THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

Dear Friend:

I am delighted by your interest in the Diplomatic Reception Rooms at the U.S. Department of State. For fifty years, diplomats, presidents, prime ministers, royalty, and American citizens have gathered in these rooms against a magnificent backdrop of American art and architecture. The rooms are a celebration of our nation's freedom. They provide elegant spaces for entertainment, quiet spaces for meaningful dialogue, and more formal spaces for ceremonial events. Filled with historic treasures, the rooms are a gift from the American people and greatly enrich our diplomatic programs.

As you can imagine, keeping the rooms, as well as the historic collection of art and artifacts they contain, safe and vibrant is a challenge. Used every day in service to our nation, the reception rooms are enjoyed by more than 90,000 visitors yearly, and preservation is a major issue we face. I have asked the Offices of the Chief of Protocol and the Curator to initiate an endowment campaign, the Patrons of Diplomacy Campaign. This campaign seeks to engage a new generation of American benefactors who will step forward and sustain the magnificent Diplomatic Reception Rooms of the U.S. State Department for American diplomacy.

These are America's treasures and the Patrons of Diplomacy Campaign is an important next step in ensuring the rooms remain a vital resource for generations to come. I am pleased to give my full support to this great American program. Each of us has a role to play in modern diplomacy, and I hope you will join me in supporting and sustaining the Diplomatic Reception Rooms.

Sincerely yours,

Hillary Rodham Clinton

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