asked me to answer your letter of December 15th.

This matter has been considered several times before. Mr. Rockefeller regrets that he is not inclined to take up the problem of the individual museum. I regret, therefore, that we could not discuss this question with you since an interview would not be of any possible benefit.

Regretting, particularly in the circumstances, the necessity of an unfavourable reply, and assuring you we have every appreciation of the objects which the Museum has in mind, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

Thomas B. Appleget.

December 23, 1927 3

Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
26 Broadway, New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Rockefeller,

Mr. Appleget has conveyed to us your reply to our letter of December 15 and your decision regarding our request. We deeply regret to hear your refusal. The Directors of our institutions dedicated great efforts to the work, and had hoped sincerely that you would send one of your representatives to personally judge our activities.

From your note, however, we feel that you have failed to convey to you the extent of our aims, and valuing so highly the breadth of your own accomplishments we would like briefly to clarify the outline of our work.

The group of institutions, which has striven to become a center of creation and appreciation of art in all fields, comprises the Master Institute of United Arts, Corona Mundi, International Art Center and the Roerich Museum.

Unifying the teaching of all arts, the Master Institute of United Arts since its foundation in 1921 has been gratified in providing a life ideal and work in the arts to numerous students. Many of these would have been entirely without the means of such training had it not been for the scholarships provided for them by the school. We have furthermore extended the work to include the blind, and our department for the teaching of the arts to the blind has provided the same advantage of creative training for the sightless - a work which we have pursued consistently, to the expressed appreciation of the American Foundation for the Blind and other institutions. The Master Institute of United Arts has carried on this program, tirelessly, although often - especially in the case of the blind, we have deeply wished for the additional scholarship provision which would have been so great a boon to the many who have sought our help.

Corona Mundi, International Art Center, in extending the educational program of the institutions into far-reaching fields has aimed to widen the appreciation of art and with it, the appreciation of other nationalities. To this end, exhibitions have been held not only in the center itself, but also in the public schools community centers, public libraries - and last year we co-operated with Warden Lawes of Sing Sing Prison and Warden White of the United States Penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth, in providing a lecture and exhibitions for the inmates.

Because of the compelling requests from all parts of this country, from those who pronounced their great appreciation of Professor Roerich's art and his efforts for international relations, the two above-mentioned institutions founded the Roerich Museum in 1923. Through their efforts, the Director collected and acquired about 750 paintings of Roerich and placed these in the permanent collection of the Roerich Museum. Since that time the Roerich Museum has been maintained as a free public museum, open daily. In addition the Museum has maintained during the year a series of Lectures on all arts and science, as well as concerts, all of which are free to the public.

At the present time, we are seriously endeavouring to enlarge our efforts along these cultural and educational lines.

Although the work of the institutions has of necessity been limited to the means at our disposal it has always been inspired by the feeling of human welfare, towards which all those associated with the institutions are giving all their thoughts and efforts.

Hoping that this letter will convey to you the purposes of our work, believe us,

Very sincerely, yours,

President

Vice-president