

227 Riverside Dr.  
New York City, N.Y.

1st Draft

Miss Blank Blank  
Librarian, Public Library  
Blank, Wisconsin.

Dear Friend:

I am writing to you this rather unusual letter in the hope that your heart will prompt you to cooperate in answering a call that has come from the serenity and purity of the lofty Himalayas. Prof. Nicholas K. Roerich, artist, author and internationally respected leader of culture has suggested that there be formed in the United States, an association for the promotion of the understanding of the beautiful, the spiritual and the cultural, as applied to the practical living of every day and to the successful evolution of our people.

Believing that in the United States there are many hearts eager to respond to such a call and to cooperate in the building of a more beautiful future, I am attempting to contact persons in each state desirous of bringing to that state the benefits of a nationally and internationally organized, cultural association.

Rather than have the parent body organized in New York, with secondary branches in the various states, it has been suggested that in the United States the parent body be composed of representatives from each state, in order that the original seed may take root in the entire nation simultaneously and that each of the several states have a voice in the detail of organization. Therefore, you are one of 48 chosen from a group of 9,200 librarians in America to be invited to cooperate.

The smaller towns have been chosen to nurture the first tender roots of the association because of an understanding of the healthy sincerity and heartiness that exists in such localities. And the librarians in these towns because of the personal, cultural contacts such a position affords.

I have a profusion of the most interesting local, national and international activities, and advices of Prof. Roerich which I refrain from detailing until contact has been established. However, I do wish to make clear that there will be no dues, no officers, no partisanship for any religion, form of government, race, sex, age or lodge organization, but rather a neutral affiliation with all for a more unified advancement of the cultural and spiritual strivings of each. There will be encouraged the protection of existing cultural treasures, the teaching, study and appreciation of all forms of art, the national and international exchange of artistic creations and ideas as well as the exchange and participation in the cultural literature of other countries.

I shall await most eagerly your reply, and welcome most heartily your cooperative suggestions for the early and successful organization and practical application of Prof. Roerich's call.

Sincerely,

Gene Fosdick.

P.S. If for any reason you are unable to cooperate, I most earnestly request that you deliver this letter to someone in your city who may serve in your stead and who will contact me at their earliest convenience.

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227 Riverside Dr.,  
New York City, N.Y.  
February 00, 1937

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Miss Blank Blank,  
Librarian, Public Library  
Blank, Wisconsin.

2<sup>nd</sup> draft

Dear Friend:

I am writing this rather unusual letter to you in the hope that your heart will prompt you to cooperate with me in a service to your community.

Through my association with the Roerich Museum here in New York I have become thoroughly imbued with the practicality of the promotion of an understanding of the beautiful, the spiritual, and the cultural as a means to the happier living of every day and to the successful evolution of our people. And believing that we have throughout the United States many hearts eager for the opportunity of cooperating in the building of a more beautiful future, I am attempting to contact persons in each state desirous of bringing to that state the benefits of a nationally organized, cultural association based on the fiery philosophy and spiritual inspiration of the internationally respected artist, author and leader of culture, Nicholas K. Roerich.

I have chosen the smaller towns to nurture the first tender roots of the association because of an understanding of the healthy sincerity and heartiness that exists in such localities, and the librarians in these towns because of the personal, cultural contacts such a position affords. For rather than have a parent body organized in New York with only secondary branches in the various states, I have felt that it would be more truly nationally cooperative, to have the parent body composed of representatives from each state. This in order that the original seed may take root in the entire nation simultaneously and that each of the several states have a voice in the detail of organization. Therefore, you are one of 48 chosen from a group of 9,200 librarians in America to be invited to cooperate.

I have a profusion of the most interesting local, national and international activities which I refrain from detailing until contact has been established. However I do wish to make clear that there will be no partisanship for any religion, form of government, race, sex or fraternal organization. But rather a neutral affiliation with all for a more unified advancement of the cultural and spiritual strivings of each. There will be encouraged the protection of existing cultural treasures, the teaching, study and appreciation of all forms of art, the national and international exchange of artistic creations and ideas as well as the exchange and participation in the cultural literature of other countries.

I shall await most eagerly your reply. And shall welcome, believe me, most heartily your cooperative suggestions for the early functioning of our association.

Sincerely,

Gene Fosdick.

P.S. If for any reason you are unable to cooperate with us, I most earnestly request that you deliver this letter to someone in your city who may serve in your stead and who will contact me at their earliest convenience.

This P. S. will not be used, we decided it detracted from the "build up" of - "one of 48 chosen from a group of 9,200."  
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