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Phone: (312) 226-1007

March 1, 2001

Lois Weisberg
City of Chicago
Department of Cultural Affairs
78 East Washington
Room 300
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Ms. Weisberg:

To whom it may concern

~~I am writing you at the suggestion of Ms. Mary Laney regarding possible funding for the Museum of Holography/Chicago. Ms. Laney mentioned to our newest board of directors' member, Mr. William Gutowsky, that your Department may be able to assist the museum in this regard.~~

~~Holography is an outgrowth of the most advanced science and technology of the age. In the simplest terms it is the ability to produce film representations in full dimension down to molecular exactness. It promises to have a profound effect on virtually every area and field of human endeavor: medicine, engineering, architecture, metallurgy, the arts, entertainment and advertising. As a concept, holography in its current form is barely 40 years old. Its potential a practical reality did not even begin to be realized until the development of a workable laser in the early 1960's.~~

The Museum of Holography/Chicago and the School of Holography, is a nonprofit tax exempt corporation. It was incorporated as a self-funded museum and school of holography in 1977 as an institution dedicated to display, promote and encourage the advancement of holography as an art form and as a facility for both teaching and research into its potential. The Museum of Holography is the only such complete institution in the country, possibly in the world, with separate and fully equipped labs for study, research and experimentation at every level of competency as well as maintaining some 7,000 square feet of space for exhibitions and lectures. The schools curriculum is augmented with such interdependent disciplines as Optics and Photochemistry, Multimedia, a course dealing with light and sound as aesthetic elements, ~~and art and holography~~, a course designed to give students a perspective into the relationships between art and

*Historic
Science*

science

science in the modern world. The Museum features special exhibitions and maintains a permanent display of holograms for public viewing, many of them of historic importance. The Museum's archive, through its acquisitions over the years, now contains perhaps the most representative and expensive collection of holograms in the world; holograms representing significant historic, artistic and experimental advances in holography created by artists from all parts of the United States, as well as England, Sweden, Canada, France, Spain, Brazil and Russia.

world

world.

We find ourselves being increasingly called upon for technical assistance by both industry and the academic community. Unfortunately, our resources are limited, and the income from industrial uses does not allow us to fund the academic aspect to its full potential.

We are in need of funding to enable us to continue to educate the population about the importance of holography. We host hundreds of school groups each year, from kindergarten to college seniors, with some of them returning year after year. People also visit us from all over the country and also international audiences.

Qm's adult business organization

~~we attract visitors from local industrial~~
~~as well as international audiences~~

We may be small, but for the past 24 years we have served an important role in the Chicago cultural landscape. Inspired by their visits, high school art and physics teachers have organized holographic laboratories to produce holograms for yearbooks and display their collection of holograms made by their own students.

Any assistance that you could provide in locating sources of grants or other funding for the museum would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Loren Billings
Executive Director

FOUNDER
LA/SH

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