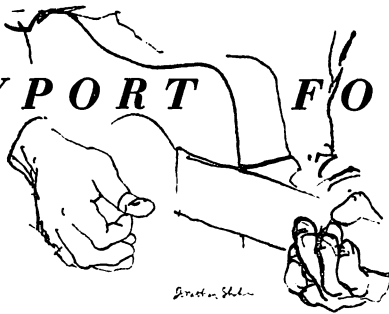


# NEWPORT FOLK FOUNDATION · INC.

50 CENTRAL PARK WEST, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10023

TRAFALGAR 3-0733



January 15, 1965

Miss Lani Herrmann  
The Folklore Society of Greater Washington  
827 N. Van Dorn Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

Dear Miss Herrmann:

Thank you for your letter of January 11th concerning your society and its aims. Your request will be discussed at our next board meeting. In the meantime we thought you might be interested in some of the artists we are bringing to this area this spring.

The Newport Folk Foundation is sponsoring a series of concerts in conjunction with Club 47 and Manny Greenhill in Boston, The Friends of Old Time Music in New York, and the Philadelphia Folk Song Society in Philadelphia. For these concerts we are bringing to this area various traditional musicians. If there is any interest in your area in presenting a concert with any of these performers, would you please let us know. We would not actually book any of these people, and cannot quote prices, but we would be happy to pass on any inquiries to the artists, and certainly since we are paying their travel from their homes, the cost would be lower than otherwise.

The first program will feature Maybelle Carter, the McGee Brothers and Arthur Smith, and will be presented in New York February 12, in Boston February 13, and in Philadelphia February 14. The second concert will present Roscoe Holcomb, Dillard Chandler and the Galax String Band in New York March 26, in Boston March 27, and in Philadelphia March 28. Bessie Jones and the Georgia Sea Island Singers and Fred McDowell will perform the third weekend, in Boston Thursday, April 8, in New York April 9, and in Philadelphia April 10. The fourth program is not yet definite. We hope to present Bahamian music, possibly Joseph Spence and Frederick McQueen. This program will be presented in Boston Thursday May 13, in New York May 14, and in Philadelphia May 15.

Maybelle Carter's agent has advised us that Maybelle is available February 1 through 11 and also the 15th, 16th and 17th. We are sending similar letters to other people and organizations (in Washington to Joe Hickerson at the Library of Congress), so if you are interested, would you please let us know quickly, and give us alternate dates if possible.

We hope to hear from you in the near future.

Best regards,

  
Ralph Rinzler

*DIRECTORS:* Theodore Bikel, Ronnie Gilbert, Alan Lomax, Ralph Rinzler, Mike Seeger, Pete Seeger, Peter Yarrow

*OFFICERS:* George Wein *Chairman*, Elliot Hoffman *Secretary*, Arnold London *Treasurer*

The FOLKLORE SOCIETY  
of GREATER WASHINGTON

827 N. Van Dorn Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

11 January 1965

Newport Folk Foundation, Inc.  
30 Central Park West  
New York, New York 10023

Gentlemen:

This is a preliminary inquiry concerning your requirements for applications for financial aid.

The Society, a non-profit organization, was begun last fall. (A copy of the current By-Laws is enclosed.) The primary activity of the Society for this first year will be the monthly program meetings of, on, and about traditional folk music; in time, and given adequate financial and attendance bases, we hope to be able to sponsor formal concerts and informal workshops along similar lines. Our purpose in these activities, aside from the recreational aspects, is to meet and present some relatively uncommercial traditional musicians in fairly informal settings so as to gain some understanding of their lives and attitudes as well as of their music. We also hope to prepare and educate a larger local audience to a deeper appreciation of the music and the musicians.

So far this year we have had several organizing meetings, two program meetings, and one informal folksing. The first program was to have been presented by Seamus Ennis, but his illness caused a substitute program to be offered by Jos. Bossom (a Scottish piper who was instrumental in bringing Mr. Ennis to Washington) and by Chuck and Nan Perdue. The second program on the Appalachian dulcimer was given by John Putnam and Howie Mitchell. The third program, scheduled for January 23, will involve three local Negro blues and gospel musicians, Flora Molton, Ed Green, and John Jackson.

Evidently the greater part of our activity is, and I think ought to be, based on local resources, and in these early stages of the organization we have managed to hold our own and grow gradually in terms of membership, attendance, and financial stability. However, we are severely limited in our planning by lack of funds to commit to some more ambitious ventures -- for example, bringing Frank Proffitt here for a program and possibly other employment (school programs, coffeehouses, etc.). We therefore inquire in what form and detail an application for a grant or loan should be made, and what other information you require. Copies of our newsletter, biographies of the officers of the Society, financial statements, etc., are available upon request.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary