

George W. Bush Presidential Library

Collection: Records Management, White House
Office of

Series: Subject Files – SO004 (Receptions,
White House)

Folder Title: 491279 [1]

Withdrawn/Redacted Material

The George W. Bush Library

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
001	Speech	Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees [page 4]	1	12/02/2001	P6/b6;
002	Speech	Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees [page 6]	2	12/02/2001	P6/b6;
003	Speech	Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees [page 4]	1	12/02/2001	P6/b6;
004	Speech	Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees [page 4]	2	12/02/2001	P6/b6;
005	Speech	Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees [page 4]	1	12/02/2001	P6/b6;
006	Speech	Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees [page 4]	1	12/02/2001	P6/b6;
007	Speech	Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees [page 4]	1	12/02/2001	P6/b6;
008	Speech	Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees [page 4]	1	12/02/2001	P6/b6;
009	Speech	Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees [page 4]	1	12/02/2001	P6/b6;

COLLECTION TITLE:

Records Management, White House Office of

SERIES:

Subject Files - SO004 (Receptions, White House)

FOLDER TITLE:

491279 [1]

FRC ID:

12580

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

Deed of Gift Restrictions

- A. Closed by Executive Order 13526 governing access to national security information.
- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawn/Redacted Material

The George W. Bush Library

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
010	Speech	Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees [page 4]	1	12/02/2001	P6/b6;
011	Speech	Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees [page 4]	1	12/02/2001	P6/b6;
012	Speech	Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees [page 4]	1	12/02/2001	P6/b6;

COLLECTION TITLE:

Records Management, White House Office of

SERIES:

Subject Files - SO004 (Receptions, White House)

FOLDER TITLE:

491279 [1]

FRC ID:

12580

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

Deed of Gift Restrictions

- A. Closed by Executive Order 13526 governing access to national security information.
- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

CS

491279 SS

50004

—
THE PRESIDENT

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #7

Good evening, and welcome to the
White House. Laura and I are pleased to
have all of you here for this happy
occasion. We especially welcome the
honorees and your families.

THE PRESIDENT

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower. He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and the world had just learned his name.

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #7

01 NOV 30 PM 2:00

Good evening, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I are pleased to have all of you here for this happy occasion. We especially welcome the honorees and your families.

Every year the Kennedy Center honors artists like yourselves for lifetime contributions to American culture. The recipients for 2001 make quite a collection. As one newspaper put it in a headline, "This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune – and Then There's Jack."

What the writer didn't know is that Jack Nicholson actually plays piano – only that's not why he's here today. You are each here so that America can recognize your great gifts and the way you have used them.

Van Cliburn was recently a guest at our ranch in Crawford, Texas, at a dinner for President Vladimir Putin of Russia. He has known many other leaders. In this house, on a December night in 1987, he played at the State Dinner for the Gorbachevs, and had the entire Soviet delegation singing the words of "Moscow Nights."

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower. He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and the world had just learned his name.

I'm proud to say that Texas knew him even before then, in a place called Kilgore. Harvey Lavan Cliburn, Jr. first touched the keys at the age of three, and was playing in public at the age of four. Even a prodigy needs an inspiration, and Van Cliburn's was his devoted and talented mother.

She became his music teacher – the only one he knew until he entered Juilliard as a young man. She herself had studied under "Arthur Friedheim, who had studied with Liszt, who had studied with Czerny [SAIR-nee], who had studied with Beethoven." Rildia [RILL-da] Bee Cliburn lived a long, good life, and was always – in her son's words – "a fierce, wonderful, loving critic." Van, I know what that's like.

He reached the summit early, and stayed there. In his lifetime of talent and discipline, Van Cliburn has brought great beauty into the world. And the world is grateful.

Great beauty has also been the gift of Julia Elizabeth Wells, whom we all know as Julie Andrews. The story is told of an important conference of world leaders some years ago. White House chief of staff Jim Baker came into the guest house where President Ronald Reagan was staying. He assumed the President had been up late studying his briefing book, but then noticed the book hadn't been touched. There was a good reason. The President said, "Well, Jim, *The Sound of Music* was on last night."

The face and voice of Julie Andrews has that effect on people. You are instantly captivated. After seeing *Mary Poppins*, a reviewer put it this way: "If she did nothing but stand there smiling for a few hours, she would cast her radiance everywhere. It would be enough. But how that girl can sing and dance! When ... she glides off ... it's more than you can bear. Julie, Julie, stay awhile."

As a girl of 12, she was actually turned down in her first screen test. A talent scout declared her "non-photogenic" – applying standards unknown to the rest of mankind. Not only is Julie Andrews the living definition of photogenic, her range of talent extends from drama, to the musical, to comedy, to dance. The range of her singing voice is four octaves, every note pure and powerful.

We have all sung along with Julie Andrews. We know she will sing again. And while we wait, we'll treasure the many films and recordings that capture the sound of Julie, and bring happy memories to us all. They are the lasting achievements of the truly lovely and gracious lady we honor today.

Luciano Pavarotti also achieved success at an early age, but in another profession. He was an insurance salesman, and people found him very persuasive. He had other plans, but his boss told him to stick with insurance. To Luciano Pavarotti, this man actually said – and I quote – "As a singer, you will undoubtedly die of starvation."

Pavarotti later said that he got out of sales because all that talking was damaging his voice. That voice is now among the most familiar on the planet.

He began in the chorus of his hometown of Modena [MAW-den-uh], Italy – seated alongside the tenor he loved most, his father, Fernando. He has commanded the stage before live audiences in the hundreds of thousands, leaving his listeners in a state of awe. The largeness of his voice and personality have drawn millions into the universe of classical music. In a career routinely compared to that of the great Caruso, Luciano Pavarotti has gained the acclaim and the affection of the American people. There is no one quite like him, and we will all remember the day we were in the presence of Maestro Pavarotti.

Our fourth honoree is also worthy of the title, Maestro. To look at him you wouldn't know it, but Quincy Jones is in his sixth decade in the music industry. This one man has done so much, his career defies any attempt at summary. But everyone knows that if something has the name Quincy Jones on it, it's going to be good.

Among his many talents is that rare ability to bring out the best in others. Dizzy Gillespie said people go to Quincy Jones "because he knows what he's doing. He knows the sound you've got in you, and he's got ... the know-how to get it out."

The man his friends call "Q" was born Quincy Delight Jones, Jr., on the south side of Chicago. He made his own way in the world, with few advantages beyond his own talent, ambition, and class. Starting out in the band of Lionel Hampton, he would eventually win the Grammy 26 times – so far. Quincy Jones has already received more nominations for the Grammy than any other artist. He produced one of the best-selling singles of all time, and one of the best-selling albums of all time.

All the hardship he knew early on he has turned to good and creative purposes. His successful life is testimony to faith in himself, faith in America, and faith in our Creator. "You can study orchestration," he has said. "You can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God."

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as the kind of guy who just wants “to blend in.” We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.” Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail. He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters. It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces* ... *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* ... *Chinatown* ... *The Shining* ... *A Few Good Men* ... *As Good as it Gets*. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he’ll make film history. His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can’t resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn’t rehearse, and he makes it look easy. Yet his eleven Oscar nominations put him in a class with Katharine Hepburn and Sir Laurence Olivier [uh-LIV-ee-ay]. He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it’s a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #6

01 NOV 30 AM 8:15

Good evening, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I are pleased to have all of you here for this happy occasion. We especially welcome the honorees and your families.

Every year¹ the Kennedy Center honors artists like yourselves for lifetime contributions to American culture.² The recipients for 2001 make quite a collection. As one newspaper put it in a headline, "This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune – and Then There's Jack."³

What the writer didn't know is that Jack Nicholson actually plays piano⁴ – only that's not why he's here today. You are each here so that America can recognize your great gifts and the way you have used them.

Van Cliburn was recently a guest at our ranch in Crawford, Texas, at a dinner for President Vladimir Putin of Russia.⁵ He has known many other leaders. In this house,⁶ on a December night in 1987, he played at the State Dinner for the Gorbachevs, and had the entire Soviet delegation singing the words of "Moscow Nights."⁷

¹ Kennedy Center Honors web site, About (<http://www.kennedy-center.org/programs/specialevents/honors/about/>).

² "For the unique and extremely valuable contributions they have made to the cultural life of our nation," said Kennedy Center Chairman James A. Johnson, "we honor. . ." Kennedy Center Honors web site (<http://www.kennedy-center.org/programs/specialevents/honors/>).

³ Jacqueline Trescott, "Kennedy Center's Musical Mood; This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune. And Then There's Jack," *The Washington Post*, September 6, 2001.

⁴ Graham Young, "Why the Devil in Him Makes Him Carry on. . . Raising Hell," *Birmingham Evening Mail*, March 7, 1998.

⁵ "With US-Russia," *The Associated Press*, November 15, 2001. List of guests at the President's ranch Wednesday, November 14, 2001.

⁶ December 8, 1987 Toast at State Dinner - State Dining Room; Entertainment in State Dining Room. The event was not in the East Room that year because President Reagan had signed a treaty that eliminated intermediate and short range missiles that night in East Room. Confirmed by Greg Cumming of the Reagan Library (800) 410-8354 x2043.

⁷ Chloe Arnold, "Pianist Cliburn Revisits '2nd Home'," *The Moscow Times*, March 14, 1998. Van Cliburn Biography faxed by the Maureen Kelly in George Stevens' Office, Kennedy Center (416-7960). Confirmed by Greg Cumming of the Reagan Library (800) 410-8354 x2043.

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower.⁸ He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal⁹ at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and in a moment the whole world knew his name.¹⁰

I'm proud to say that Texas knew him even before then, in a place called Kilgore.¹¹ Harvey Lavan Cliburn, Jr. first touched the keys at the age of three, and was playing in public at the age of four.¹² Even a prodigy needs an inspiration, and Van Cliburn's was his devoted and talented mother.¹³

She became his music teacher – the only one he knew until he entered Juilliard as a young man. She herself had studied under “Arthur Friedheim, who had studied with Liszt, who had studied with Czerny [SAIR-nee], who had studied with Beethoven.”¹⁴ Rildia [RILL-da] Bee Cliburn lived a long,¹⁵ good life, and was always – in her son's words – “a fierce, wonderful, loving critic.”¹⁶ Van, I know what that's like.

He reached the summit early, and stayed there. In his lifetime of talent and discipline, Van Cliburn has brought great beauty into the world. And the world is grateful.

Great beauty has also been the gift of Julia Elizabeth Wells,¹⁷ whom we all know as Julie Andrews. The story is told of an important

⁸ “The mystique began when Van Cliburn himself took the gold medal in the first Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition in Moscow in 1958.” Anthony Tommasini, “Still Seeking A Successor To Cliburn,” *The New York Times*, May 27, 2001.

⁹ Society for the Performing Arts Houston, Press Release, September 5, 2001 (<http://www.spahouston.org/090501.htm>).

¹⁰ “The mystique began when Van Cliburn himself took the gold medal in the first Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition in Moscow in 1958.” Anthony Tommasini, “Still Seeking A Successor To Cliburn,” *The New York Times*, May 27, 2001.

¹¹ Although Cliburn was born in Louisiana, he considers himself a Texan. (When Krushchev asked him why he was so tall, he said it was because he was from Texas.) Both of his parents have Texas roots and his family moved back to Texas from Shreveport, Louisiana in January 1941 or 1942 (conflicting reports) when he was still in the elementary grades.

¹² Biography faxed by the Maureen Kelly in George Stevens' Office, Kennedy Center (416-7960).

¹³ Regarding his mother: “A gifted pianist and piano teacher, his only teacher until he was 17. “His greatest inspiration’.” Biography faxed by the Maureen Kelly in George Stevens' Office, Kennedy Center (416-7960).

¹⁴ Wayne Lee Gay, “America's Musician Laureate,” *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, May 25, 2001.

¹⁵ “August 1994: Rildia Cliburn dies in Fort Worth at 97.” “Highs and Lows of the Van Cliburn Competition Over the Years,” *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, May 25, 2001.

¹⁶ Patricia Rice, “The Mystery of Van Cliburn,” *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, July 14, 1994.

¹⁷ Julie Andrews Biography (http://julieandrews.co.uk/biog_main.html).

conference¹⁸ of world leaders some years ago. White House chief of staff Jim Baker came into the guest house where President Ronald Reagan was staying. He assumed the President had been up late studying his briefing book, but then noticed the book hadn't been touched. There was a good reason. The President said, "Well, Jim, *The Sound of Music* was on last night."¹⁹

The face and voice of Julie Andrews has that effect on people. You are instantly captivated. After seeing *Mary Poppins*, a reviewer put it this way: "If she did nothing but stand there smiling for a few hours, she would cast her radiance everywhere. It would be enough. But how that girl can sing and dance! When ... she glides off ... it's more than you can bear. Julie, Julie, stay awhile."²⁰

As a girl of 12, she was actually turned down in her first screen test. A talent scout declared her "non-photogenic"²¹ – applying standards unknown to the rest of mankind. Not only is Julie Andrews the living definition of photogenic, her range of talent extends from drama, to the musical, to comedy, to dance. The range of her singing voice is four octaves,²² every note pure and powerful.

We have all sung along with Julie Andrews. We know she will sing again. And while we wait, we'll treasure the many films and recordings that capture the sound of Julie, and bring happy memories to us all. They are the lasting achievements of the truly lovely and gracious lady we honor today.

Luciano Pavarotti also achieved success at an early age, but in another profession. He was an insurance salesman, and people found him very persuasive.²³ He had other plans, but his boss told him to stick with insurance. To Luciano Pavarotti, this man actually said – and I quote – "As a singer, you will undoubtedly die of starvation."²⁴

¹⁸ 1983 economic summit of the world's industrialized democracies in Colonial Williamsburg.

¹⁹ Summary of *President Reagan: The Role of a Lifetime* by Lou Cannon. (www.publicaffairsbooks.com/books/pre-exc.html).

²⁰ *Newsweek*, October 5, 1964 cited in "Andrews, Julie," *Current Biography*, 1994.

²¹ Alison Kerr, "Always so Good and Proper," *The Herald (Glasgow)*, September 25, 2000. December 1947. Julie Andrews Biography (http://julieandrews.co.uk/biog_main.html).

²² "Andrews, Julie," *Current Biography*, 1994.

²³ Nancy Wolfson, "On a High Note," *Cigar Aficionado*

(<http://www.cigaraficionado.com/Cigar/Aficionado/people/fg797.html>).

²⁴ *Ibid.*

Pavarotti later said that he got out of sales because all that talking was damaging his voice.²⁵ That voice is now among the most familiar on the planet.

He began in the chorus of his hometown of Modena [MAW-den-uh], Italy – seated alongside the tenor he loved most, his father,²⁶ Fernando.²⁷ He has commanded the stage before live audiences in the hundreds of thousands,²⁸ leaving his listeners in a state of awe. The largeness of his voice and personality have drawn millions into the universe of classical music. In a career routinely compared to that of the great Caruso,²⁹ Luciano Pavarotti has gained the acclaim and the affection of the American people. There is no one quite like him, and we will all remember the day we were in the presence of Maestro³⁰ Pavarotti.

Our fourth honoree is also worthy of the title, Maestro. To look at him you wouldn't know it, but Quincy Jones is in his sixth decade in the music industry.³¹ This one man has done so much, his career defies any attempt at summary. But everyone knows that if something has the name Quincy Jones on it, it's going to be good.

Among his many talents is that rare ability to bring out the best in others. Dizzy Gillespie said people go to Quincy Jones "because he knows what he's doing. He knows the sound you've got in you, and he's got ... the know-how to get it out."³²

The man his friends call "Q"³³ was born Quincy Delight Jones, Jr., on the south side of Chicago.³⁴ He made his own way in the world, with few advantages beyond his own talent, ambition, and class. Starting out in the

²⁵ Nancy Wolfson, "On a High Note," *Cigar Aficionado*

(<http://www.cigaraficionado.com/Cigar/Aficionado/people/fg797.html>).

²⁶ Tibor Rudas Presents the Three Tenors, PBS (www.pbs.org/wnet/threetenors/pavarotti.html).

²⁷ Luciano Pavarotti Official web site (www.lucianopavarotti.com/eng/storia).

²⁸ At the Eiffel Tower in September of 1994, Pavarotti sang before a crowd of 300,000. Tibor Rudas Presents the Three Tenors, PBS (www.pbs.org/wnet/threetenors/pavarotti.html).

²⁹ "Luciano Pavarotti: A Caruso for the Modern Age," *Agence France Presse*, May 2, 2001.

³⁰ Tibor Rudas Presents the Three Tenors, PBS (www.pbs.org/wnet/threetenors/pavarotti.html).

³¹ Q celebrated his 50th year performing; hence he is in (at the beginning of) his sixth decade. Quincy Jones Biography (<http://www.wbr.com/quincyjones/jookjoint/biography.html>)

³² Quincy Jones, Kennedy Center web site (<http://www.kennedy-center.org/programs/specialevents/honors/history/honoree/jones.html>).

³³ "Quincy Jones," Artist Profiles, BBC (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/music/profiles/jonesq.shtml>).

³⁴ "Jones, Quincy (Delight, Jr.)," *Current Biography*, 1977.

band of Lionel Hampton,³⁵ he would eventually win the Grammy 26 times³⁶ – so far. Quincy Jones has already received more nominations for the Grammy than any other artist.³⁷ He produced one of the best-selling singles of all time,³⁸ and one of the best-selling albums of all time.³⁹

All the hardship he knew early on he has turned to good and creative purposes. His successful life is testimony to faith in himself, faith in America, and faith in our Creator. “You can study orchestration,” he has said. “You can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God.”⁴⁰

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as the kind of guy who just wants “to blend in.”⁴¹ We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.”⁴² Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail.⁴³ He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters.⁴⁴ It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*⁴⁵.

³⁵ “Jones, Quincy (Delight, Jr.),” *Current Biography*, 1977.

³⁶ Quincy Jones, Kennedy Center web site (<http://www.kennedy-center.org/programs/specialevents/honors/history/honoree/jones.html>).

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ The Kennedy Center web site lists Quincy Jones as having produced the best-selling single of all time, but according to the Recording Industry Association of America (<http://www.neosoul.com/riaa/singles.html>), “We are the World” has been surpassed by Elton John’s tribute to Princess Diana “Candle in the Wind” and tied by three other artists. Also confirmed by phone with RIAA (202) 775-0101.

³⁹ Michael Jackson’s “Thriller” was recently surpassed by the Eagles “Greatest Hits.” (<http://www.riaa.com/Gold-Best-5.cfm>)

⁴⁰ The Hall of the Arts, Interview with Quincy Jones, October 28, 2000 (www.achievement.org/autodoc/page/jon0int-1).

⁴¹ Louis B. Hobson, “As Good as He Gets,” *Calgary Sun*, December 21, 1997.

⁴² “Nicholson, Jack,” *Current Biography Yearbook*, 1995.

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ *The Cry Baby Killer* (1968).

⁴⁵ Jack Nicholson, Academy Awards Database (wwwdb.oscars.org).

Preservation Copy

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces* ... *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* ... *Chinatown* ... *The Shining*⁴⁶ ... *A Few Good Men* ... *As Good as it Gets*⁴⁷. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he'll make film history.⁴⁸ His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can't resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn't rehearse,⁴⁹ and he makes it look easy. Yet his eleven Oscar nominations put him in a class with Katharine Hepburn⁵⁰ and Sir Laurence Olivier [uh-LIV-ee-ay].⁵¹ He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson⁵² is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it's a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office c
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

Annotated
version
for
Starriet

⁴⁶ Although it is a well-known Nicholson performance, *The Shining* Database. (<http://www.filmsite.org/shin.html>).

⁴⁷ Jack Nicholson, Academy Awards Database (wwwdb.oscars.org).

⁴⁸ Scene from *Five Easy Pieces* (1970) where Bobby Dupea, played by Jack Nicholson, is told he can't order toast because there are no substitutions. He asks for toast without breaking the rules by ordering a sandwich and toast. When he still cannot get his toast, he clears the table in violent frustration. (www.geocities.com/Hollywood/Set/7601/five.htm).

⁴⁹ "I don't rehearse. All the others do it for two weeks. I just say: 'Let's start dancing.'" Graham Young, "Why the Devil in Him Makes Him Carry on . . . Raising Hell," *Birmingham Evening Mail*, March 7, 1998.

⁵⁰ Hepburn has four Oscars. Surpasses Nicholson in nominations, but is within one of his total. Academy Awards Database (wwwdb.oscars.org).

⁵¹ Olivier has three. Surpasses Nicholson in nominations, but is within two of Nicholson's total. Academy Awards Database (wwwdb.oscars.org).

⁵² "Nicholson, Jack," *Current Biography Yearbook*, 1995.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces* ... *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* ... *Chinatown* ... *The Shining*⁴⁶ ... *A Few Good Men* ... *As Good as it Gets*⁴⁷. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he'll make film history.⁴⁸ His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can't resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn't rehearse,⁴⁹ and he makes it look easy. Yet his eleven Oscar nominations put him in a class with Katharine Hepburn⁵⁰ and Sir Laurence Olivier [uh-LIV-ee-ay].⁵¹ He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson⁵² is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it's a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

⁴⁶ Although it is a well-known Nicholson performance, *The Shining* is not in the Academy Awards Database. (<http://www.filmsite.org/shin.html>).

⁴⁷ Jack Nicholson, Academy Awards Database (wwwdb.oscars.org).

⁴⁸ Scene from *Five Easy Pieces* (1970) where Bobby Dupea, played by Nicholson tries to order toast, but is told he can't order toast because there are no substitutions. He tries to show the waitress how to give him toast without breaking the rules by ordering a sandwich and asking them to hold everything but the toast. When he still cannot get his toast, he clears the table in violent frustration. (www.geocities.com/Hollywood/Set/7601/five.htm).

⁴⁹ "I don't rehearse. All the others do it for two weeks. I just say: 'Let's start dancing.'" Graham Young, "Why the Devil in Him Makes Him Carry on. . . Raising Hell," *Birmingham Evening Mail*, March 7, 1998.

⁵⁰ Hepburn has four Oscars. Surpasses Nicholson in nominations, but is within one of his total. Academy Awards Database (wwwdb.oscars.org).

⁵¹ Olivier has three. Surpasses Nicholson in nominations, but is within two of Nicholson's total. Academy Awards Database (wwwdb.oscars.org).

⁵² "Nicholson, Jack," *Current Biography Yearbook*, 1995.

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #5

101 NOV 24 PM 51

Good evening, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I are pleased to have all of you here for this happy occasion. We especially welcome the honorees and your families.

Every year the Kennedy Center honors artists like yourselves for lifetime contributions to American culture. The recipients for 2001 make quite a collection. As one newspaper put it in a headline, "This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune – and Then There's Jack."

What the writer didn't know is that Jack Nicholson actually plays piano – only that's not why he's here today. You are each here so that America can recognize your great gifts and the way you have used them.

Van Cliburn was recently a guest at our ranch in Crawford, Texas, at a dinner for President Vladimir Putin of Russia. He has known many other leaders. In this house, on a December night in 1987, he played at the State Dinner for the Gorbachevs, and had the entire Soviet delegation singing the words of "Moscow Nights."

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower. He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and in a moment the whole world knew his name.

I'm proud to say that Texas knew him even before then, in a place called Kilgore. Harvey Lavan Cliburn, Jr. first touched the keys at the age of three, and was playing in public at the age of four. Even a prodigy needs an inspiration, and Van Cliburn's was his devoted and talented mother.

She became his music teacher – the only one he knew until he entered Juilliard as a young man. She herself had studied under "Arthur Friedheim, who had studied with Liszt, who had studied with Czerny [SAIR-nee], who had studied with Beethoven." Rildia [RILL-da] Bee Cliburn lived a long, good life, and was always – in her son's words – "a fierce, wonderful, loving critic." Van, I know what that's like.

He reached the summit early, and stayed there. In his lifetime of talent and discipline, Van Cliburn has brought great beauty into the world. And the world is grateful.

Great beauty has also been the gift of Julia Elizabeth Wells, whom we all know as Julie Andrews. The story is told of an important conference of world leaders some years ago. White House chief of staff Jim Baker came into the guest house where President Ronald Reagan was staying. He assumed the President had been up late studying his briefing book, but then noticed the book hadn't been touched. There was a good reason. The President said, "Well, Jim, *The Sound of Music* was on last night."

The face and voice of Julie Andrews has that effect on people. You are instantly captivated. After seeing *Mary Poppins*, a reviewer put it this way: "If she did nothing but stand there smiling for a few hours, she would cast her radiance everywhere. It would be enough. But how that girl can sing and dance! When ... she glides off ... it's more than you can bear. Julie, Julie, stay awhile."

As a girl of 12, she was actually turned down in her first screen test. A talent scout declared her "non-photogenic" – applying standards unknown to the rest of mankind. Not only is Julie Andrews the living definition of photogenic, her range of talent extends from drama, to the musical, to comedy, to dance. The range of her singing voice is four octaves, every note pure and powerful.

We have all sung along with Julie Andrews. We know she will sing again. And while we wait, we'll treasure the many films and recordings that capture the sound of Julie, and bring happy memories to us all. They are the lasting achievements of the truly lovely and gracious lady we honor today.

Luciano Pavarotti also achieved success at an early age, but in another profession. He was an insurance salesman, and people found him very persuasive. He had other plans, but his boss told him to stick with insurance. To Luciano Pavarotti, this man actually said – and I quote – "As a singer, you will undoubtedly die of starvation."

Pavarotti later said that he got out of sales because all that talking was damaging his voice. That voice is now among the most familiar on the planet.

He began in the chorus of his hometown of Modena [MAW-den-uh], Italy – seated alongside the tenor he loved most, his father, Fernando. He has commanded the stage before live audiences in the hundreds of thousands, leaving his listeners in a state of awe. The largeness of his voice and personality have drawn millions into the universe of classical music. In a career routinely compared to that of the great Caruso, Luciano Pavarotti has gained the acclaim and the affection of the American people. There is no one quite like him, and we will all remember the day we were in the presence of Maestro Pavarotti.

Our fourth honoree is also worthy of the title, Maestro. To look at him you wouldn't know it, but Quincy Jones is in his sixth decade in the music industry. This one man has done so much, his career defies any attempt at summary. But everyone knows that if something has the name Quincy Jones on it, it's going to be good.

Among his many talents is that rare ability to bring out the best in others. Dizzy Gillespie said people go to Quincy Jones "because he knows what he's doing. He knows the sound you've got in you, and he's got ... the know-how to get it out."

The man his friends call "Q" was born Quincy Delight Jones, Jr., on the south side of Chicago. He made his own way in the world, with few advantages beyond his own talent, ambition, and class. Starting out in the band of Lionel Hampton, he would eventually win the Grammy 26 times – so far. Quincy Jones has already received more nominations for the Grammy than any other artist. He produced one of the best-selling singles of all time, and the best-selling album of all time.

All the hardship he knew early on he has turned to good and creative purposes. His successful life is testimony to faith in himself, faith in America, and faith in our Creator. "You can study orchestration," he has said. "You can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God."

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as the kind of guy who just wants “to blend in.” We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.” Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail. He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters. It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces* ... *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* ... *Chinatown* ... *The Shining* ... *A Few Good Men* ... *As Good as it Gets*. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he’ll make film history. His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can’t resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn’t rehearse, and he makes it look easy. Yet his eleven Oscar nominations put him in a class with Katharine Hepburn and Sir Laurence Olivier [uh-LIV-ee-ay]. He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it’s a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

01 NOV 24 PM 01

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #5

Good evening, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I are pleased to have all of you here for this happy occasion. We especially welcome the honorees and your families.

Every year the Kennedy Center honors artists like yourselves for lifetime contributions to American culture. The recipients for 2001 make quite a collection. As one newspaper put it in a headline, "This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune – and Then There's Jack."

What the writer didn't know is that Jack Nicholson actually plays piano – only that's not why he's here today. You are each here so that America can recognize your great gifts and the way you have used them.

Van Cliburn was recently a guest at our ranch in Crawford, Texas, at a dinner for President Vladimir Putin of Russia. He has known many other leaders. In this house, on a December night in 1987, he played at the State Dinner for the Gorbachevs, and had the entire Soviet delegation singing the words of "Moscow Nights."

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower. He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and in a moment the whole world knew his name.

I'm proud to say that Texas knew him even before then, in a place called Kilgore. Harvey Lavan Cliburn, Jr. first touched the keys at the age of three, and was playing in public at the age of four. Even a prodigy needs an inspiration, and Van Cliburn's was his devoted and talented mother.

She became his music teacher – the only one he knew until he entered Juilliard as a young man. She herself had studied under "Arthur Friedheim, who had studied with Liszt, who had studied with Czerny [SAIR-nee], who had studied with Beethoven." Rildia [RILL-da] Bee Cliburn lived a long, good life, and was always – in her son's words – "a fierce, wonderful, loving critic." Van, I know what that's like.

He reached the summit early, and stayed there. In his lifetime of talent and discipline, Van Cliburn has brought great beauty into the world. And the world is grateful.

Great beauty has also been the gift of Julia Elizabeth Wells, whom we all know as Julie Andrews. The story is told of an important conference of world leaders some years ago. White House chief of staff Jim Baker came into the guest house where President Ronald Reagan was staying. He assumed the President had been up late studying his briefing book, but then noticed the book hadn't been touched. There was a good reason. The President said, "Well, Jim, *The Sound of Music* was on last night."

The face and voice of Julie Andrews has that effect on people. You are instantly captivated. After seeing *Mary Poppins*, a reviewer put it this way: "If she did nothing but stand there smiling for a few hours, she would cast her radiance everywhere. It would be enough. But how that girl can sing and dance! When ... she glides off ... it's more than you can bear. Julie, Julie, stay awhile."

As a girl of 12, she was actually turned down in her first screen test. A talent scout declared her "non-photogenic" – applying standards unknown to the rest of mankind. Not only is Julie Andrews the living definition of photogenic, her range of talent extends from drama, to the musical, to comedy, to dance. The range of her singing voice is four octaves, every note pure and powerful.

We have all sung along with Julie Andrews. We know she will sing again. And while we wait, we'll treasure the many films and recordings that capture the sound of Julie, and bring happy memories to us all. They are the lasting achievements of the truly lovely and gracious lady we honor today.

Luciano Pavarotti also achieved success at an early age, but in another profession. He was an insurance salesman, and people found him very persuasive. He had other plans, but his boss told him to stick with insurance. To Luciano Pavarotti, this man actually said – and I quote – "As a singer, you will undoubtedly die of starvation."

Pavarotti later said that he got out of sales because all that talking was damaging his voice. That voice is now among the most familiar on the planet.

He began in the chorus of his hometown of Modena [MAW-den-uh], Italy – seated alongside the tenor he loved most, his father, Fernando. He has commanded the stage before live audiences in the hundreds of thousands, leaving his listeners in a state of awe. The largeness of his voice and personality have drawn millions into the universe of classical music. In a career routinely compared to that of the great Caruso, Luciano Pavarotti has gained the acclaim and the affection of the American people. There is no one quite like him, and we will all remember the day we were in the presence of Maestro Pavarotti.

Our fourth honoree is also worthy of the title, Maestro. To look at him you wouldn't know it, but Quincy Jones is in his sixth decade in the music industry. This one man has done so much, his career defies any attempt at summary. But everyone knows that if something has the name Quincy Jones on it, it's going to be good.

Among his many talents is that rare ability to bring out the best in others. Dizzy Gillespie said people go to Quincy Jones "because he knows what he's doing. He knows the sound you've got in you, and he's got ... the know-how to get it out."

The man his friends call "Q" was born Quincy Delight Jones, Jr., on the south side of Chicago. He made his own way in the world, with few advantages beyond his own talent, ambition, and class. Starting out in the band of Lionel Hampton, he would eventually win the Grammy 26 times – so far. Quincy Jones has already received more nominations for the Grammy than any other artist. He produced one of the best-selling singles of all time, and the best-selling album of all time.

All the hardship he knew early on he has turned to good and creative purposes. His successful life is testimony to faith in himself, faith in America, and faith in our Creator. "You can study orchestration," he has said. "You can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God."

Preservation Copy

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as the kind of guy who just wants “to blend in.” We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.” Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail. He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters. It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces* ... *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* ... *Chinatown* ... *The Shining* ... *A Few Good Men* ... *As Good as it Gets*. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he’ll make film history. His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can’t resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn’t rehearse, and he makes it look easy. Yet his eleven Oscar nominations put him in a class with Katharine Hepburn and Sir Laurence Olivier [uh-LIV-ee-ay]. He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson is one of the greats, of this or any other era.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy it’s a nice change that none of you will be at the evening for appreciation – for looking back at the part you continue to play in our nation’s history.

Thank you very much.

For the —
President to
review

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as the kind of guy who just wants “to blend in.” We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.” Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail. He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters. It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces ... One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest ... Chinatown ... The Shining ... A Few Good Men ... As Good as it Gets*. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he’ll make film history. His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can’t resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn’t rehearse, and he makes it look easy. Yet his eleven Oscar nominations put him in a class with Katharine Hepburn and Sir Laurence Olivier [uh-LIV-ee-ay]. He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it’s a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 11-29-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 11-29-01 5:00 PM

Subject: RECEPTION FOR KENNEDY CENTER HONOREES - DECEMBER 2, 2001

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT <i>NC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUBBARD <i>NC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD <i>comment</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUGHES <i>(v)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BLAKEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IRASTORZA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BOLTEN <i>NC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JOHNSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO <i>ok</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LINDSEY <i>ok</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONNAUGHTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MIERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DANIELS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RICE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FLEISCHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GONZALES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPELLINGS <i>ok</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAWKINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward comments directly to Krista Ritacco, x60170, no later than 5:00 p.m., TODAY, with a cc to us. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

Harriet E. Miers
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 62702

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #3

01 NOV 29 PM 1:24

Good afternoon, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I are pleased to have all of you here for this happy occasion. We especially welcome the honorees and your families.

Every year the Kennedy Center honors five artists for lifetime contributions to American culture. The recipients for 2001 make quite a collection. As one newspaper put it in a headline, "This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune – and Then There's Jack."

What the writer didn't know is that Jack Nicholson actually plays piano – only that's not why he's here today. You are each here so that America can recognize your great gifts and the way you have used them.

Van Cliburn was recently a guest at our ranch in Crawford, Texas, at a dinner for President Vladimir Putin of Russia. He has known many other leaders. In this very room, on a December night in 1987, he played at the State Dinner for the Gorbachevs, and had the entire Soviet delegation singing the words of "Moscow Nights."

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower. He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and in a moment the whole world knew his name.

I'm proud to say that Texas knew him first, in a place called Kilgore. Harvey Lavan Cliburn Jr. first touched the keys at the age of three, and was playing in public at the age of four. Even a prodigy needs an inspiration, and Van Cliburn's was his devoted and talented mother.

She became his music teacher – the only one he knew until he entered Juilliard as a young man. She herself had studied under "Arthur Friedheim, who had studied with Liszt, who had studied with Czerny [SAIR-nee], who had studied with Beethoven." Rildia [RILL-da] Bee Cliburn lived a long, good life, and was always – in her son's words – "a fierce, wonderful, loving critic." Van, I know what that's like.

He reached the summit early, and stayed there. In his lifetime of talent and discipline, Van Cliburn has brought great beauty into the world. And the world is grateful.

Great beauty has also been the gift of Julia Elizabeth Wells, whom we all know as Julie Andrews. The story is told of an important conference of world leaders some years ago. White House chief of staff Jim Baker came into the guest house where President Ronald Reagan was staying. He assumed the President had been up late studying his briefing book, but then noticed the book hadn't been touched. There was a good reason. The President said, "Well, Jim, *The Sound of Music* was on last night."

The face and voice of Julie Andrews has that effect on people. You are instantly captivated. After seeing *Mary Poppins*, a reviewer put it this way: "If she did nothing but stand there smiling for a few hours, she would cast her radiance everywhere. It would be enough. But how that girl can sing and dance. When ... she glides off, it's more than you can bear. Julie, Julie, stay awhile."

As a girl of 12, she was actually turned down in her first screen test. A talent scout declared her "non-photogenic" – applying standards unknown to the rest of mankind. Not only is Julie Andrews the living definition of photogenic, her range of talent extends from drama, to the musical, to comedy, to dance. The range of her singing voice is four octaves, every note pure and powerful.

We have all sung along with Julie Andrews. We know she will sing again. And while we wait, we'll treasure the many films and recordings that capture the sound of Julie, and bring happy memories to us all. They are the lasting achievements of the truly lovely and gracious lady we honor today.

Luciano Pavarotti also achieved success at an early age, but in another profession. He was an insurance salesman, and people found him very persuasive. He had other plans, but his boss told him to stick with insurance. To Luciano Pavarotti, this man actually said – and I quote – "As a singer, you will undoubtedly die of starvation."

Pavarotti later said that he got out of sales because all that talking was damaging his voice. That voice is now among the most familiar on the planet.

He began in the chorus of his hometown of Modena [MAW-den-uh], Italy – seated alongside the tenor he loved most, his father, Fernando. He has commanded the stage before live audiences in the hundreds of thousands, leaving his listeners in a state of awe. The largeness of his voice and personality have drawn millions into the universe of classical music. In a career routinely compared to that of the great Caruso, Luciano Pavarotti has gained the acclaim and the affection of the American people. There is no one quite like him, and we will all remember the day we were in the presence of Maestro Pavarotti.

Our fourth honoree is also worthy of the title, Maestro. To look at him you wouldn't know it, but Quincy Jones is in his sixth decade in the music industry. This one man has done so much, his career defies any attempt at summary. But everyone knows that if something has the name Quincy Jones on it, it's going to be good.

Among his many talents is that rare ability to bring out the best in others. Dizzy Gillespie said people go to Quincy Jones "because he knows what he's doing. He knows the sound you've got in you, and he's got ... the know-how to get it out."

The man his friends call "Q" was born Quincy Delight Jones, Jr., on the south side of Chicago. He made his own way in the world, with few advantages beyond his own talent, ambition, and class. Starting out in the band of Lionel Hampton, he would eventually win the Grammy 26 times – so far. Quincy Jones has already received more nominations for the Grammy than any other artist. He produced the best-selling single of all time, and the best-selling album of all time.

All the hardship he knew early on he has turned to good and creative purposes. His successful life is testimony to faith in himself, faith in America, and faith in our Creator. "You can study orchestration," he has said. "You can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God."

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as “the kind of guy who just wants to blend in.” We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.” Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail. He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters. It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces ... Hard Time ... One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest ... Chinatown ... The Shining ... A Few Good Men ... As Good as it Gets*. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he’ll make film history. His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can’t resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn’t rehearse, and he makes it look easy. Yet his twelve Oscar nominations are exceeded only by Katharine Hepburn. He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it’s a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING FORM

TODAY'S DATE 11/27/01

TO: Michael J. Gerson
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director of Presidential Speechwriting

FROM: Jo Hagin

DATE, TIME, & LOCATION: Sunday, December 2, 2001 5:20 p.m. East Room

LENGTH AND TYPE OF REMARKS: 5 minutes

TOPIC OF REMARKS: The 2001 Honorees of the Kennedy Center

POINT IN PROGRAM WHEN THE PRESIDENT WILL SPEAK: He is the only speaker

PERSON WHO WILL INTRODUCE THE PRESIDENT: off stage announce

OTHERS THE PRESIDENT : Honorees for 2001: Julie Andrews, Van Cliburn, Quincy Jones, Jack Nicholson, and Luciano Pavarotti

SHOULD ACKNOWLEDGE IN HIS OPENING REMARKS: Past honorees

SIZE AND TYPE OF AUDIENCE: 375 patrons of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

BACKGROUND ON THE EVENT: Traditional presidential event

Catherine Fenton, Social Secretary and Carolyn Peachy of the Kennedy Center Honors 636-8748

I am red tagging a package of information to you.

copy of
speechwriting
form for
Harriet
(+ background
materials)

PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING FORM

TODAY'S DATE 11/27/01

TO: Michael J. Gerson
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director of Presidential Speechwriting

FROM: Jo Hagin

DATE, TIME, & LOCATION Sunday, December 2, 2001 5:20 p.m. East Room

LENGTH AND
TYPE OF REMARKS: 5 minutes

TOPIC OF REMARKS: The 2001 Honorees of the Kennedy Center

POINT IN PROGRAM WHEN
THE PRESIDENT WILL SPEAK: He is the only speaker

PERSON WHO WILL
INTRODUCE THE PRESIDENT: off stage announce

OTHERS THE PRESIDENT : Honorees for 2001: Julie Andrews, Van Cliburn, Quincy
Jones, Jack Nicholson, and Luciano Pavarotti

SHOULD ACKNOWLEDGE IN
HIS OPENING REMARKS: Past honorees

SIZE AND TYPE OF AUDIENCE: 375 patrons of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

BACKGROUND ON THE EVENT: Traditional presidential event

POINTS OF CONTACT: Catherine Fenton, Social Secretary and Carolyn Peachy of
the Kennedy Center Honors 636-8748

OTHER INFORMATION: I am red tagging a package of information to you.

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #6#7

Good evening, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I are pleased to have all of you here for this happy occasion. We especially welcome the honorees and your families.

Every year the Kennedy Center honors artists like yourselves for lifetime contributions to American culture. The recipients for 2001 make quite a collection. As one newspaper put it in a headline, "This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune – and Then There's Jack."

What the writer didn't know is that Jack Nicholson actually plays piano – only that's not why he's here today. You are each here so that America can recognize your great gifts and the way you have used them.

Van Cliburn was recently a guest at our ranch in Crawford, Texas, at a dinner for President Vladimir Putin of Russia. He has known many other leaders. In this house, on a December night in 1987, he played at the State Dinner for the Gorbachevs, and had the entire Soviet delegation singing the words of "Moscow Nights."

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower. He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and ~~in a moment the whole world knew~~ the world had just learned his name.

I'm proud to say that Texas knew him even before then, in a place called Kilgore. Harvey Lavan Cliburn, Jr. first touched the keys at the age of three, and was playing in public at the age of four. Even a prodigy needs an inspiration, and Van Cliburn's was his devoted and talented mother.

She became his music teacher – the only one he knew until he entered Juilliard as a young man. She herself had studied under "Arthur Friedheim, who had studied with Liszt, who had studied with Czerny [SAIR-nee], who had studied with Beethoven." Rildia [RILL-da] Bee Cliburn lived a long, good life, and was always – in her son's words – "a fierce, wonderful, loving critic." Van, I know what that's like.

He reached the summit early, and stayed there. In his lifetime of talent and discipline, Van Cliburn has brought great beauty into the world. And the world is grateful.

Great beauty has also been the gift of Julia Elizabeth Wells, whom we all know as Julie Andrews. The story is told of an important conference of world leaders some years ago. White House chief of staff Jim Baker came into the guest house where President Ronald Reagan was staying. He assumed the President had been up late studying his briefing book, but then noticed the book hadn't been touched. There was a good reason. The President said, "Well, Jim, *The Sound of Music* was on last night."

The face and voice of Julie Andrews has that effect on people. You are instantly captivated. After seeing *Mary Poppins*, a reviewer put it this way: "If she did nothing but stand there smiling for a few hours, she would cast her radiance everywhere. It would be enough. But how that girl can sing and dance! When ... she glides off ... it's more than you can bear. Julie, Julie, stay awhile."

As a girl of 12, she was actually turned down in her first screen test. A talent scout declared her "non-photogenic" – applying standards unknown to the rest of mankind. Not only is Julie Andrews the living definition of photogenic, her range of talent extends from drama, to the musical, to comedy, to dance. The range of her singing voice is four octaves, every note pure and powerful.

We have all sung along with Julie Andrews. We know she will sing again. And while we wait, we'll treasure the many films and recordings that capture the sound of Julie, and bring happy memories to us all. They are the lasting achievements of the truly lovely and gracious lady we honor today.

Luciano Pavarotti also achieved success at an early age, but in another profession. He was an insurance salesman, and people found him very persuasive. He had other plans, but his boss told him to stick with insurance. To Luciano Pavarotti, this man actually said – and I quote – "As a singer, you will undoubtedly die of starvation."

Pavarotti later said that he got out of sales because all that talking was damaging his voice. That voice is now among the most familiar on the planet.

He began in the chorus of his hometown of Modena [MAW-den-uh], Italy – seated alongside the tenor he loved most, his father, Fernando. He has commanded the stage before live audiences in the hundreds of thousands, leaving his listeners in a state of awe. The largeness of his voice and personality have drawn millions into the universe of classical music. In a career routinely compared to that of the great Caruso, Luciano Pavarotti has gained the acclaim and the affection of the American people. There is no one quite like him, and we will all remember the day we were in the presence of Maestro Pavarotti.

Our fourth honoree is also worthy of the title, Maestro. To look at him you wouldn't know it, but Quincy Jones is in his sixth decade in the music industry. This one man has done so much, his career defies any attempt at summary. But everyone knows that if something has the name Quincy Jones on it, it's going to be good.

Among his many talents is that rare ability to bring out the best in others. Dizzy Gillespie said people go to Quincy Jones "because he knows what he's doing. He knows the sound you've got in you, and he's got ... the know-how to get it out."

The man his friends call "Q" was born Quincy Delight Jones, Jr., on the south side of Chicago. He made his own way in the world, with few advantages beyond his own talent, ambition, and class. Starting out in the band of Lionel Hampton, he would eventually win the Grammy 26 times – so far. Quincy Jones has already received more nominations for the Grammy than any other artist. He produced one of the best-selling singles of all time, and one of the best-selling albums of all time.

All the hardship he knew early on he has turned to good and creative purposes. His successful life is testimony to faith in himself, faith in America, and faith in our Creator. "You can study orchestration," he has said. "You can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God."

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as the kind of guy who just wants “to blend in.” We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.” Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail. He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters. It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces ... One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest ... Chinatown ... The Shining ... A Few Good Men ... As Good as it Gets*. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he’ll make film history. His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can’t resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn’t rehearse, and he makes it look easy. Yet his eleven Oscar nominations put him in a class with Katharine Hepburn and Sir Laurence Olivier [uh-LIV-ee-ay]. He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it’s a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 11-29-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 11-29-01 5:00 PM

Subject: RECEPTION FOR KENNEDY CENTER HONOREES - DECEMBER 2, 2001

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUBBARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUGHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BLAKEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IRASTORZA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BOLTEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JOHNSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LINDSEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONNAUGHTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MIERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DANIELS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RICE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FLEISCHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GONZALES <i>W/C</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPELLINGS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAWKINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward comments directly to Krista Ritacco, x60170, no later than 5:00 p.m., TODAY, with a cc to us. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

Harriet E. Miers
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 62702

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #3

01 NOV 23 PM 1:24

Good afternoon, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I are pleased to have all of you here for this happy occasion. We especially welcome the honorees and your families.

Every year the Kennedy Center honors five artists for lifetime contributions to American culture. The recipients for 2001 make quite a collection. As one newspaper put it in a headline, "This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune – and Then There's Jack."

What the writer didn't know is that Jack Nicholson actually plays piano – only that's not why he's here today. You are each here so that America can recognize your great gifts and the way you have used them.

Van Cliburn was recently a guest at our ranch in Crawford, Texas, at a dinner for President Vladimir Putin of Russia. He has known many other leaders. In this very room, on a December night in 1987, he played at the State Dinner for the Gorbachevs, and had the entire Soviet delegation singing the words of "Moscow Nights."

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower. He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and in a moment the whole world knew his name.

I'm proud to say that Texas knew him first, in a place called Kilgore. Harvey Lavan Cliburn Jr. first touched the keys at the age of three, and was playing in public at the age of four. Even a prodigy needs an inspiration, and Van Cliburn's was his devoted and talented mother.

She became his music teacher – the only one he knew until he entered Juilliard as a young man. She herself had studied under "Arthur Friedheim, who had studied with Liszt, who had studied with Czerny [SAIR-nee], who had studied with Beethoven." Rildia [RILL-da] Bee Cliburn lived a long, good life, and was always – in her son's words – "a fierce, wonderful, loving critic." Van, I know what that's like.

He reached the summit early, and stayed there. In his lifetime of talent and discipline, Van Cliburn has brought great beauty into the world. And the world is grateful.

Great beauty has also been the gift of Julia Elizabeth Wells, whom we all know as Julie Andrews. The story is told of an important conference of world leaders some years ago. White House chief of staff Jim Baker came into the guest house where President Ronald Reagan was staying. He assumed the President had been up late studying his briefing book, but then noticed the book hadn't been touched. There was a good reason. The President said, "Well, Jim, *The Sound of Music* was on last night."

The face and voice of Julie Andrews has that effect on people. You are instantly captivated. After seeing *Mary Poppins*, a reviewer put it this way: "If she did nothing but stand there smiling for a few hours, she would cast her radiance everywhere. It would be enough. But how that girl can sing and dance. When ... she glides off, it's more than you can bear. Julie, Julie, stay awhile."

As a girl of 12, she was actually turned down in her first screen test. A talent scout declared her "non-photogenic" – applying standards unknown to the rest of mankind. Not only is Julie Andrews the living definition of photogenic, her range of talent extends from drama, to the musical, to comedy, to dance. The range of her singing voice is four octaves, every note pure and powerful.

We have all sung along with Julie Andrews. We know she will sing again. And while we wait, we'll treasure the many films and recordings that capture the sound of Julie, and bring happy memories to us all. They are the lasting achievements of the truly lovely and gracious lady we honor today.

Luciano Pavarotti also achieved success at an early age, but in another profession. He was an insurance salesman, and people found him very persuasive. He had other plans, but his boss told him to stick with insurance. To Luciano Pavarotti, this man actually said – and I quote – "As a singer, you will undoubtedly die of starvation."

Pavarotti later said that he got out of sales because all that talking was damaging his voice. That voice is now among the most familiar on the planet.

He began in the chorus of his hometown of Modena [MAW-den-uh], Italy – seated alongside the tenor he loved most, his father, Fernando. He has commanded the stage before live audiences in the hundreds of thousands, leaving his listeners in a state of awe. The largeness of his voice and personality have drawn millions into the universe of classical music. In a career routinely compared to that of the great Caruso, Luciano Pavarotti has gained the acclaim and the affection of the American people. There is no one quite like him, and we will all remember the day we were in the presence of Maestro Pavarotti.

Our fourth honoree is also worthy of the title, Maestro. To look at him you wouldn't know it, but Quincy Jones is in his sixth decade in the music industry. This one man has done so much, his career defies any attempt at summary. But everyone knows that if something has the name Quincy Jones on it, it's going to be good.

Among his many talents is that rare ability to bring out the best in others. Dizzy Gillespie said people go to Quincy Jones "because he knows what he's doing. He knows the sound you've got in you, and he's got ... the know-how to get it out."

The man his friends call "Q" was born Quincy Delight Jones, Jr., on the south side of Chicago. He made his own way in the world, with few advantages beyond his own talent, ambition, and class. Starting out in the band of Lionel Hampton, he would eventually win the Grammy 26 times – so far. Quincy Jones has already received more nominations for the Grammy than any other artist. He produced the best-selling single of all time, and the best-selling album of all time.

All the hardship he knew early on he has turned to good and creative purposes. His successful life is testimony to faith in himself, faith in America, and faith in our Creator. "You can study orchestration," he has said. "You can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God."

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as “the kind of guy who just wants to blend in.” We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.” Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail. He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters. It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces ... Hard Time ... One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest ... Chinatown ... The Shining ... A Few Good Men ... As Good as it Gets*. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he’ll make film history. His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can’t resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn’t rehearse, and he makes it look easy. Yet his twelve Oscar nominations are exceeded only by Katharine Hepburn. He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it’s a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

 *** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO 1019
 CONNECTION TEL 51005
 CONNECTION ID
 ST. TIME 11/29 14:41
 USAGE T 02'23
 PGS. SENT 5
 RESULT OK

SS/ RM NO. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 11-29-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 11-29-01 5:00 PM

Subject: RECEPTION FOR KENNEDY CENTER HONOREES - DECEMBER 2, 2001

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUBBARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUGHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BLAKEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IRASTORZA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BOLTEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JOHNSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LINDSEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONNAUGHTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MIERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DANIELS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RICE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FLEISCHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GONZALES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPELLINGS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAWKINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward comments directly to Krista Ritacco, x60170, no later than 5:00 p.m., TODAY, with a cc to us. Thanks.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 11-29-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 11-29-01 5:00 PM

Subject: RECEPTION FOR KENNEDY CENTER HONOREES - DECEMBER 2, 2001

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUBBARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUGHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BLAKEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IRASTORZA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BOLTEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JOHNSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LINDSEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONNAUGHTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MIERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DANIELS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RICE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FLEISCHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GONZALES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPELLINGS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAWKINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward comments directly to Krista Ritacco, x60170, no later than 5:00 p.m., TODAY, with a cc to us. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

Harriet E. Miers
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 62702

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #3

01 NOV 23 PM 12:24

Good afternoon, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I are pleased to have all of you here for this happy occasion. We especially welcome the honorees and your families.

Every year the Kennedy Center honors five artists for lifetime contributions to American culture. The recipients for 2001 make quite a collection. As one newspaper put it in a headline, "This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune – and Then There's Jack."

What the writer didn't know is that Jack Nicholson actually plays piano – only that's not why he's here today. You are each here so that America can recognize your great gifts and the way you have used them.

Van Cliburn was recently a guest at our ranch in Crawford, Texas, at a dinner for President Vladimir Putin of Russia. He has known many other leaders. In this very room, on a December night in 1987, he played at the State Dinner for the Gorbachevs, and had the entire Soviet delegation singing the words of "Moscow Nights."

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower. He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and in a moment the whole world knew his name.

I'm proud to say that Texas knew him first, in a place called Kilgore. Harvey Lavan Cliburn Jr. first touched the keys at the age of three, and was playing in public at the age of four. Even a prodigy needs an inspiration, and Van Cliburn's was his devoted and talented mother.

She became his music teacher – the only one he knew until he entered Juilliard as a young man. She herself had studied under "Arthur Friedheim, who had studied with Liszt, who had studied with Czerny [SAIR-nee], who had studied with Beethoven." Rildia [RILL-da] Bee Cliburn lived a long, good life, and was always – in her son's words – "a fierce, wonderful, loving critic." Van, I know what that's like.

He reached the summit early, and stayed there. In his lifetime of talent and discipline, Van Cliburn has brought great beauty into the world. And the world is grateful.

Great beauty has also been the gift of Julia Elizabeth Wells, whom we all know as Julie Andrews. The story is told of an important conference of world leaders some years ago. White House chief of staff Jim Baker came into the guest house where President Ronald Reagan was staying. He assumed the President had been up late studying his briefing book, but then noticed the book hadn't been touched. There was a good reason. The President said, "Well, Jim, *The Sound of Music* was on last night."

The face and voice of Julie Andrews has that effect on people. You are instantly captivated. After seeing *Mary Poppins*, a reviewer put it this way: "If she did nothing but stand there smiling for a few hours, she would cast her radiance everywhere. It would be enough. But how that girl can sing and dance. When ... she glides off, it's more than you can bear. Julie, Julie, stay awhile."

As a girl of 12, she was actually turned down in her first screen test. A talent scout declared her "non-photogenic" – applying standards unknown to the rest of mankind. Not only is Julie Andrews the living definition of photogenic, her range of talent extends from drama, to the musical, to comedy, to dance. The range of her singing voice is four octaves, every note pure and powerful.

We have all sung along with Julie Andrews. We know she will sing again. And while we wait, we'll treasure the many films and recordings that capture the sound of Julie, and bring happy memories to us all. They are the lasting achievements of the truly lovely and gracious lady we honor today.

Luciano Pavarotti also achieved success at an early age, but in another profession. He was an insurance salesman, and people found him very persuasive. He had other plans, but his boss told him to stick with insurance. To Luciano Pavarotti, this man actually said – and I quote – "As a singer, you will undoubtedly die of starvation."

Pavarotti later said that he got out of sales because all that talking was damaging his voice. That voice is now among the most familiar on the planet.

He began in the chorus of his hometown of Modena [MAW-den-uh], Italy – seated alongside the tenor he loved most, his father, Fernando. He has commanded the stage before live audiences in the hundreds of thousands, leaving his listeners in a state of awe. The largeness of his voice and personality have drawn millions into the universe of classical music. In a career routinely compared to that of the great Caruso, Luciano Pavarotti has gained the acclaim and the affection of the American people. There is no one quite like him, and we will all remember the day we were in the presence of Maestro Pavarotti.

Our fourth honoree is also worthy of the title, Maestro. To look at him you wouldn't know it, but Quincy Jones is in his sixth decade in the music industry. This one man has done so much, his career defies any attempt at summary. But everyone knows that if something has the name Quincy Jones on it, it's going to be good.

Among his many talents is that rare ability to bring out the best in others. Dizzy Gillespie said people go to Quincy Jones "because he knows what he's doing. He knows the sound you've got in you, and he's got ... the know-how to get it out."

The man his friends call "Q" was born Quincy Delight Jones, Jr., on the south side of Chicago. He made his own way in the world, with few advantages beyond his own talent, ambition, and class. Starting out in the band of Lionel Hampton, he would eventually win the Grammy 26 times – so far. Quincy Jones has already received more nominations for the Grammy than any other artist. He produced the best-selling single of all time, and the best-selling album of all time.

All the hardship he knew early on he has turned to good and creative purposes. His successful life is testimony to faith in himself, faith in America, and faith in our Creator. "You can study orchestration," he has said. "You can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God."

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as “the kind of guy who just wants to blend in.” We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.” Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail. He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters. It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces ... Hard Time ... One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest ... Chinatown ... The Shining ... A Few Good Men ... As Good as it Gets*. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he’ll make film history. His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can’t resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn’t rehearse, and he makes it look easy. Yet his twelve Oscar nominations are exceeded only by Katharine Hepburn. He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it’s a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 11-29-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 11-29-01 5:00 PMSubject: RECEPTION FOR KENNEDY CENTER HONOREES - DECEMBER 2, 2001

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUBBARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUGHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BLAKEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IRASTORZA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BOLTEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JOHNSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LINDSEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONNAUGHTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MIERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DANIELS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RICE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FLEISCHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GONZALES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPELLINGS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAWKINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward comments directly to Krista Ritacco, x60170, no later than 5:00 p.m., TODAY, with a cc to us. Thanks.

RESPONSE: _____

Harriet E. Miers
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 62702

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #3

01 NOV 28 PM 1:24

Good afternoon, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I are pleased to have all of you here for this happy occasion. We especially welcome the honorees and your families.

Every year the Kennedy Center honors five artists for lifetime contributions to American culture. The recipients for 2001 make quite a collection. As one newspaper put it in a headline, "This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune – and Then There's Jack."

What the writer didn't know is that Jack Nicholson actually plays piano – only that's not why he's here today. You are each here so that America can recognize your great gifts and the way you have used them.

Van Cliburn was recently a guest at our ranch in Crawford, Texas, at a dinner for President Vladimir Putin of Russia. He has known many other leaders. In this very room, on a December night in 1987, he played at the State Dinner for the Gorbachevs, and had the entire Soviet delegation singing the words of "Moscow Nights."

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower. He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and in a moment the whole world knew his name.

I'm proud to say that Texas knew him first, in a place called Kilgore. Harvey Lavan Cliburn Jr. first touched the keys at the age of three, and was playing in public at the age of four. Even a prodigy needs an inspiration, and Van Cliburn's was his devoted and talented mother.

She became his music teacher – the only one he knew until he entered Juilliard as a young man. She herself had studied under "Arthur Friedheim, who had studied with Liszt, who had studied with Czerny [SAIR-nee], who had studied with Beethoven." Rildia [RILL-da] Bee Cliburn lived a long, good life, and was always – in her son's words – "a fierce, wonderful, loving critic." Van, I know what that's like.

He reached the summit early, and stayed there. In his lifetime of talent and discipline, Van Cliburn has brought great beauty into the world. And the world is grateful.

Great beauty has also been the gift of Julia Elizabeth Wells, whom we all know as Julie Andrews. The story is told of an important conference of world leaders some years ago. White House chief of staff Jim Baker came into the guest house where President Ronald Reagan was staying. He assumed the President had been up late studying his briefing book, but then noticed the book hadn't been touched. There was a good reason. The President said, "Well, Jim, *The Sound of Music* was on last night."

The face and voice of Julie Andrews has that effect on people. You are instantly captivated. After seeing *Mary Poppins*, a reviewer put it this way: "If she did nothing but stand there smiling for a few hours, she would cast her radiance everywhere. It would be enough. But how that girl can sing and dance. When ... she glides off, it's more than you can bear. Julie, Julie, stay awhile."

As a girl of 12, she was actually turned down in her first screen test. A talent scout declared her "non-photogenic" – applying standards unknown to the rest of mankind. Not only is Julie Andrews the living definition of photogenic, her range of talent extends from drama, to the musical, to comedy, to dance. The range of her singing voice is four octaves, every note pure and powerful.

We have all sung along with Julie Andrews. We know she will sing again. And while we wait, we'll treasure the many films and recordings that capture the sound of Julie, and bring happy memories to us all. They are the lasting achievements of the truly lovely and gracious lady we honor today.

Luciano Pavarotti also achieved success at an early age, but in another profession. He was an insurance salesman, and people found him very persuasive. He had other plans, but his boss told him to stick with insurance. To Luciano Pavarotti, this man actually said – and I quote – "As a singer, you will undoubtedly die of starvation."

Pavarotti later said that he got out of sales because all that talking was damaging his voice. That voice is now among the most familiar on the planet.

He began in the chorus of his hometown of Modena [MAW-den-uh], Italy – seated alongside the tenor he loved most, his father, Fernando. He has commanded the stage before live audiences in the hundreds of thousands, leaving his listeners in a state of awe. The largeness of his voice and personality have drawn millions into the universe of classical music. In a career routinely compared to that of the great Caruso, Luciano Pavarotti has gained the acclaim and the affection of the American people. There is no one quite like him, and we will all remember the day we were in the presence of Maestro Pavarotti.

Our fourth honoree is also worthy of the title, Maestro. To look at him you wouldn't know it, but Quincy Jones is in his sixth decade in the music industry. This one man has done so much, his career defies any attempt at summary. But everyone knows that if something has the name Quincy Jones on it, it's going to be good.

Among his many talents is that rare ability to bring out the best in others. Dizzy Gillespie said people go to Quincy Jones "because he knows what he's doing. He knows the sound you've got in you, and he's got ... the know-how to get it out."

The man his friends call "Q" was born Quincy Delight Jones, Jr., on the south side of Chicago. He made his own way in the world, with few advantages beyond his own talent, ambition, and class. Starting out in the band of Lionel Hampton, he would eventually win the Grammy 26 times – so far. Quincy Jones has already received more nominations for the Grammy than any other artist. He produced the best-selling single of all time, and the best-selling album of all time.

All the hardship he knew early on he has turned to good and creative purposes. His successful life is testimony to faith in himself, faith in America, and faith in our Creator. "You can study orchestration," he has said. "You can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God."

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as “the kind of guy who just wants to blend in.” We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.” Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail. He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters. It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces ... Hard Time ... One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest ... Chinatown ... The Shining ... A Few Good Men ... As Good as it Gets*. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he’ll make film history. His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can’t resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn’t rehearse, and he makes it look easy. Yet his twelve Oscar nominations are exceeded only by Katharine Hepburn. He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it’s a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

 *** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO 1018
 CONNECTION TEL 62710
 CONNECTION ID CEQ
 ST. TIME 11/29 14:38
 USAGE T 02'24
 PGS. SENT 5
 RESULT OK

SS/ RM NO. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 11-29-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 11-29-01 5:00 PM

Subject: RECEPTION FOR KENNEDY CENTER HONOREES - DECEMBER 2, 2001

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUBBARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUGHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BLAKEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IRASTORZA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BOLTEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JOHNSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LINDSEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONNAUGHTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MIERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DANIELS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RICE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FLEISCHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GONZALES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPELLINGS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAWKINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward comments directly to Krista Ritacco, x60170, no later than 5:00 p.m., TODAY, with a cc to us. Thanks.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 11-29-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 11-29-01 5:00 PM

Subject: RECEPTION FOR KENNEDY CENTER HONOREES - DECEMBER 2, 2001

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUBBARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUGHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BLAKEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IRASTORZA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BOLTEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JOHNSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LINDSEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONNAUGHTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MIERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DANIELS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RICE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FLEISCHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GONZALES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPELLINGS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAWKINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward comments directly to Krista Ritacco, x60170, no later than 5:00 p.m., TODAY, with a cc to us. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

Harriet E. Miers
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 62702

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #3

01 NOV 23 PM 124

Good afternoon, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I are pleased to have all of you here for this happy occasion. We especially welcome the honorees and your families.

Every year the Kennedy Center honors five artists for lifetime contributions to American culture. The recipients for 2001 make quite a collection. As one newspaper put it in a headline, "This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune – and Then There's Jack."

What the writer didn't know is that Jack Nicholson actually plays piano – only that's not why he's here today. You are each here so that America can recognize your great gifts and the way you have used them.

Van Cliburn was recently a guest at our ranch in Crawford, Texas, at a dinner for President Vladimir Putin of Russia. He has known many other leaders. In this very room, on a December night in 1987, he played at the State Dinner for the Gorbachevs, and had the entire Soviet delegation singing the words of "Moscow Nights."

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower. He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and in a moment the whole world knew his name.

I'm proud to say that Texas knew him first, in a place called Kilgore. Harvey Lavan Cliburn Jr. first touched the keys at the age of three, and was playing in public at the age of four. Even a prodigy needs an inspiration, and Van Cliburn's was his devoted and talented mother.

She became his music teacher – the only one he knew until he entered Juilliard as a young man. She herself had studied under "Arthur Friedheim, who had studied with Liszt, who had studied with Czerny [SAIR-nee], who had studied with Beethoven." Rildia [RILL-da] Bee Cliburn lived a long, good life, and was always – in her son's words – "a fierce, wonderful, loving critic." Van, I know what that's like.

He reached the summit early, and stayed there. In his lifetime of talent and discipline, Van Cliburn has brought great beauty into the world. And the world is grateful.

Great beauty has also been the gift of Julia Elizabeth Wells, whom we all know as Julie Andrews. The story is told of an important conference of world leaders some years ago. White House chief of staff Jim Baker came into the guest house where President Ronald Reagan was staying. He assumed the President had been up late studying his briefing book, but then noticed the book hadn't been touched. There was a good reason. The President said, "Well, Jim, *The Sound of Music* was on last night."

The face and voice of Julie Andrews has that effect on people. You are instantly captivated. After seeing *Mary Poppins*, a reviewer put it this way: "If she did nothing but stand there smiling for a few hours, she would cast her radiance everywhere. It would be enough. But how that girl can sing and dance. When ... she glides off, it's more than you can bear. Julie, Julie, stay awhile."

As a girl of 12, she was actually turned down in her first screen test. A talent scout declared her "non-photogenic" – applying standards unknown to the rest of mankind. Not only is Julie Andrews the living definition of photogenic, her range of talent extends from drama, to the musical, to comedy, to dance. The range of her singing voice is four octaves, every note pure and powerful.

We have all sung along with Julie Andrews. We know she will sing again. And while we wait, we'll treasure the many films and recordings that capture the sound of Julie, and bring happy memories to us all. They are the lasting achievements of the truly lovely and gracious lady we honor today.

Luciano Pavarotti also achieved success at an early age, but in another profession. He was an insurance salesman, and people found him very persuasive. He had other plans, but his boss told him to stick with insurance. To Luciano Pavarotti, this man actually said – and I quote – "As a singer, you will undoubtedly die of starvation."

Pavarotti later said that he got out of sales because all that talking was damaging his voice. That voice is now among the most familiar on the planet.

He began in the chorus of his hometown of Modena [MAW-den-uh], Italy – seated alongside the tenor he loved most, his father, Fernando. He has commanded the stage before live audiences in the hundreds of thousands, leaving his listeners in a state of awe. The largeness of his voice and personality have drawn millions into the universe of classical music. In a career routinely compared to that of the great Caruso, Luciano Pavarotti has gained the acclaim and the affection of the American people. There is no one quite like him, and we will all remember the day we were in the presence of Maestro Pavarotti.

Our fourth honoree is also worthy of the title, Maestro. To look at him you wouldn't know it, but Quincy Jones is in his sixth decade in the music industry. This one man has done so much, his career defies any attempt at summary. But everyone knows that if something has the name Quincy Jones on it, it's going to be good.

Among his many talents is that rare ability to bring out the best in others. Dizzy Gillespie said people go to Quincy Jones "because he knows what he's doing. He knows the sound you've got in you, and he's got ... the know-how to get it out."

The man his friends call "Q" was born Quincy Delight Jones, Jr., on the south side of Chicago. He made his own way in the world, with few advantages beyond his own talent, ambition, and class. Starting out in the band of Lionel Hampton, he would eventually win the Grammy 26 times – so far. Quincy Jones has already received more nominations for the Grammy than any other artist. He produced the best-selling single of all time, and the best-selling album of all time.

All the hardship he knew early on he has turned to good and creative purposes. His successful life is testimony to faith in himself, faith in America, and faith in our Creator. "You can study orchestration," he has said. "You can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God."

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as “the kind of guy who just wants to blend in.” We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.” Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail. He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters. It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces ... Hard Time ... One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest ... Chinatown ... The Shining ... A Few Good Men ... As Good as it Gets*. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he’ll make film history. His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can’t resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn’t rehearse, and he makes it look easy. Yet his twelve Oscar nominations are exceeded only by Katharine Hepburn. He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it’s a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

 *** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO 1017
 CONNECTION TEL 66212
 CONNECTION ID
 ST. TIME 11/29 14:36
 USAGE T 02'23
 PGS. SENT 5
 RESULT OK

SSI/ RM NO. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 11-29-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 11-29-01 5:00 PM

Subject: RECEPTION FOR KENNEDY CENTER HONOREES - DECEMBER 2, 2001

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUBBARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUGHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BLAKEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IRASTORZA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BOLTEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JOHNSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LINDSEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONNAUGHTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MIERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DANIELS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RICE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FLEISCHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GONZALES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPELLINGS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAWKINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward comments directly to Krista Ritacco, x60170, no later than 5:00 p.m., TODAY, with a cc to us. Thanks.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 11-29-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 11-29-01 5:00 PM

Subject: RECEPTION FOR KENNEDY CENTER HONOREES - DECEMBER 2, 2001

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUBBARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUGHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BLAKEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IRASTORZA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BOLTEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JOHNSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LINDSEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONNAUGHTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MIERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DANIELS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RICE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FLEISCHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GONZALES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPELLINGS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAWKINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward comments directly to Krista Ritacco, x60170, no later than 5:00 p.m., TODAY, with a cc to us. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

Harriet E. Miers
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 62702

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #3

01 NOV 23 04:24

Good afternoon, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I are pleased to have all of you here for this happy occasion. We especially welcome the honorees and your families.

Every year the Kennedy Center honors five artists for lifetime contributions to American culture. The recipients for 2001 make quite a collection. As one newspaper put it in a headline, "This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune – and Then There's Jack."

What the writer didn't know is that Jack Nicholson actually plays piano – only that's not why he's here today. You are each here so that America can recognize your great gifts and the way you have used them.

Van Cliburn was recently a guest at our ranch in Crawford, Texas, at a dinner for President Vladimir Putin of Russia. He has known many other leaders. In this very room, on a December night in 1987, he played at the State Dinner for the Gorbachevs, and had the entire Soviet delegation singing the words of "Moscow Nights."

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower. He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and in a moment the whole world knew his name.

I'm proud to say that Texas knew him first, in a place called Kilgore. Harvey Lavan Cliburn Jr. first touched the keys at the age of three, and was playing in public at the age of four. Even a prodigy needs an inspiration, and Van Cliburn's was his devoted and talented mother.

She became his music teacher – the only one he knew until he entered Juilliard as a young man. She herself had studied under "Arthur Friedheim, who had studied with Liszt, who had studied with Czerny [SAIR-nee], who had studied with Beethoven." Rildia [RILL-da] Bee Cliburn lived a long, good life, and was always – in her son's words – "a fierce, wonderful, loving critic." Van, I know what that's like.

He reached the summit early, and stayed there. In his lifetime of talent and discipline, Van Cliburn has brought great beauty into the world. And the world is grateful.

Great beauty has also been the gift of Julia Elizabeth Wells, whom we all know as Julie Andrews. The story is told of an important conference of world leaders some years ago. White House chief of staff Jim Baker came into the guest house where President Ronald Reagan was staying. He assumed the President had been up late studying his briefing book, but then noticed the book hadn't been touched. There was a good reason. The President said, "Well, Jim, *The Sound of Music* was on last night."

The face and voice of Julie Andrews has that effect on people. You are instantly captivated. After seeing *Mary Poppins*, a reviewer put it this way: "If she did nothing but stand there smiling for a few hours, she would cast her radiance everywhere. It would be enough. But how that girl can sing and dance. When ... she glides off, it's more than you can bear. Julie, Julie, stay awhile."

As a girl of 12, she was actually turned down in her first screen test. A talent scout declared her "non-photogenic" – applying standards unknown to the rest of mankind. Not only is Julie Andrews the living definition of photogenic, her range of talent extends from drama, to the musical, to comedy, to dance. The range of her singing voice is four octaves, every note pure and powerful.

We have all sung along with Julie Andrews. We know she will sing again. And while we wait, we'll treasure the many films and recordings that capture the sound of Julie, and bring happy memories to us all. They are the lasting achievements of the truly lovely and gracious lady we honor today.

Luciano Pavarotti also achieved success at an early age, but in another profession. He was an insurance salesman, and people found him very persuasive. He had other plans, but his boss told him to stick with insurance. To Luciano Pavarotti, this man actually said – and I quote – "As a singer, you will undoubtedly die of starvation."

Pavarotti later said that he got out of sales because all that talking was damaging his voice. That voice is now among the most familiar on the planet.

He began in the chorus of his hometown of Modena [MAW-den-uh], Italy – seated alongside the tenor he loved most, his father, Fernando. He has commanded the stage before live audiences in the hundreds of thousands, leaving his listeners in a state of awe. The largeness of his voice and personality have drawn millions into the universe of classical music. In a career routinely compared to that of the great Caruso, Luciano Pavarotti has gained the acclaim and the affection of the American people. There is no one quite like him, and we will all remember the day we were in the presence of Maestro Pavarotti.

Our fourth honoree is also worthy of the title, Maestro. To look at him you wouldn't know it, but Quincy Jones is in his sixth decade in the music industry. This one man has done so much, his career defies any attempt at summary. But everyone knows that if something has the name Quincy Jones on it, it's going to be good.

Among his many talents is that rare ability to bring out the best in others. Dizzy Gillespie said people go to Quincy Jones "because he knows what he's doing. He knows the sound you've got in you, and he's got ... the know-how to get it out."

The man his friends call "Q" was born Quincy Delight Jones, Jr., on the south side of Chicago. He made his own way in the world, with few advantages beyond his own talent, ambition, and class. Starting out in the band of Lionel Hampton, he would eventually win the Grammy 26 times – so far. Quincy Jones has already received more nominations for the Grammy than any other artist. He produced the best-selling single of all time, and the best-selling album of all time.

All the hardship he knew early on he has turned to good and creative purposes. His successful life is testimony to faith in himself, faith in America, and faith in our Creator. "You can study orchestration," he has said. "You can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God."

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as “the kind of guy who just wants to blend in.” We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.” Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail. He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters. It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces ... Hard Time ... One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest ... Chinatown ... The Shining ... A Few Good Men ... As Good as it Gets*. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he’ll make film history. His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can’t resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn’t rehearse, and he makes it look easy. Yet his twelve Oscar nominations are exceeded only by Katharine Hepburn. He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it’s a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 11-29-01 ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 11-29-01 5:00 PM

Subject: RECEPTION FOR KENNEDY CENTER HONOREES - DECEMBER 2, 2001

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUBBARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HUGHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BLAKEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IRASTORZA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BOLTEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JOHNSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CALIO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	LINDSEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONNAUGHTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MIERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DANIELS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RICE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FLEISCHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIDGE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROVE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GONZALES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPELLINGS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAWKINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward comments directly to Krista Ritacco, x60170, no later than 5:00 p.m., TODAY, with a cc to us. Thanks.

RESPONSE:

✓

Harriet E. Miers
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 62702

Reception for Kennedy Center Honorees
December 2, 2001
Draft #3

01 NOV 29 PM 1:24

Good afternoon, and welcome to the White House. Laura and I are pleased to have all of you here for this happy occasion. We especially welcome the honorees and your families.

Every year the Kennedy Center honors five artists for lifetime contributions to American culture. The recipients for 2001 make quite a collection. As one newspaper put it in a headline, "This Year's Honorees Can Carry a Tune – and Then There's Jack."

What the writer didn't know is that Jack Nicholson actually plays piano – only that's not why he's here today. You are each here so that America can recognize your great gifts and the way you have used them.

Van Cliburn was recently a guest at our ranch in Crawford, Texas, at a dinner for President Vladimir Putin of Russia. He has known many other leaders. In this very room, on a December night in 1987, he played at the State Dinner for the Gorbachevs, and had the entire Soviet delegation singing the words of "Moscow Nights."

Three decades earlier, Van visited the White House as a guest of Dwight Eisenhower. He was 23 years old, winner of the Gold Medal at the Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, and in a moment the whole world knew his name.

I'm proud to say that Texas knew him first, in a place called Kilgore. Harvey Lavan Cliburn Jr. first touched the keys at the age of three, and was playing in public at the age of four. Even a prodigy needs an inspiration, and Van Cliburn's was his devoted and talented mother.

She became his music teacher – the only one he knew until he entered Juilliard as a young man. She herself had studied under "Arthur Friedheim, who had studied with Liszt, who had studied with Czerny [SAIR-nee], who had studied with Beethoven." Rildia [RILL-da] Bee Cliburn lived a long, good life, and was always – in her son's words – "a fierce, wonderful, loving critic." Van, I know what that's like.

He reached the summit early, and stayed there. In his lifetime of talent and discipline, Van Cliburn has brought great beauty into the world. And the world is grateful.

Great beauty has also been the gift of Julia Elizabeth Wells, whom we all know as Julie Andrews. The story is told of an important conference of world leaders some years ago. White House chief of staff Jim Baker came into the guest house where President Ronald Reagan was staying. He assumed the President had been up late studying his briefing book, but then noticed the book hadn't been touched. There was a good reason. The President said, "Well, Jim, *The Sound of Music* was on last night."

The face and voice of Julie Andrews has that effect on people. You are instantly captivated. After seeing *Mary Poppins*, a reviewer put it this way: "If she did nothing but stand there smiling for a few hours, she would cast her radiance everywhere. It would be enough. But how that girl can sing and dance. When ... she glides off, it's more than you can bear. Julie, Julie, stay awhile."

As a girl of 12, she was actually turned down in her first screen test. A talent scout declared her "non-photogenic" – applying standards unknown to the rest of mankind. Not only is Julie Andrews the living definition of photogenic, her range of talent extends from drama, to the musical, to comedy, to dance. The range of her singing voice is four octaves, every note pure and powerful.

We have all sung along with Julie Andrews. We know she will sing again. And while we wait, we'll treasure the many films and recordings that capture the sound of Julie, and bring happy memories to us all. They are the lasting achievements of the truly lovely and gracious lady we honor today.

Luciano Pavarotti also achieved success at an early age, but in another profession. He was an insurance salesman, and people found him very persuasive. He had other plans, but his boss told him to stick with insurance. To Luciano Pavarotti, this man actually said – and I quote – "As a singer, you will undoubtedly die of starvation."

Pavarotti later said that he got out of sales because all that talking was damaging his voice. That voice is now among the most familiar on the planet.

He began in the chorus of his hometown of Modena [MAW-den-uh], Italy – seated alongside the tenor he loved most, his father, Fernando. He has commanded the stage before live audiences in the hundreds of thousands, leaving his listeners in a state of awe. The largeness of his voice and personality have drawn millions into the universe of classical music. In a career routinely compared to that of the great Caruso, Luciano Pavarotti has gained the acclaim and the affection of the American people. There is no one quite like him, and we will all remember the day we were in the presence of Maestro Pavarotti.

Our fourth honoree is also worthy of the title, Maestro. To look at him you wouldn't know it, but Quincy Jones is in his sixth decade in the music industry. This one man has done so much, his career defies any attempt at summary. But everyone knows that if something has the name Quincy Jones on it, it's going to be good.

Among his many talents is that rare ability to bring out the best in others. Dizzy Gillespie said people go to Quincy Jones "because he knows what he's doing. He knows the sound you've got in you, and he's got ... the know-how to get it out."

The man his friends call "Q" was born Quincy Delight Jones, Jr., on the south side of Chicago. He made his own way in the world, with few advantages beyond his own talent, ambition, and class. Starting out in the band of Lionel Hampton, he would eventually win the Grammy 26 times – so far. Quincy Jones has already received more nominations for the Grammy than any other artist. He produced the best-selling single of all time, and the best-selling album of all time.

All the hardship he knew early on he has turned to good and creative purposes. His successful life is testimony to faith in himself, faith in America, and faith in our Creator. "You can study orchestration," he has said. "You can study harmony and theory and everything else, but melodies come straight from God."

For all of your marvelous work, America thanks you, Q – and so does W.

Jack Nicholson once described himself as “the kind of guy who just wants to blend in.” We don’t always get what we wish for. If there’s one thing the man can’t do, it’s disappear into the background.

He was not trained as an actor, but he had the feeling it was his calling. As Jack has explained, he became interested in the craft when he noticed that all the girls he liked “were doing plays.” Before long he was working in a studio, sorting the mail. He was on the big screen at age 21, playing a variety of troubled teens and drifters. It was the perfect preparation for the film that made him a star, *Easy Rider*.

We all remember his other great pictures – *Five Easy Pieces ... Hard Time ... One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest ... Chinatown ... The Shining ... A Few Good Men ... As Good as it Gets*. Everybody has a favorite scene, and a favorite line – delivered as only Jack can do it. Give him a scene in a diner where he just wants a piece of toast – and he’ll make film history. His characters leave mixed emotions – always something to draw you in, always something to put you off. America can’t resist the mystery, the hint of menace – and, of course, that killer smile.

He doesn’t rehearse, and he makes it look easy. Yet his twelve Oscar nominations are exceeded only by Katharine Hepburn. He is one of a handful of actors to win the Oscar three times. We pay him tribute today, because John Joseph Nicholson is one of the greats, of this or any other generation of film actors.

I hope each of our honorees will enjoy the evening ahead. Perhaps it’s a nice change that none of you will be called on to perform. This is an evening for appreciation – for looking back at all you have achieved, and the part you continue to play in our national life.

Thank you very much.

Drafted by: Matthew Scully & John McConnell, Office of Speechwriting
Office: 202/456-7289 or 202/456-2816
Cell: (b)(6)