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Arts (CFA) and the Bureau of the Mint, 2007-2010

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Source of document: U. S. Commission of Fine Arts

401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

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#### 5 March 2010

We are writing in response to your Freedom of Information Act request (per 45 Code of Federal Regulations Part 2105) dated 13 February 2010 and received in this office on 15 February 2010.

Enclosed, please find all documents that are responsive to your request for copies of all correspondence between the Commission of Fine Arts and the Bureau of the Mint from January 1, 2007 to the present. Per your request, we are providing only the letters, excluding attachments and documents.

Thank you for your interest in the Commission of Fine Arts and its activities. The foregoing determination of responsive documents may be appealed administratively within thirty days of the date of this letter by writing to the Chairman, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312, Washington, DC 20001. You should clearly mark your envelope and letter: "Freedom of Information Appeal." We agree to waive the photocopying fees for the enclosed material.

If you need any further assistance, please contact me at the above address or you can reach me at (202) 504-2200.

Sincerely,

Thomas Luebke, AIA

Secretary

#### **ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910**

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#### 29 January 2010

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 21 January, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed reverse designs for the five America the Beautiful Quarters for issue in 2011. In addition to their comments regarding the individual coin designs, the Commission members gave general recommendations regarding the images and template for the entire series.

The Commission members noted that this series will potentially include numerous landscapes that are difficult to distinguish from each other as the program continues; they recommended that the Mint choose emblematic features of each park that will remain distinctive in the context of the full twelve-year series. They reiterated their recurring concern that the vast sweep of these scenic vistas is inherently difficult to convey on a coin the size of the quarter. They also criticized the tendency to use photographic images as the basis for the design alternatives, resulting in excessive detail and realism; coin design should instead emphasize the abstraction of key elements in order to convey the essence of the subject.

The Commission members expressed regret that the Mint has rejected their previous recommendation to eliminate the horizontal lower edge of the otherwise circular border as part of the overall template for the series; they acknowledged the Mint's thorough consideration in deciding to retain this feature but noted that it continues to be problematic in the designs, such as in the Gettysburg alternative #3. They also questioned the symmetrical placement of "E Pluribus Unum" and the state name, recommending instead that the standard mottoes be grouped separately from the text labels for specific coins; they acknowledged that the template has been established for this series but note this concern as an ongoing principle for future coin designs.

The Commission's specific recommendations for the individual coin designs were as follows:

Gettysburg National Military Park (Pennsylvania). The Commission recommended alternative #3, commenting that it is the simplest design and will therefore be the most legible at the scale of the coin. The Commission recommended adjusting the lower portion of the design to avoid the awkward relationship of the monument base to the flat portion of the border.

Glacier National Park (Montana). The Commission recommended alternative #3, commenting that the Rocky Mountain goat is emblematic of the park and

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provides a desirable foreground feature that gives scale to the sweeping vista of the glaciated landscape.

Olympic National Park (Washington). The Commission recommended alternative #1, again supporting the inclusion of an animal as an emblem of the larger landscape and commenting favorably on the depiction of the Roosevelt elk.

Vicksburg National Military Park (Mississippi). The Commission supported alternative #4, depicting the entrance arch of the park, while recommending development of a simplified design that emphasizes this iconic feature without the attempt to depict a realistic landscape setting. The Commission members also discouraged the depiction of sculptural fragments of memorials, as seen in alternatives #1 and #3, commenting that such subjects are not easily recognizable in isolation as historic design features representing the park.

Chickasaw National Recreation Area (Oklahoma). The Commission did not recommend any of the alternatives, again commenting that the scale of the coin does not support detailed landscape depictions. The Commission suggested further development and resubmission of the bridge featured in alternative #2 due to its distinctive form and symbolic representation of the site, while simplifying or eliminating the landscape setting.

The Commission looks forward to further consultation with the Mint in working toward our shared goal of improving the design quality of our nation's coinage. As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT December 31, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on January 21, 2010, are the candidate reverse designs for the United States Mint America the Beautiful Quarters coins to be issued in 2011, honoring Gettysburg National Military Park, Glacier National Park, Olympic National Park, Vicksburg National Military Park, and Chickasaw National Recreation Area.

In accordance with the America's Beautiful National Parks Quarter Dollar Coin Act of 2008 (Act) (Public Law 110-456), the United States Mint shall design, mint and issue quarter-dollar coins that are emblematic of national parks, fish and wildlife refuges, national forests and other national sites selected in accordance with the Act – one in each of 56 host jurisdictions comprising the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. A portrait of George Washington will remain on the obverse of all the quarter-dollar coins.

The reverse candidate designs will also be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee in January. Once the designs have been reviewed and any revisions incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended design candidates to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the enclosed candidate designs at your meeting on January 21, 2010. A representative of the United States Mint will present the designs at this meeting.

Edmund C. Moy Director

United States Mint

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**Enclosures:** 

2011 United States Mint America the Beautiful Quarters Program Candidate

Reverse Designs

#### **ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910**

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30 November 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 19 November, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed obverse designs for the fifth set of one-dollar coins in the Presidential series. The Commission's recommendations were as follows:

Andrew Johnson. The Commission recommended alternative #17-01, commenting that the larger size of the head is better proportioned to the overall coin, and the near-profile pose is a compelling composition.

Ulysses Grant. The Commission recommended alternative #18-04 due to the larger proportion of the head to the coin; the second choice was #18-01. The Commission members expressed regret that a profile pose was not included among the alternatives.

Rutherford Hayes. The Commission recommended alternative #19-04, commenting on the strength of the profile pose and the superior composition of the portrait within the overall circle of the coin.

James Garfield. The Commission recommended alternative #20-02, commenting on the near-profile pose, the superior treatment of the hair and beard, and the larger size of the head.

The Commission members continue to appreciate the provision of information on source images for their inspection during the review; they requested that these copies be included in the presentation itself and also provided in advance with the submission materials, so that they may consider the proposed designs in relation to the source material in advance of the meeting.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Sincereb

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

cc: Kaarina Budow, U.S. Mint

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DIRECTOR OF THE MINT November 3, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on November 19, 2009, are copies of the obverse candidate designs for the 2011 Presidential \$1 Coins honoring Presidents Andrew Johnson, Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes and James Garfield.

In accordance with the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005 (Act) (Public Law 109-145), the United States Mint is minting and issuing \$1 coins with obverse images emblematic of each President in the order that each served. The Act, as amended, mandates that the reverse design for these coins be an image of a dramatic representation of the Statue of Liberty that extends to the rim of the coin; that the inscription of the year of minting or issuance, and the inscription E PLURIBUS UNUM be edge incused; and that the inscription IN GOD WE TRUST appear on the face of the coin.

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee is scheduled to review the enclosed obverse candidate designs at its meeting on November 12, 2009. We appreciate your review of the enclosed candidate designs at your meeting on November 19. A representative of the United States Mint will present the enclosed candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 2011 Presidential \$1 Coin obverse candidate designs

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COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

#### **ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910**

401 / STREET NW SUITE 312 WASHINGTON OC 20001-2728 202-504-2200 FAX 202-504-2195 WWW CFA.GOV

#### 17 November 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

The Commission of Fine Arts was pleased to meet with representatives of your staff on 15 October to discuss the design process of coins and medals at the U.S. Mint. As you know, the Commission has often expressed concern about the quality of designs that are developed for their review and the resulting design quality of the nation's medallic arts. The Commission members were interested to hear of the many constraints on the Mint's design process and of the value to you of the Commission's comments.

The Commission members had requested the session to understand more about the impact of their comments on the final design of the Mint's coins and medals. They were pleased to hear of several cases in recent years where the Commission's advice was strongly influential in the selection of a final design. They also appreciated the explanation by your staff of the balancing of inputs during the Mint's design process; they reaffirmed their commitment to provide advice to you on the aesthetic merit of proposed designs, exclusive of any other issues which you may need to consider.

The Commission members identified the selection of artists as a crucial step toward improving the Mint's designs. They were encouraged by the discussion of changes to the Mint's Artistic Infusion Program, recommending that it be publicized more widely to attract artists skilled in the medallic arts. They noted that this field has relatively few well-trained practitioners and suggested that the Mint consider working with colleges to develop curricula that will produce a pool of skilled artists. They encouraged the implementation of the Mint's plan for a formal apprentice program to supplement the on-the-job training that is currently provided to engravers. The Commission members singled out portraiture as a specialized artistic skill that has been the source of disappointment; they urged the development of unique portrait images suitable for coins, particularly in the profile view, rather than reliance on the reproduction or direct adaptation of historical images from other media.

The Commission members discussed the desirability of bringing in artists of extraordinary talent in order to generate designs of truly noteworthy stature, in addition to the pool of artists that the Mint has brought to the Artistic Infusion Program. They noted that artists of international reputation are unlikely to enter the competitive selection process of the Artistic Infusion Program and could

instead be commissioned to create designs. They mentioned the history of such commissioned work for postage stamps, which they said have been more successful in achieving higher artistic standards.

The Commission offered its assistance to the Mint in furthering the joint goal of achieving artistic excellence for the nation's coins and medals. As your staff requested, the Commission will continue its effort to provide detailed advice that will be useful to the Mint in the evaluation process for each design. Please let us know how we can work further with you; and, as always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

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23 October 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 15 October, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed design for the Congressional Gold Medal honoring Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) from the World War II era, with the following recommendations.

For the obverse, the Commission members recommended the composite image featured in alternative #2, which they described as superior in composition and appropriately reminiscent of the 1940s. The Commission requested that the clouds be shifted or removed to avoid confusion with the main figure's head.

For the reverse, the Commission recommended alternative #1 while requesting several revisions to the design. The Commission members appreciated the intention in this alternative to depict airplanes extending across the medal's border—symbolically expressing the barrier-breaking achievements of the women being honored—and requested that this intention be expressed more consistently through the adjustment of the lower airplane's position to be clearly crossing the lower-left border, or fully within the field. They recommended that the circular form of the border be continued along the bottom of the reverse, eliminating the horizontal base in the proposal; this modification could incorporate the wings insignia within the extended field of sky, possibly overlapping the adjusted border, and would not cut off the lower airplane's wing.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Sincerety

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

cc:





October 1, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on October 15, 2009, are the candidate designs for the Congressional Gold Medal honoring the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs). The United States Mint will strike a single gold medal in honor of WASPs collectively in recognition of their pioneering military service and exemplary record, which led to revolutionary reform in the United States Armed Forces. Bronze duplicates of the official medal will be made available for sale to the general public.

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee will review the enclosed candidate designs at its next meeting. Once the candidate designs have been reviewed and revisions incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the Congressional Gold Medal candidate designs honoring the WASPs at your meeting on October 15, 2009. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

**United States Mint** 

Enclosures: 1) Obverse candidate designs

2) Reverse candidate designs

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COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

#### **ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910**

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23 October 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 15 October, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed design for the Congressional Gold Medal honoring the artist Constantino Brumidi, with the following recommendations.

A majority of the Commission members supported using the portrait of alternative #2 set within the composition of alternative #1; they commended the design of #1 for its placement of the head in the center and its use of the wreath around the rim recalling the decorative features of Brumidi's work. The Commission members recommended, however, that the portrait of Brumidi be redesigned to incorporate the preferred likeness in alternative #2; they noted the awkward position of the necktie in alternative #1 as well as the inappropriate placement of the artist's name across the chest of the portrait in alternative #2. A minority of the Commission members expressed support for alternative #3, saying they liked its simplicity, the use of a near-profile, and the brushes representing Brumidi's profession; one Commission member commented that this alternative could easily complement a reverse design.

For the reverse, the Commission supported alternative #1, depicting Brumidi's painting of *The Apotheosis of George Washington* at the U.S. Capitol, as the most balanced design, but recommended replacing the lengthy central text with the simple statement "Artist of the Capitol," as proposed in alternative #2.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

September 30, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on October 15, 2009, are the candidate designs for the Congressional Gold Medal honoring Constantino Brumidi. The United States Mint will strike a single gold medal in honor of Constantino Brumidi in recognition of his artistic accomplishments and contributions to the Nation. Bronze duplicates of the official medal will be made available for sale to the general public.

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee will review the enclosed candidate designs at its meeting on October 20, 2009. Once the candidate designs have been reviewed and revisions incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the Congressional Gold Medal candidate designs honoring Constantino Brumidi at your meeting on October 15, 2009. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

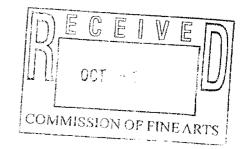
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Edmund C. Moy Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) Obverse candidate designs

2) Reverse candidate designs



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202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

24 September 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 17 September, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed designs for the fourth set of ten-dollar coins and associated medals in the First Spouse series. The Commission's recommendations were as follows:

Abigail Fillmore. The Commission recommended alternative #4 for the obverse, commenting on the strength of the image. For the reverse, the Commission recommended alternative #5 due to the clarity of the design, preferable to several other alternatives that presented complex scenes dependent upon additional explanation to identify the figures depicted.

Jane Pierce. The Commission recommended alternative #1 for the obverse, due to the suitability of the portrait for a coin; the other alternatives appeared to place excessive emphasis on the hair style. For the reverse, the Commission recommended alternative #4 for its simplicity and strong composition.

James Buchanan's Liberty. The Commission approved the single alternative presented for the obverse. For the reverse, the Commission recommended alternative #2 as the superior composition, focused on Buchanan himself. In addition, the Commission noted the potential appropriateness of alternative #4, depicting Buchanan's service as an ambassador.

Mary Todd Lincoln. The Commission recommended alternative #1 for the obverse, which features Mrs. Lincoln in a near-profile composition. For the reverse, the Commission recommended alternative #4 due to the depiction of the First Lady in an active humanitarian role, with the recommendation that the quality of the image be improved.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Homas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Sincerely

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

cc: Kaarina Budow, U.S. Mint

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September 2, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

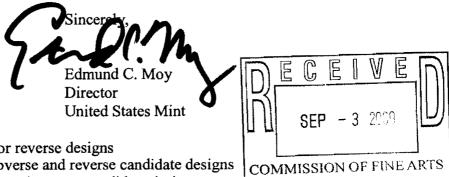
Enclosed for review and comment by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on September 17, 2009, are copies of the obverse and reverse candidate designs for the 2010 First Spouse Gold Coins honoring Abigail Fillmore, Jane Pierce, James Buchanan's Liberty and Mary Todd Lincoln.

In accordance with the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-145), the United States Mint is issuing \$10 gold coins with images emblematic of the spouse of each President. The obverse of each coin issued will bear an image of the first spouse, while the reverse will depict an image emblematic of the first spouse's life and work. In the case of any President who served without a spouse, such as James Buchanan, the obverse of such gold coin will be of an image emblematic of the concept of Liberty as represented on a U.S. coin issued during the period of service of that President, while the reverse shall be of a design representative of the themes of that President.

Additionally, the United States Mint is authorized to produce bronze medals bearing the likeness of the gold coins. The central images of both the obverse and reverse designs remain, but many of the inscriptions that are appropriate only for legal tender coins are removed from the bronze medals.

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee will review the obverse and reverse candidate designs on September 22, 2009.

We appreciate your review of the enclosed candidate designs at your meeting on September 17, 2009. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.



- Enclosures: 1) Design narratives for reverse designs
  - 2) Abigail Fillmore obverse and reverse candidate designs
  - 3) Jane Pierce obverse and reverse candidate designs
  - 4) James Buchanan's Liberty obverse and reverse candidate designs
  - 5) Mary Todd Lincoln obverse and reverse candidate designs

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NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 24 September 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 17 September, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed alternatives for the first five reverse designs for the "America the Beautiful" Quarters Program. The Commission provided several general comments regarding this coin series program, acknowledging the challenge of depicting a variety of national sites—many of which are notable for their vast scale—on the small size of a quarter. They recommended the use of familiar iconic images when feasible, in order to assist the public in recognizing these small-scale depictions of major scenic landmarks; they commented further that the source material should not be limited to that provided by the park superintendents.

The Commission members expressed general support for the proposed template for the reverse but strongly recommended that the inner circle be continuous, eliminating the flat segment shown at the bottom of each coin; they emphasized the critical importance of the circle's continuity as a fundamental design element. The Commission's recommendations for the five coins were as follows:

Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas. The Commission recommended alternative #2, depicting the doorway of the park's main building from the 1930s. The Commission members commented favorably on the simplicity of this design but questioned the quality of the drawings presented, and recommended that the small National Park Service sign beside the doorway be eliminated from the design due to its illegibility at the scale of a coin.

Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming. The Commission rejected all of the designs presented for their poor quality. The Commission members supported the idea of depicting Old Faithful, but suggested consideration of additional source material, such as the paintings of Thomas Moran.

Yosemite National Park, California. The Commission recommended alternative #4 depicting the Half Dome rock formation, with the comment that the artwork appears unfinished and should be further developed. The Commission suggested that other historic sources, such as the photographs of Ansel Adams, be considered in refining this image.

Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona. The Commission acknowledged the difficulty of distinguishing the subject from its previous depiction on the Arizona state quarter, a concern that may recur over the course of this new series. The Commission recommended alternative #1, due the depth of the perspective view, but suggested several modifications. Noting that the foreground scree is given too much dominance in the composition, the

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Commission members recommended shifting the strong vertical alignment at the center of the coin to the right to emphasize the deep perspective toward the left side of the composition.

Mt. Hood National Forest, Oregon. The Commission recommended alternative #3 due to its superior composition and simplicity of elements.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Sincerely.

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



September 8, 2009

DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

The Honorable Earl A. Powell III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on September 17, 2009, are the candidate reverse designs for the first five commemorative quarter-dollar coins in the United States Mint America the Beautiful Quarters<sup>™</sup> Program, to be issued in 2010, honoring Hot Springs National Park, Yellowstone National Park, Yosemite National Park, Grand Canyon National Park, and Mt. Hood National Forest.

In accordance with the America's Beautiful National Parks Quarter Dollar Coin Act of 2008 (Act) (Public Law 110-456) the United States Mint shall design, mint and issue quarter-dollar coins that are emblematic of national parks, fish and wildlife refuges, national forests and other national sites selected in accordance with the Act — one in each of the 56 host jurisdictions comprising the 50 States, District of Columbia, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, United States Virgin Islands, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. A portrait of George Washington will remain on the obverse of all the quarter-dollar coins.

The reverse candidate designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee on September 22, 2009. As required by the Act, the candidate designs are also being reviewed by the Secretary of the Interior. Once the designs have been reviewed and any revisions incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended design candidates to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the enclosed candidate designs at your meeting on September 17, 2009. A representative of the United States Mint will present the designs at this meeting.

SEP 1 0 2009 COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

**United States Mint** 

**Enclosure:** 

2010 United States Mint America the Beautiful Quarters Program Reverse Candidate Designs

**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

24 July 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 16 July, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the revised design for the medal honoring your service as 38th Director of the U.S. Mint. The Commission reaffirmed its previous approval of the obverse design, accepting the minor modifications that are proposed to the lettering font, but rejected all of the proposed reverse designs. The Commission members commented on the inappropriateness of the proposal—shared by all four reverse alternatives—to overlay new graphics on an image by Leonardo Da Vinci that is one of the masterpieces of Renaissance art. They recommended that this concept be abandoned and reiterated their support for a previous submission depicting a simple torch, which they described as a more dignified design.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

June 18, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on July 16, 2009, are the candidate designs for the medal honoring the 38<sup>th</sup> Director of the United States Mint. As authorized by 31 U.S.C. § 5111(a)(3), bronze duplicates of the original medal will be made available for sale to the general public.

The enclosed designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on June 29, 2009. Once the designs are reviewed and revisions incorporated, as appropriate, we will submit the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the candidate designs at your meeting on July 16, 2009. A representative of the United States Mint will present the designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

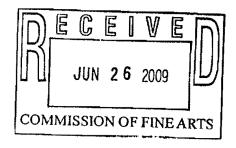
Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) Obverse candidate design

2) Reverse candidate designs



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25 June 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 18 June, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the design alternatives for the Boy Scouts of America Centennial Commemorative Coin proposed for issue in 2010. Despite the large number of alternatives, the Commission members expressed disappointment with the quality of the designs, particularly as rendered in the line drawings; they suggested more care in the rendering of human figures and especially of children as depicted in the obverse alternatives. The Commission members suggested that the opportunity for artists to designs coins be more widely publicized—including notice to such groups as professional sculpture or classical arts organizations—in order to improve the quality of the designs.

The Commission gave the following recommendations on the submitted alternatives:

Obverse: A minority of Commission members supported alternatives BSA-O-04 and BSA-O-06, with the comments that alternative BSA-O-04 is particularly clear and straightforward without extraneous elements, and that alternative BSA-O-06 uses a more classical composition with profile portraits. The Commission questioned the design concept in many alternatives of contrasting a scout from the year 1910 with a modern-day scout, commenting that the distinction of hats and uniform details would be difficult to discern at the scale of the coin.

Reverse: The Commission members supported alternative BSA-R-05, which they described as the strongest graphic design. They discouraged the placement of text on scrolls as shown in three alternatives and made a general recommendation, applicable to many coin proposals, to develop an appropriate graphic design distinction between the commemorative subject-related text and the general coinage-related text.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

cc: Kaarina Budow, U.S. Mint

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DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

June 4, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on June 18, 2009, are the candidate designs for the 2010 Boy Scouts of America Centennial Commemorative Coin Program. According to Public Law 110-363, the United States Mint shall mint and issue \$1 silver coins that are emblematic of the 100 years of the Boy Scouts of America, the largest youth organization in the United States.

The obverse and reverse candidate designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee on June 29, 2009. Once the designs have been reviewed and any revisions incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended design candidates to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the 2010 Boy Scouts of America Centennial Commemorative Coin candidate designs at your meeting on June 18, 2009. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

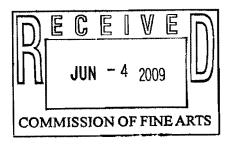
Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy Director

**United States Mint** 

Enclosure:

2010 Boy Scouts of America Centennial Commemorative Coin Program Candidate Designs



ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

29 May 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 21 May, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the design alternatives for the American Veterans Disabled for Life Commemorative One Dollar Silver Coin. The Commission members expressed support for a number of the options presented and concluded with the following recommendations:

Obverse: The Commission members supported both alternative ADV-O-01 and alternative ADV-O-07, with the comment that this alternative is particularly moving and well composed.

Reverse: The Commission members supported alternative ADV-R-01, which they appreciated for the quotation from President Abraham Lincoln.

The Commission members also reiterated their guidance for simplicity in the design of coins, and particularly urged that the number of elements in the designs be limited.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Sincerely

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

ce: Kaarina Budow, U.S. Mint

FILE COPY



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

May 11, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell III Chairperson U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on May 21, 2009, are the candidate designs for the 2010 American Veterans Disabled for Life Commemorative Coin Program. According to Public Law 110-277, the United States Mint shall issue \$1 silver coins that are emblematic of the service of our disabled veterans who, having survived the ordeal of war, made enormous personal sacrifices defending the principles of our democracy.

The obverse and reverse candidate designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its upcoming meeting. Once the designs have been reviewed and any revisions incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended design candidates to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the 2010 American Veterans Disabled for Life Commemorative Coin candidate designs at your meeting on May 21, 2009. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

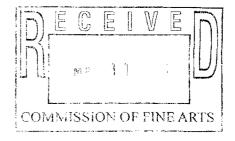
Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

#### Enclosure:

2010 American Veterans Disabled for Life Commemorative Coin Program Candidate Designs



**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

29 May 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 21 May, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the resubmitted reverse design alternatives for the Abraham Lincoln One-Cent Coin for issue in 2010, following the Mint's withdrawal of the design that the Commission had recommended in the previous review. The Commission members recommended the flag motif of alternative LP-10 due to its strength and simplicity, commenting that the flag clearly conveys the American identity in accordance with the Mint's principles of artistic excellence. The Commission also considered the eagle image of alternative LP-17, which was noted as meritorious in the previous review, but concluded that it would not be successful at the small scale of this coin.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

May 11, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairperson U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on May 21, 2009, are copies of the reverse candidate designs for the 2010 Lincoln Cent. The obverse design will continue to bear the Victor David Brenner likeness of President Abraham Lincoln.

In accordance with the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-145), the United States Mint will mint and issue one-cent coins with a reverse image emblematic of President Lincoln's preservation of the United States as a single and united country. United States Mint sculptor-engravers and Artistic Infusion Program artists submitted candidate designs for the reverse.

The 2010 Lincoln Cent candidate designs were reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on April 28. We appreciate your review of the enclosed candidate designs at your meeting on May 21. A representative of the United States Mint will present them at this meeting. Thank you for your consideration of these candidate designs.

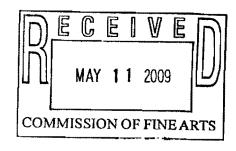
Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 2010 Lincoln Cent reverse candidate designs



**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

## 24 April 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 16 April, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed reverse design for the 2010 issue of the Native American One Dollar Coin. The Commission members recommended alternative #5 depicting a banded cluster of arrows because of the visual clarity and strength of this composition. They commented that the tree motif which formed the basis of the other alternative designs was not well suited to the small scale of the coin.

As there was not a quorum present during the review of the submission, this recommendation will be placed on the agenda for confirmation at the Commission's meeting of 21 May. As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT March 31, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on April 16, 2009, are copies of the reverse candidate designs for the Native American \$1 Coin Program for 2010. The obverse will continue to bear an image of Sacagawea.

In accordance with the Native American \$1 Coin Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-82), the United States Mint will mint and issue \$1 coins with reverse images emblematic of the important contributions made by Indian tribes and individual Native Americans to the development and history of the United States. United States Mint Sculptor-Engravers and Artistic Infusion Program artists submitted candidate designs for this coin.

The candidate designs are scheduled to be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee on April 28. We appreciate your review of the enclosed candidate designs at your meeting on April 16. A representative of the United States Mint will present them at this meeting.

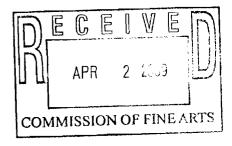
Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) 2010 Native American \$1 Coin reverse candidate designs

2) 2010 Native American \$1 Coin theme



**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 24 April 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 16 April, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed reviewed the proposed reverse design for the Abraham Lincoln one-cent coin to commence in 2010. The Commission members recommended alternative #18 depicting the sheaf of wheat; they requested that the phrase "One Nation" be omitted for clarity and the one-cent denomination be spelled out, such as by using the text format of alternative #3. They also commented that the depiction of the eagle in alternative #17 is exceptionally well rendered and could serve as a model for a future coin submission, preferably for one with a larger scale.

As there was not a quorum present during the review of the submission, this recommendation will be placed on the agenda for confirmation at the Commission's meeting of 21 May. As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

March 31, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on April 16, 2009, are copies of the reverse candidate designs for the 2010 Lincoln Cent. The obverse design will continue to bear Victor David Brenner's likeness of President Abraham Lincoln.

In accordance with Title III of the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-145), the design on the reverse of one-cent coins issued after December 31, 2009, shall bear an image emblematic of President Lincoln's preservation of the United States as a single and united country. United States Mint Sculptor-Engravers and Artistic Infusion Program artists submitted candidate designs for this coin.

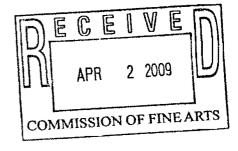
The Lincoln Cent candidate designs are scheduled to be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee on April 28. We appreciate your review of the enclosed candidate designs at your meeting on April 16. A representative of the United States Mint will present them at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 2010 Lincoln Cent reverse candidate designs



**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

27 February 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 19 February, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed designs for two Congressional Gold Medals, with the following recommendations.

For the medal honoring Senator Edward William Brooke III, the Commission approved the proposed obverse which they commented presents a good portrait. For the reverse, the Commission noted that the proposed text is repetitious and graphically awkward; they recommended that the first two lines of the quotation be omitted and the remaining four lines be adjusted accordingly.

For the medal honoring Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the Commission approved the proposed obverse. For the reverse, the Commission members recommended restudying the entire composition, including improving the image of the peacock and adjusting the compositional elements such that the word "Burma"—a critical component of information for the medal—figures more prominently. They also commented that the inclusion of a Western classical column capital may be confusing and inappropriate for an Asian subject.

As always, the staff is available to assist you in future submissions.

1111

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Sincerely

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220





February 3, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on February 19, 2009, are the candidate designs for the Congressional Gold Medal honoring Edward William Brooke III. The United States Mint will strike a single gold medal in honor of Senator Brooke in recognition of his unprecedented and enduring service to our Nation. Bronze duplicates of the medal will be made available for sale to the general public.

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee will review the enclosed candidate designs at its meeting on February 24, 2009. Once the designs have been reviewed and revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the Congressional Gold Medal candidate designs honoring Senator Brooke at your meeting on February 19, 2009. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

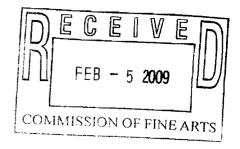
Edmund C. Moy

Director

**United States Mint** 

Enclosures: 1) Obverse candidate design

2) Reverse candidate design



**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 27 February 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 19 February, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed designs for two Congressional Gold Medals, with the following recommendations.

For the medal honoring Senator Edward William Brooke III, the Commission approved the proposed obverse which they commented presents a good portrait. For the reverse, the Commission noted that the proposed text is repetitious and graphically awkward; they recommended that the first two lines of the quotation be omitted and the remaining four lines be adjusted accordingly.

For the medal honoring Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the Commission approved the proposed obverse. For the reverse, the Commission members recommended restudying the entire composition, including improving the image of the peacock and adjusting the compositional elements such that the word "Burma"—a critical component of information for the medal—figures more prominently. They also commented that the inclusion of a Western classical column capital may be confusing and inappropriate for an Asian subject.

As always, the staff is available to assist you in future submissions.

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Sincerely

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

February 3, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on February 19, 2009, are the candidate designs for the Congressional Gold Medal honoring Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. The United States Mint will strike a single gold medal in honor of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in recognition of her courageous and unwavering commitment to peace, nonviolence, human rights and democracy in Burma. Bronze duplicates of the medal will be made available for sale to the general public.

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee will review the enclosed candidate designs at its meeting on February 24, 2009. Once the designs have been reviewed and revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the Congressional Gold Medal candidate designs honoring Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at your meeting on February 19, 2009. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

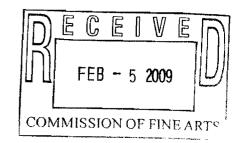
Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) Obverse candidate design

2) Reverse candidate design



**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 29 January 2009

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 22 January, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed obverse designs for the fourth set of one-dollar coins in the Presidential series. The Commission's recommendations were as follows:

Millard Fillmore. The Commission recommended alternative #13-05, commenting that this design most effectively renders a sense of character in the portrait.

Franklin Pierce. The Commission recommended alternative #14-03 because of its composition and the modeling of the hair; they commented that the linework in this alternative is the most consistent with that of other recommended designs.

James Buchanan. The Commission recommended alternative #15-02, commenting on the more dignified character that is suggested and the best proportion of the head relative to the composition of the coin.

Abraham Lincoln. The Commission recommended alternative #16-05 because the frontal pose is the most compelling of the designs and is appealing for its straightforwardness.

As in past reviews, the Commission members expressed concern about the similarity of the alternatives, apparently due to the reliance on a small number of source images, as well as the tendency to transfer these source images directly into the proposed designs. The Commission encouraged more artistic interpretation of the source material and an emphasis on artwork generated by hand rather than by computer-aided methods.

As always, the staff is available to assist you in future submission.

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Sincerely

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, NW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

ce: Kaarina Budow, U.S. Mint

FILE COPY



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

January 7, 2009

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on January 22, 2009, are copies of the obverse candidate designs for the 2010 Presidential \$1 Coins honoring Presidents Millard Fillmore, Franklin Pierce, James Buchanan and Abraham Lincoln.

In accordance with the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-145), the United States Mint will mint and issue \$1 coins with obverse images emblematic of each of the United States Presidents in the order that each served, beginning with President George Washington in 2007. The legislation, as amended, mandates that the reverse design for these coins be an image of a dramatic representation of the Statue of Liberty that extends to the rim of the coin, that the inscription of the year of minting or issuance of the coin and the inscription "E Pluribus Unum" be edge incused, and that the inscription "In God We Trust" appear on the face of the coin.

The presidential obverse candidate designs are scheduled to be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee on January 27, 2009. We appreciate your review of the enclosed candidate designs at your meeting on January 22, 2009. A representative of the United States Mint will present them at this meeting. Thank you for your consideration of these candidate designs.

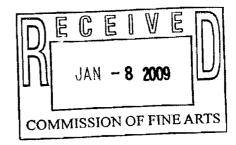
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Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 2010 Presidential \$1 Coin obverse candidate designs



**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 28 November 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 20 November, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the design of three proposed medals: a Congressional Gold Medal honoring Tony Blair, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; a medal honoring Henry Paulson, Secretary of the Treasury; and a medal honoring your service as Director of the United States Mint.

The Commission members expressed dissatisfaction with the design of the medal honoring Mr. Blair and requested that it be revised and resubmitted, commenting that his likeness on the proposed obverse is awkward and does not convey his vitality. They emphasized that the direct adaptation of a photograph—the method used to generate this design—is not appropriate for developing numismatic sculpture, which has historically presented idealized images. For the reverse, the Commission questioned the inclusion of several elements of equal prominence, suggesting that the clasped hands be deleted and the position of the quotation adjusted accordingly.

For the medal honoring Secretary Paulson, the Commission also recommended revision. The Commission members commented favorably on the likeness of the Secretary on the obverse, but for the reverse they recommended further study, commenting that the multiplicity of elements should be simplified. They said that the inclusion of a falcon, along with the eagle in the U.S. seal, is confusing and suggested eliminating it in order to focus on the symbols of his federal service; alternatively, the image of the Treasury building or the seals could be removed to allow a clearer treatment of the remaining elements.

For the medal honoring your service as Director of the U.S. Mint, the Commission members commended the dynamic and bold character of the portrait proposed for the obverse; they preferred the layout of alternative DM-O-01C due to the smaller amount of text and the larger lettering and supported the proposal for a textured background. For the reverse, the Commission recommended a design containing the single torch in the configuration of alternative DM-R-02B and commented favorably on the varying background texture that suggests the flame's light; however, they recommended that the proposed Latin text be replaced with your title as the 38th Director of the U.S. Mint.



The Commission continues to be concerned that the development of the government's medals relies excessively on the preferences of the honoree and does not take full advantage of the mandated design and review process. As federal issue, commemorative medals produced by the Mint should exemplify the highest quality of artistry; their design is the responsibility of the government, not of the recipient.

The Commission looks forward to further review of the medals honoring Mr. Blair and Secretary Paulson. As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

November 5, 2008

Mr Aaron Johnson Deputy Chief of Staff, Ext Affairs Department of the Treasury United States Mint Washington, DC 20220

Dear Mr Johnson,

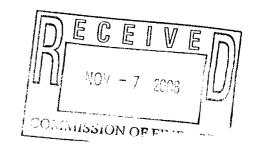
Thank you for sending me the draft of the "Affirmation of artistic Excellence." You asked for comments, so here are my observations, in no particular order.

- 1. I am not sure that a coin should "aesthetically represent the era in which it was created." The Kennedy coin, for example, is not so different from the FDR dime, which in turn is not so different in overall conception from the Lincoln penny. They all follow the same classic rules of coin design. Trying to represent an era (whatever that means" leads to a willful search for novelty that has, in my opinion, produced inappropriate, not to say ugly, designs.
- 2. In an attempt to be "different" contemporary designers often create three-quarter and full-face views. A traditional rule of coin design is the use of the profile in order to produce a memorable image at a very small scale (see ps. 14-16). The best contemporary designs (Tuskegee Airmen, Norman Borlaug) follow this rule, or in the case of the Jefferson nickel, almost follow it. Augustus Saint-Gaudens, our greatest numismatic artist, never used full-face depictions on coins and medals, and only rarely on commemorative plaques, which are of course much larger.
- 3. Coins should commemorate an individual or a national symbol—they should not attempt to "tell a story." This impulse—and the desire the "educate"—is what has produced the cluttered and unattractive designs of recent years. The process of having artists work from instructions developed by historical panels may also be getting in the way of producing simple, evocative coins.
- 4. Basing the images on coins directly on paintings and photographs seems to have become standard practice, as if this made the coin more" authentic." However, in the best coins, the image is not a replica but the artist's interpretation of the subject, adapted to the small scale of the coin.
- 5. I have a feeling that technology may be getting in the way of good design. Many of the coins that the Commission Arts reviews seem to have been produced by digitizing a photograph or painting of the subject using a computer program. This is a poor substitute for a clay maquette. It is also a process that allows the generation of multiple alternatives, to little aesthetic effect.

Yours truly,

Witold Rybczynski Member, Commission of Fine Arts

cc. Thomas Luebke, Secretary, Commission of Fine Arts





DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

November 4, 2008

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, NW, Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on November 20, 2008, are the candidate designs for the Congressional Gold Medal honoring former Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom. By way of background, Public Law 108-60 (July 17, 2003) authorizes the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate to make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design in honor of Tony Blair, in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to maintaining the security of all freedom-loving nations. In addition, the authorizing legislation directs the Secretary of the Treasury to strike the medal with suitable emblems, devices and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary.

The enclosed candidate designs are scheduled to be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on November 24, 2008. Once the candidate designs are reviewed and revisions incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the Tony Blair Congressional Gold Medal candidate designs at your meeting on November 20, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will be on hand to present the candidate designs to you and your fellow members.

Sincerely.

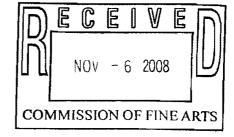
Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) Obverse candidate design

2) Reverse candidate design



**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 28 November 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 20 November, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the design of three proposed medals: a Congressional Gold Medal honoring Tony Blair, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; a medal honoring Henry Paulson, Secretary of the Treasury; and a medal honoring your service as Director of the United States Mint.

The Commission members expressed dissatisfaction with the design of the medal honoring Mr. Blair and requested that it be revised and resubmitted, commenting that his likeness on the proposed obverse is awkward and does not convey his vitality. They emphasized that the direct adaptation of a photograph—the method used to generate this design—is not appropriate for developing numismatic sculpture, which has historically presented idealized images. For the reverse, the Commission questioned the inclusion of several elements of equal prominence, suggesting that the clasped hands be deleted and the position of the quotation adjusted accordingly.

For the medal honoring Secretary Paulson, the Commission also recommended revision. The Commission members commented favorably on the likeness of the Secretary on the obverse, but for the reverse they recommended further study, commenting that the multiplicity of elements should be simplified. They said that the inclusion of a falcon, along with the eagle in the U.S. seal, is confusing and suggested eliminating it in order to focus on the symbols of his federal service; alternatively, the image of the Treasury building or the seals could be removed to allow a clearer treatment of the remaining elements.

For the medal honoring your service as Director of the U.S. Mint, the Commission members commended the dynamic and bold character of the portrait proposed for the obverse; they preferred the layout of alternative DM-O-01C due to the smaller amount of text and the larger lettering and supported the proposal for a textured background. For the reverse, the Commission recommended a design containing the single torch in the configuration of alternative DM-R-02B and commented favorably on the varying background texture that suggests the flame's light; however, they recommended that the proposed Latin text be replaced with your title as the 38th Director of the U.S. Mint.

FILE COPY

The Commission continues to be concerned that the development of the government's medals relies excessively on the preferences of the honoree and does not take full advantage of the mandated design and review process. As federal issue, commemorative medals produced by the Mint should exemplify the highest quality of artistry; their design is the responsibility of the government, not of the recipient.

The Commission looks forward to further review of the medals honoring Mr. Blair and Secretary Paulson. As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



OF THE MINT November 4, 2008

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on November 20, 2008, are the candidate designs for the bronze medal honoring Henry M. Paulson, Jr., the 74<sup>th</sup> Secretary of the Treasury. Under the Secretary's authority to strike national and other medals (31 U.S.C. § 5111(a)(2)), the United States Mint has historically struck medals honoring the Secretary of the Treasury.

The enclosed candidate designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on November 24, 2008. Once the candidate designs are reviewed and revisions incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the candidate designs at your meeting on November 20, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely.

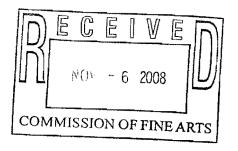
Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) Obverse candidate design

2) Reverse candidate design



**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 28 November 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 20 November, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the design of three proposed medals: a Congressional Gold Medal honoring Tony Blair, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; a medal honoring Henry Paulson, Secretary of the Treasury; and a medal honoring your service as Director of the United States Mint.

The Commission members expressed dissatisfaction with the design of the medal honoring Mr. Blair and requested that it be revised and resubmitted, commenting that his likeness on the proposed obverse is awkward and does not convey his vitality. They emphasized that the direct adaptation of a photograph—the method used to generate this design—is not appropriate for developing numismatic sculpture, which has historically presented idealized images. For the reverse, the Commission questioned the inclusion of several elements of equal prominence, suggesting that the clasped hands be deleted and the position of the quotation adjusted accordingly.

For the medal honoring Secretary Paulson, the Commission also recommended revision. The Commission members commented favorably on the likeness of the Secretary on the obverse, but for the reverse they recommended further study, commenting that the multiplicity of elements should be simplified. They said that the inclusion of a falcon, along with the eagle in the U.S. seal, is confusing and suggested eliminating it in order to focus on the symbols of his federal service; alternatively, the image of the Treasury building or the seals could be removed to allow a clearer treatment of the remaining elements.

For the medal honoring your service as Director of the U.S. Mint, the Commission members commended the dynamic and bold character of the portrait proposed for the obverse; they preferred the layout of alternative DM-O-01C due to the smaller amount of text and the larger lettering and supported the proposal for a textured background. For the reverse, the Commission recommended a design containing the single torch in the configuration of alternative DM-R-02B and commented favorably on the varying background texture that suggests the flame's light; however, they recommended that the proposed Latin text be replaced with your title as the 38th Director of the U.S. Mint.

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The Commission continues to be concerned that the development of the government's medals relies excessively on the preferences of the honoree and does not take full advantage of the mandated design and review process. As federal issue, commemorative medals produced by the Mint should exemplify the highest quality of artistry; their design is the responsibility of the government, not of the recipient.

The Commission looks forward to further review of the medals honoring Mr. Blair and Secretary Paulson. As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220





October 31, 2008

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman U.S. Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on November 20, 2008, are the candidate designs for the medal honoring the 38<sup>th</sup> Director of the United States Mint. As authorized by 31 U.S.C. § 5111(a)(3), bronze duplicates of the original medal will be made available for sale to the general public.

The enclosed candidate designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on November 24, 2008. Once the candidate designs are reviewed and revisions, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the candidate designs at your meeting on November 20, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

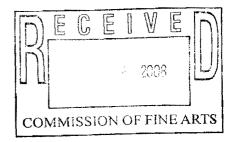
Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) Obverse candidate designs

2) Reverse candidate designs



ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 24 October 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 16 October, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved the proposed design for the medal honoring the second term of President George W. Bush, commenting on the dramatic composition of the obverse. The Commission members appreciated the opportunity to inspect the completed medal from President Bush's first term and recommended that, as on the prior medal, the quotation on the reverse include citation of the date.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220





September 17, 2008

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts are the candidate designs for the second term medal honoring President George W. Bush. Under the Secretary's authority to strike national and other medals (31 U.S.C. § 5111(a)(2)), the United States Mint has historically struck medals honoring the sitting President.

The enclosed designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on September 24, 2008. Once the designs have been reviewed and revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the candidate designs honoring President George W. Bush at your meeting on October 16, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint-

Enclosures: 1) Obverse candidate design

2) Reverse candidate design

**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 25 July 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 17 July, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the design alternatives for the American Eagle Platinum Coin Program. For the reverse of the 2009 coins, the Commission expressed general disappointment with the quality of the submitted alternatives but chose to support alternative #1, showing a small tree with thirteen leaves. To strengthen the graphic and symbolic clarity of the design, the Commission recommended that the hand be removed and further emphasis be given to the leaves. For the proposed privy mark, the Commission supported alternative #3 due to the legibility of the eagle and the better resolution of its neck in comparison to the other alternatives.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

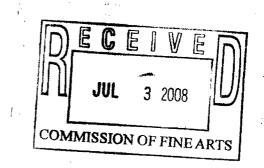
Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

July 3, 2008

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728



Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on July 17, 2008, are copies of the candidate reverse designs for the American Eagle Platinum Coin Program for 2009 and the privy mark candidate designs for the series.

According to 31 U.S.C. § 5112(k), the United States Mint may mint and issue platinum proof and uncirculated coins in accordance with such specifications, designs, varieties, quantities, denominations, and inscriptions, as the Secretary may prescribe.

The enclosed candidate reverse designs are the first in a new six-year series that explores the core concepts of American democracy by highlighting the United States Constitution Preamble. This program will examine the six principles of the Preamble, beginning with To Form a More Perfect Union in 2009, followed by To Establish Justice in 2010, To Insure Domestic Tranquility in 2011, To Provide for the Common Defence in 2012, To Promote General Welfare in 2013, and To Secure the Blessings of Liberty to Ourselves and our Posterity in 2014. Since the platinum program's introduction in 1997, the obverse design has featured Lady Liberty, a symbol of vigilance and resolute faithfulness to duty.

The themes for the reverse designs for this program, including *To Form a More Perfect Union*, are inspired by a narrative prepared by the Chief Justice of the United States. For the 2009 design candidates, both the United States Mint Sculptor-Engravers and the United States Mint Artistic Infusion Program artists endeavored to submit candidate designs that symbolize the American ideals that Chief Justice Roberts outlined in his narrative.

The candidate reverse designs in previous series have featured eagles, supporting the American Eagle brand. To balance the goals of brand identity and artistic freedom, we will introduce a new design element to the reverse, an American Eagle privy mark, beginning in 2009.

The candidate designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on August 1, 2008. Once the candidate designs have been reviewed and any

revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the 2009 American Eagle Platinum Coin Program candidate designs at your meeting on July 17, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) 2009 Platinum Reverse Candidate Designs

2) 2009 Platinum Reverse Design Narrative

3) American Eagle Privy Mark Candidate Designs

**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

27 June 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 19 June, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the design for the Native American One Dollar Coin, including the template for the series and options for the 2009 reverse. The Commission considered the proposed configuration of edge lettering for the template and expressed concern about the feasibility of this design due to the coin's thinness and the effects of normal wear on circulating coins.

For the reverse alternatives proposed for the 2009 issue, the Commission recommended alternative #2, depicting three vertical corn plants, for this design's superior graphic quality and legibility at the scale of the one-dollar coin. The Commission considered the preference of other consulting groups for alternative #12 but concluded that the key feature of that design—the small seeds being spread by a figure—would not be legible at the scale of the coin. The Commission members also commented that a better range of historic source material could be obtained for developing the design alternatives, suggesting that stylized designs may be better suited to depicting the broad range of Native American culture for the duration of this coin series.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

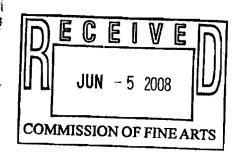
Sineerely

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220





June 3, 2008



The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on June 19, 2008, are copies of the candidate reverse designs for the Native American \$1 Coin Program for 2009.

In accordance with the Native American \$1 Coin Act (Act)(Public Law 110-82), the United States Mint will mint and issue \$1 coins with reverse images emblematic of the important contributions made by Indian tribes and individual Native Americans to the development and history of the United States, beginning in 2009. The Act mandates a reverse design for these coins with an image emblematic of one important Native American or Native American contribution each year, in chronological order to the greatest extent practicable, and that the inscription of the year of minting or issuance of the coin and the inscriptions 'In God We Trust' and 'E Pluribus Unum' shall be edge-incused. Since the enactment of the Act, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-161) included an amendment to require that the inscription "In God We Trust" be moved from the edge of the coin to one of its faces.

The Act calls for the obverse to bear the Sacagawea design and the inscription 'Liberty.' We recommend that the inscription "In God We Trust" be placed on the obverse of the coin as it has appeared since the inception of the Sacagawea design in 1999. In addition, we recommend that the edge-lettering design include 13 stars to serve as delimiters between 'E Pluribus Unum,' the year of minting and the mint mark to improve the production of the Native American \$1 Coins by reducing slippage during the edge-lettering process. This edge-lettering design will also match the edge-lettering design for the circulating Presidential \$1 Coins.

The candidate designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on June 18, 2008. Once the designs have been reviewed and any revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the 2009 Native American \$1 Coin Program candidate designs at your meeting on June 19, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

✓ Director

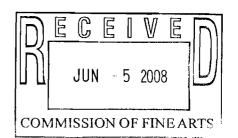
United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) Native American \$1 Coin obverse design

2) Native American \$1 Coin edge-lettering design

3) 2009 Native American \$1 Coin candidate reverse designs

4) Public Law 110-82



**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 23 May 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 15 May, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed designs for the third set of ten-dollar coins and associated medals in the First Spouse series. The Commission's recommendations were as follows:

Anna Harrison. The Commission recommended alternative #1 for the obverse, commenting that this design is the strongest rendition of the source portrait. For the reverse, the Commission recommended alternative #2, commenting on its superior composition and its depiction of Mrs. Harrison's commitment to the education of children.

Letitia Tyler. The Commission recommended alternative #4 for the obverse because of its simplicity, and suggested that the depiction of the uppermost portion of the subject's hair be minimized. For the reverse, the Commission recommended alternative #2, as it is a comparatively simple composition showing Mrs. Tyler in front of the family home, "Greenway." The Commission recommended that the relief and details be studied further in order to strengthen the design by emphasizing the contrast between Mrs. Tyler in the foreground and the house in the background while removing extraneous design details such as the trees and cobblestones.

Julia Tyler. The Commission recommended alternative #1 for the obverse, commenting that this version based on the White House portrait is the most dignified with the least tilting of the subject's head. For the reverse, the Commission recommended alternative #4, commenting that the dancing figures result in a strong composition. The Commission recommended against using the alternatives showing a pen, commenting that the significance of this feature at the scale of a coin or medal would not be comprehensible without consulting a design narrative.

Sarah Polk. For the obverse, the Commission recommended alternative #3 which has the most pleasant expression and gives the least emphasis to the cap. The Commission recommended alternative #4 for the reverse, depicting a young Mrs. Polk and her sister riding horses, with the suggestion that the relative sizes of the women and overall composition be revised to provide emphasis on Mrs. Polk.

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Margaret Taylor. The Commission recommended alternative #1 for the obverse, commenting that it gives Mrs. Taylor the most dignified appearance. For the reverse, the Commission recommended alternative #1, due to the strength and simplicity of the composition in comparison to the other designs.

As always, the staff is available to assist you in future submissions.

Sincerely

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

April 18, 2008

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on May 15, 2008, are copies of the obverse and reverse candidate designs for the First Spouse Gold Coins honoring Anna Harrison, Letitia Tyler, Julia Tyler, Sarah Polk, and Margaret Taylor.

In accordance with the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-145), the United States Mint will mint and issue \$10 gold coins emblematic of the spouse of each President. The obverse of each coin issued will bear an image of the First Spouse with the reverse depicting an image emblematic of the First Spouse's life and work. In the case of any President who served without a spouse, the obverse of such gold coin shall be an image emblematic of the concept of Liberty, as represented on a United States coin issued during the period of service of such President with a reverse bearing a design representative of themes of that President. For Presidents who were married more than once during their term(s) of service, a coin commemorating each spouse is issued, notably Letitia Tyler and Julia Tyler to be honored in 2009.

Additionally, the United States Mint is authorized to strike bronze medal duplicates of the gold coins. The central images of both the obverse and reverse remain, but many of the inscriptions that are appropriate only for legal tender coins have been removed.

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee will review the obverse and reverse candidate designs on April 22, 2008.

We appreciate your review of the enclosed candidate designs at your meeting on May 15, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

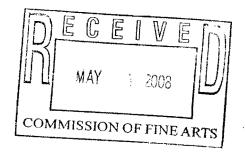
Director

United States Mint



Enclosures: 1) Design narratives for reverse designs

- 2) Anna Harrison obverse and reverse candidate designs
- 3) Letitia Tyler obverse and reverse candidate designs
- 4) Julia Tyler obverse and reverse candidate designs
- 5) Sarah Polk obverse and reverse candidate designs
- 6) Margaret Taylor obverse and reverse candidate designs



**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 23 May 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 15 May, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed alternatives for the reverses of the District of Columbia and U.S. territories circulating quarters to be minted in 2009. The Commission's recommendations were as follows:

District of Columbia. The Commission emphasized its role in advising on the design rather than selecting among the alternative themes, all of which they considered to be meritorious. However, the Commission members commented that the complexity of all three alternatives would be difficult to appreciate at the scale of a quarter; they requested that the design alternatives be reworked in a new submission where the image of the subject depicted is slightly larger within a simpler overall composition.

Puerto Rico. The Commission recommended alternative #2, commenting that the sentry box from the fortifications of old San Juan provides the more simple and legible composition for a coin design and as a representation of the island's history.

Guam. The Commission recommended alternative #2 as the simplest and most successful composition. Noting that the multitude of design features would be difficult to understand at the scale of a quarter, the Commission requested that this alternative be simplified further to eliminate some of the background elements and to emphasize the image of the boat, which could then be enlarged to improve its legibility.

American Samoa. The Commission members recommended alternative #1 for its image of a Samoan in traditional dress; they also commented that the elements depicting vegetation arranged around the central figure would be difficult to understand at the scale of a quarter and should be eliminated.

U. S. Virgin Islands. The Commission recommended alternative #2 showing the three women representing the islands. However, the Commission members suggested that the island maps be eliminated and the depiction of the women be enlarged as the primary design feature.

Northern Mariana Islands. The Commission members did not support any design as presented, commenting that all were too visually complicated for the scale of a quarter. They requested the submission of new design alternatives, suggesting that design #1, featuring a latte stone, could be used as a starting point in developing a simplified proposal.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT May 1, 2008

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) at its meeting on May 15, 2008, are copies of the candidate reverse designs for the 2009 commemorative quarter-dollar coins honoring the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The District of Columbia and United States Territories Circulating Quarter-Dollar Program (Public Law 105-124) provides for the redesign of the reverse side of the quarters with designs emblematic of the District of Columbia and each of the five territories.

The enclosed designs are scheduled to be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) at its meeting on May 20, 2008. After consultation with the CFA and CCAC, we will send the candidate designs to the District of Columbia and the five territories for their final recommendation for a design selection. The final recommendation will then be sent to the Secretary for approval.

We appreciate your review of the enclosed candidate designs at your meeting on May 15, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

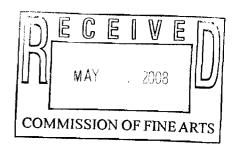
Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

**United States Mint** 

**Enclosures** 



ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

29 February 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 21 February, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed a third submission of alternative designs for the reverse of the 2009 Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial One-Cent Coin, depicting the fourth aspect of Lincoln's life in his years as U.S. President. In its previous review of 17 January, the Commission had recommended an image of the completed Capitol dome which was not among the submitted alternatives. It is regrettable that the Mint was unable to develop this straightforward recommendation for the ongoing redesign of this reverse.

The Commission commented that the new proposed designs were overly complex for the small scale of the coin and reiterated their previous comment that the reverse should not include an image of Lincoln, as the obverse will continue to feature his portrait. The Commission expressed a preference for a simple composition, recommending that Lincoln's figure be omitted from Design #LC-R4-07 and his signature featured as the primary element of the design.

The Commission continues to encourage the Mint to provide more thoughtful and appropriately scaled designs for the nation's coinage. The Commission concluded by requesting that the Mint report promptly on the final designs selected for the U.S. coin and medallic issues. As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerety.

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220





The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) at its meeting on February 21, 2008, are candidate designs representing aspect four for the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial One-Cent Coin Redesign Program for 2009. The United States Mint shall issue four one-cent coins with the reverse representing a different aspect of the life of Abraham Lincoln. The obverse design will continue to bear the Victor David Brenner likeness of President Abraham Lincoln.

The reverse of the one-cent coins shall bear four different designs, each representing a different aspect of Lincoln's life, such as (1) his birth and early childhood in Kentucky, (2) his formative years in Indiana, (3) his professional life in Illinois, and (4) his Presidency in Washington, DC. Both the United States Mint Sculptor-Engravers and the United States Mint Artistic Infusion Program artists submitted candidate designs for this program.

There are seven candidate designs for aspect four; these include six new designs (#2-7) and one design (#1) that the CFA reviewed at its January meeting. After the second round of design candidates for aspect four were presented to the CFA, the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC), and the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission in January, all comments were considered, and it was determined that additional designs should be developed based on their recommendations.

Because the four reverse designs to be issued in 2009 depict the story of the life of Abraham Lincoln, the candidate designs for aspects one, two, and three are also attached for your reference, in addition to your letters to the Director of the United States Mint dated September 26, 2007, and January 17, 2008, listing the recommended designs of the CFA.

The reverse candidate designs will be reviewed by the CCAC on March 13, 2008. Once the designs have been reviewed and any revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended design candidates to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

FFR 19 2008

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

We appreciate your review of the 2009 Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial One-Cent Coin aspect four candidate designs at your meeting on February 21, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

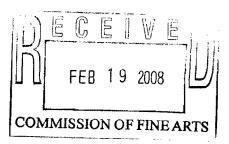
Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) Abraham Lincoln One-Cent Coin Reverse Candidates Designs (Aspect Four)

- 2) Abraham Lincoln One-Cent Coin Reverse Candidate Designs (Aspects One, Two, and Three)
- 3) CFA letter to the Director of the United States Mint dated September 26, 2007
- 4) CFA letter to the Director of the United States Mint dated January 17, 2008



ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 29 February 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 21 February, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed design for the Louis Braille Bicentennial-Braille Literacy Commemorative Coin. In recognition of the beneficiaries of Braille's achievements, the Commission recommended that the coin be struck in the highest relief possible to give it the greatest tactile quality.

For the obverse, the Commission reiterated its general support for profile views and recommended Design #BC-O-10 due to the strong composition showing Braille in profile. If a different composition than profile must be considered, the Commission expressed support for Design #BC-O-03. The Commission also commented that the date "1809" is confusing in combination with the required issue date of "2009" and recommended that the birth date be omitted; the relation of the coin's issue to Braille's birth year could instead be indicated by including the word "Bicentennial" on the coin, possibly on the reverse.

The Commission members were not satisfied with the alternatives for the reverse, commenting that these had the appearance of poster art rather than numismatic designs. They noted the difficulty of developing a satisfactory depiction of children and recommended that their image be omitted from the reverse, instead placing the Braille code prominently in the center of the coin while retaining the text at the perimeter. This revision to the coin's composition could provide sufficient room for including the word "Bicentennial."

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Phomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Sincerely

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

February 7, 2008

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on February 21, 2008, are the obverse and reverse candidate designs for the Louis Braille Bicentennial-Braille Literacy Commemorative Coin Program for 2009. According to Public Law 109-247, the United States Mint shall issue \$1 silver coins that shall be emblematic of the life and legacy of Louis Braille.

The candidate designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee on March 13, 2008. Once the candidate designs have been reviewed and any revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the 2009 Louis Braille Bicentennial-Braille Literacy Commemorative Coin candidate designs at your meeting on February 21, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Me

Director

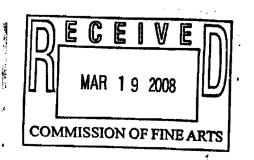
United States Mint

Enclosure: Louis Braille Bicentennial-Braille Literacy Commemorative Coin Program Candidate Designs





March 19, 2008



The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, NW, Suite 312 Washington, DC 20002-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on March 20, 2008, are the obverse, reverse and edge designs for an ultra-high relief coin to be produced in 2009.

The United States Mint is entering a new era of coin design with its purpose focusing on artistic excellence. The Augustus Saint-Gaudens 1907 Double Eagle (\$20), ultra-high relief coin is widely recognized as the most beautiful coin ever produced by the United States. However, in 1907, the relief was not practical for mass production, and thus a lower relief *Walking Liberty* design was ultimately produced. Because of 21<sup>st</sup> century technology, the United States Mint can now produce high-relief coins in mass quantities. Therefore, to the fullest extent possible, the original vision of Saint-Gaudens' ultra-high relief will be realized.

The obverse of this coin is distinctive with the small Capitol in the background and two distinctive folds in Liberty's dress. The United States Mint has digitally scanned an original working model to ensure the most faithful reproduction. Because this is a scanned model, we have placed the year 2009 in Roman numerals "MMIX" over the original 1907 date. We will also add a small rim to the coin to consistently produce exactly round coins, as 24-karat gold will "fin" without a rim, creating irregular shapes.

The reverse will be the original 1907 design, with its distinctive 14 rays of sun. From 1908 to 1932, the design only depicted 13 rays. Also, beginning in 1908, the inscription "In God We Trust" was added to the design. Because current U.S. law mandates this inscription on all U.S. coinage, we have lifted the exact size, font and placement of the inscription from the 1908 coin and have overlaid it on the scanned model of the 1907 coin.

The edge-lettering as shown at the bottom of both enclosures will be raised. There are marks denoting the original collar marks that may or may not appear on the 2009 coin. These marks are considered a production element, and not part of the design.

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee reviewed these designs at its meeting on March 13, 2008.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 2009 ultra-high relief obverse design

2009 ultra-high relief reverse design

**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 28 January 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 17 January, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed design for the Congressional Gold Medal honoring Dr. Michael DeBakey. In fulfilling its role under legislation and executive order to advise on the design of medals and coins, the Commission raised concerns about the process for development and review of this proposal as only one design was presented and the elements of that design appear to have been determined by the medal's recipient. The Congressional Gold Medal is a national honor bestowed at public expense; its design should be of the highest artistic quality.

Notwithstanding these concerns, the Commission made specific recommendations regarding the medal's design. On the obverse, the background figures shown in surgical clothing should be refined; in particular, the head of the far right figure has a distorted appearance. On the reverse, the Commission commented that the design is compromised by too many elements, recommending that the latitude and longitude grid lines be eliminated and that the text be placed around the perimeter of the reverse, eliminating the ribbon.

The Commission looks forward to review of future submissions from the Mint that express the highest design standards for our nation's medals and coins. As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

ce: Kaarina Budow, U.S. Mint

FILE COPY





December 20, 2007

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on January 17, 2008, are the candidate designs for the Congressional Gold Medal for Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D. The United States Mint will strike a single gold medal in honor of Dr. DeBakey, in recognition of his many outstanding contributions to the Nation as a heart surgeon. Bronze duplicates of the original medal will be made available for sale to the general public.

The enclosed candidate designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on January 15, 2008. Once the designs have been reviewed and revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the Congressional Gold Medal candidate designs honoring Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D., at your meeting on January 17, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting. Thank you for your consideration of these candidate designs.

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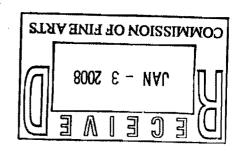
Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) Obverse candidate design

2) Reverse candidate design



ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 28 January 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 17 January, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed alternative obverse designs for the ninth through twelfth presidents in the 2009 Presidential One Dollar Coin Program. The Commission members expressed dissatisfaction with the images, which appear to be the simple representation of portraits from paintings and photographs without sufficient consideration of appropriateness for coin design. The Commission members recommended that traditional coin portraiture, in particular the profile view, be given further consideration in the depiction of our nation's leaders as has been done from antiquity through modern American coinage.

Consequently, the Commission did not offer recommendations on the designs for President Harrison and President Polk, although a minority of the Commission members expressed a mild preference for design #WH-08 for President Harrison. For President Tyler, the Commission recommended design #JT-01, which is closest to a profile view. For President Taylor, the Commission recommended design #ZT-01 which best captures the military bearing of a general who served as President.

The Commission looks forward to improved quality of future designs and would be pleased to review new alternatives for President Harrison and President Polk. As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



December 20, 2007

OF THE MINT

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on January 17, 2008, are copies of the candidate obverse designs for the 2009 Presidential \$1 Coins honoring Presidents William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, James K. Polk and Zachary Taylor.

In accordance with the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-145), the United States Mint will mint and issue \$1 coins with obverse images emblematic of each of the United States Presidents in the order that each served, beginning in 2007 with Presidents Washington, Adams, Jefferson and Madison. The legislation mandates a reverse design for these coins with an image of a dramatic representation of the Statue of Liberty that extends to the rim of the coin and that the inscription of the year of minting or issuance of the coin and the inscription "E Pluribus Unum" shall be edge-incused. As recently amended by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, the design on the obverse or reverse will bear the inscription "In God We Trust," which will no longer be edge-incused on the coin.

The new template for the obverse, including the inscription "In God We Trust," is attached for your review. This template will be applied to the approved designs for issuance in 2009 and for the duration of the Presidential \$1 Coin Program. In addition, the edge-lettering design has been altered to exclude the inscription, "In God We Trust," which is to be replaced by 13 stars. The stars serve as delimiters between "E Pluribus Unum," the year of minting and the mint mark to improve the production of the Presidential \$1 Coins by reducing slippage during the edge-lettering process.

The Presidential obverse designs are scheduled to be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee on January 15, 2008.

We appreciate your review of the enclosed designs at your meeting on January 17, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will present the designs at this meeting. Thank you for your consideration of these candidate designs.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

JAN - 3 2008

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Enclosures: 1) 2009 Presidential \$1 Coin obverse candidate designs 2) 2009 Presidential \$1 Coin obverse design template 3) 2009 Presidential \$1 Coin edge-lettering design

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

28 January 2008

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 17 January, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed additional alternative designs for the reverse of the 2009 Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial One-Cent Coin to depict the fourth aspect of Lincoln's life, his years as U.S. President. The Commission members emphasized the need for a strong, simple design without excessive information on a coin the size of a penny.

The Commission reiterated its support for design #LC-R4-20 with an image of the U.S. Capitol dome as recommended in September 2007, consistent with a rationale of using the reverse to show buildings important to various phases of Lincoln's life and paired with his portrait on the obverse. The Commission members acknowledged the concern that the image of the dome under construction could be difficult to understand at the scale of the one-cent coin; they suggested that the design be revised to show the completed Capitol dome corresponding to the history of the dome which was finished and dedicated during Lincoln's presidency.

As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220





December 20, 2007

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) at its meeting on January 17, 2008, are candidate designs representing aspect four for the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial One-Cent Coin Redesign Program for 2009. The United States Mint shall issue four one-cent coins with the reverse representing a different aspect of the life of Abraham Lincoln. The obverse design will continue to bear the Victor David Brenner likeness of President Abraham Lincoln.

The reverse of the one-cent coins shall bear four different designs that are emblematic of the four major periods of Lincoln's life: (1) his birth and humble beginnings in Kentucky, (2) his formative years in Indiana, (3) Lincoln's professional life in Illinois, and (4) his Presidency in Washington, D.C. Both the United States Mint Sculptor-Engravers and the United States Mint Artistic Infusion Program artists submitted candidate designs for this program.

There are 24 design candidates for aspect four: 17 new designs (#1-17) and seven designs that were presented to the CFA on September 20, 2007 (#18-24), and to the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) on September 25, 2007. At its meeting on September 25, 2007, the CCAC recommended that the United States Mint create additional designs that clearly represent Lincoln's Presidency and depict him as a war President. Because the four reverse designs to be issued in 2009 depict the story of the life of Abraham Lincoln, the candidate designs for aspects one, two, and three are also attached for your reference, in addition to your letter to the Director of the United States Mint dated September 26, 2007, listing the recommended designs of the CFA for all four aspects.

The reverse candidate designs will be reviewed by the CCAC on January 15, 2008. Once the designs have been reviewed and any revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended design candidates to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

JAN - 3 2008

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

We appreciate your review of the 2009 Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial One-Cent Coin aspect four candidate designs at your meeting on January 17, 2008. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) Abraham Lincoln One-Cent Coin Reverse candidate designs (Aspect Four)

- 2) Abraham Lincoln One-Cent Coin Reverse candidate designs (Aspects One, Two, and Three)
- 3) CFA letter to the Director of the United States Mint

**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 28 November 2007

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 15 November, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed alternative designs for the 2009 Abraham Lincoln commemorative silver one-dollar coin. For the obverse, the Commission recommended design #LCO-O-08, commenting that the composition allows a larger scale for Lincoln's image than in the other designs and that the configuration of the text with the portrait is superior. The Commission recommended design #LCO-O-07 as the second choice but rejected design #LCO-O-06, commenting that the rendition of the portrait is inappropriately photographic for a medallic issue.

For the reverse, the Commission recommended design #LCO-R-02, which would pair Lincoln's face on the obverse with his words on the reverse. Of the alternatives emphasizing text, the Commission preferred design #LCO-R-02 because its larger lettering will make it easier for people to read Lincoln's eloquent words from the Gettysburg Address.

The Commission members commented that the varied drawing techniques in the submission materials make it difficult to review the design alternatives. As always, the staff is available to assist you with future submissions.

Sincerely

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



November 1, 2007

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on November 15, 2007, are the candidate designs for the Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Coin Program for 2009. According to Public Law 109-285, the United States Mint shall issue \$1 silver coins that shall be emblematic of the life and legacy of President Abraham Lincoln.

The obverse and reverse candidate designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee on November 13, 2007. Once the candidate designs have been reviewed and any revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the 2009 Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Coin candidate designs at your meeting on November 15, 2007. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

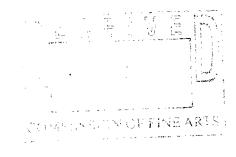
Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Directo

United States Mint

Enclosure: Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Coin Program Candidate Designs



**ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910** 

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 26 September 2007

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 20 September, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposals for the four reverse designs of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial One-Cent Coin Redesign Program for 2009, with the obverse continuing to bear Victor David Brenner's portrait of President Lincoln.

The Commission's recommendations were as follows:

Reverse One: Lincoln's birth and humble beginnings in Kentucky.

The Commission preferred design #LC-R-1-05 because of the use of only one element—the log cabin where he was born, unencumbered by distracting landscape elements. The size of the rendition of the cabin made this design preferable to design #LC-R-1-02.

Reverse Two: Lincoln's formative years in Indiana.

The Commission recommended design #LC-R-2-04 for its simplicity and strength.

Reverse Three: Lincoln's professional life in Illinois.

The choice for this reverse was design #LC-R-3-02, because it depicts both the young adult Lincoln and the Old Illinois Statehouse in which he served, with the comment that the proportion of Lincoln's figure in relation to the Statehouse is awkward and should be restudied.

Reverse Four: Lincoln's Presidency in Washington, D.C.

The Commission recommended design #LC-R-4-03, which they said is superior to the other renditions of the unfinished Capitol dome, a symbol of Lincoln's presidency that surpasses the Lincoln Cottage and Soldiers' Home themes.

As always, the staff is available to assist you in future submissions.

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Sincerely

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

cc:

Kaarina Budow, U.S. Mint

FILE COPY



September 6, 2007

OF THE MINT

> The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on September 20, 2007, are the candidate designs for the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial One-Cent Coin Redesign Program for 2009. The United States Mint shall issue four one-cent coins with the reverse representing a different aspect of the life of Abraham Lincoln. The obverse design will continue to bear the Victor David Brenner likeness of President Abraham Lincoln.

The reverse of the one-cent coins shall bear four different designs that are emblematic of the four major periods of Lincoln's life: (1) his birth and humble beginnings in Kentucky, (2) his formative years in Indiana, (3) Lincoln's professional life in Illinois, and (4) his Presidency in Washington, DC. There are five design candidates for aspect 1; 10 design candidates for aspect 2; 16 design candidates for aspect 3; and seven design candidates for aspect 4. Both the United States Mint Sculptor-Engravers and the United States Mint Artistic Infusion Program artists submitted candidate designs for this program.

The reverse candidate designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee on September 25, 2007. Once the designs have been reviewed and any revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended design candidates to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the 2009 Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial One-Cent Coin candidate designs at your meeting on September 20, 2007. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial One-Cent Coin Design Concepts

2) Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial One-Cent Coin Reverse Candidate Designs

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728

25 May 2007

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 17 May, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed design for the Congressional Gold Medal to be presented to Tenzin Gyatso, the Fourteenth Dalai Lama of Tibet. The Commission approved the design with several comments.

The Commission members suggested that both the obverse and reverse should have a delicate line around the edge of the medal to give the effect of a rim. They also recommended eliminating the ribbon carrying the text "Act of Congress 2006" and placing the text along the lower edge of the medal, perhaps with "Act of Congress" to the left of the Dalai Lama's hands, and "2006" to the right.

As always, the staff is available to assist you in future submissions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

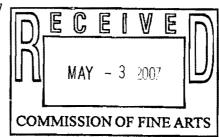
Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

May 2, 2007



The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on May 17, 2007, are the obverse and reverse candidate designs for the Congressional Gold Medal for Tenzin Gyatso, the Fourteenth Dalai Lama of Tibet. The United States Mint will strike a single gold medal in honor of Tenzin Gyatso, in recognition of his many enduring and outstanding contributions to peace, non-violence, human rights, and religious understanding. Bronze duplicates of the original medal will be made available for sale to the general public.

The enclosed candidate designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on May 15, 2007. Once the designs have been reviewed and revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended design candidates to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the Congressional Gold Medal candidate designs honoring Tenzin Gyatso, the Fourteenth Dalai Lama of Tibet at your meeting on May 17, 2007. A representative of the United States Mint will present the designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

**United States Mint** 

Enclosures: 1) Obverse candidate design

2) Reverse candidate design

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 25 May 2007

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 17 May, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed designs for the American Bald Eagle Recovery and National Emblem Commemorative Coin Program for 2008. The Commission's recommendations were as follows: \$5 Gold Coin

For the obverse, the Commission recommended alternative BE-O-G-03. For the reverse, alternative BE-R-G-01 depicting the Great Seal of the United States was the only design shown and was considered an appropriate choice for this coin program.

#### \$1 Silver Coin

For the obverse, alternative BE-O-S-08; the Commission members recommended eliminating the mountains from the design, which they found to detract from the powerful image of the eagle in flight. For the reverse, alternative BE-R-S-01 depicting an early version of the Great Seal was the only design shown and was accepted with no objection.

#### Half-Dollar Clad Coin

For the obverse, the Commission recommended alternative BE-O-C-03 because the inclusion of the adult bird gives context for the hatchlings and illustrates the life cycle of the eagles. For the reverse, the Commission recommended alternative BE-R-C-01.

As always, the staff is available to assist you in future submissions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

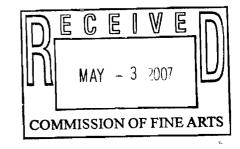
cc: Kaarina Budow, U.S. Mint

FILE COPY



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT May 3, 2007

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728



Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on May 17, 2007, are the candidate designs for the American Bald Eagle Recovery and National Emblem Commemorative Coin Program for 2008. The United States Mint will mint and issue Gold, Silver, and Clad coins emblematic of the bald eagle and its history, natural biology and national symbolism. Both the United States Mint Sculptor-Engravers and the United States Mint Artistic Infusion Program artists submitted designs for the American Bald Eagle Recovery and National Emblem Commemorative Coin Program.

The enclosed candidate designs are scheduled to be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on May 15, 2007. Once the designs have been reviewed and any revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended design candidates to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the American Bald Eagle Recovery and National Emblem Commemorative Coin Program candidate designs at your meeting on May 17, 2007. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

**United States Mint** 

Enclosures:

- 1) Gold obverse candidate designs
- 2) Gold reverse candidate design
- 3) Silver obverse candidate designs
- 4) Silver reverse candidate design
- 5) Clad obverse candidate designs
- 6) Clad reverse candidate designs

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 23 March 2007

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 15 March, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved the proposed design for the Congressional Gold Medal honoring Dr. Norman E. Borlaug with several suggestions.

For the reverse, the Commission members recommended that the two hands be refined and reconfigured so that they appear to be supporting the globe as well as holding the wheat. The quotation should be compared to the source material to make a complete sentence, such as including "The" at the beginning of the text if appropriate. For the obverse, the members recommended further consideration of the design's relationship to the edge of the medal with the possible addition of a rim.

As always, the staff is available to assist you in future submissions.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220





February 27, 2007

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on March 15, 2007, are the candidate designs for the Congressional Gold Medal honoring Dr. Norman E. Borlaug. By way of background, Public Law 109-395 (December 14, 2006) authorizes the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate to make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design in honor of Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, in recognition of his enduring contributions to the United States and the world. In addition, the authorizing legislation directs the Secretary of the Treasury to strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

The enclosed candidate designs are scheduled to be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee at its meeting on March 20, 2007. Once the designs have been reviewed and revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended design candidates to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the Dr. Norman Borlaug Congressional Gold Medal candidate designs at your meeting on March 15, 2007. A representative of the United States Mint will present the designs at this meeting.

omeorery.

Edmund &. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) Obverse candidate design

2) Reverse candidate design

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 23 March 2007

Dear Mr. Moy:

In its meeting of 15 March, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed designs for the second set of four one-dollar coins in the First Spouse series. The Commission's recommendations were as follows:

#### Elizabeth Monroe

For the obverse, alternative #3, which reflects the portrait made when she resided in the White House. For the reverse, alternative #6, with the comment to correct the perspective rendering of the vase so that it appears to be resting on the table.

#### Louisa Adams

For the obverse, alternative #1, which the Commission members thought has the superior composition. For the reverse, alternative #4; the Commission supported the depiction of a harp and concluded that #4 is the better design, with the comment to improve the rendering of Mrs. Adams's face.

#### Andrew Jackson's Liberty

For the obverse, alternative #4, which the Commission preferred as the most handsome design. For the reverse, alternative #8, with the comment to improve the rendering of the horse to appear less mule-like.

#### Martin Van Buren's Liberty

For the obverse, alternative #3, similar to the obverse design for the Jackson coin. For the reverse, alternative #4, which has the most engaging image of Van Buren as a young man.

As always, the staff is available to assist you in future submissions.

honles E. Luebke, AIA

-Secretary

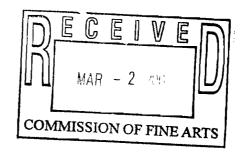
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Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT March 2, 2007

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728



Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts at its meeting on March 15, 2007, are copies of the candidate obverse and reverse designs for the First Spouse Gold Coins honoring Elizabeth Monroe, Louisa Adams, and the Presidencies of Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren.

In accordance with the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-145), the United States Mint will design and issue \$10 gold coins emblematic of the spouse of each President. The obverse of each coin issued will bear an image of the First Spouse, with the reverse depicting an image emblematic of the First Spouse's life and work. In the case of any President who served without a spouse, such as President Andrew Jackson and President Martin Van Buren to be honored in 2008, the obverse image on the gold coin corresponding to the \$1 coin relating to such President shall be an image emblematic of the concept of Liberty as represented on a United States coin issued during the period of service of such President, with the reverse of such coin bearing a design representative of the themes of such President.

Additionally, the United States Mint is authorized to strike bronze medal duplicates of the gold coins. The central images of both the obverse and reverse remain, but many of the inscriptions that are appropriate only for legal tender coins have been removed. After removing those inscriptions, the United States Mint has rearranged many of the remaining inscriptions for balance on the bronze duplicate medals.

The candidate obverse and reverse designs will be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee on March 20, 2007.

We appreciate your review of the enclosed candidate designs at your meeting on March 15, 2007. A representative of the United States Mint will present the designs at this meeting.

Sincerely

Edmund C. Mo

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures: 1) 2008 First Spouse design narratives

2) 2008 First Spouse \$10 gold coin candidate obverse designs

3) 2008 First Spouse \$10 gold coin candidate reverse designs

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

#### 23 February 2007

Dear Mr. Moy:

At its meeting of 15 February, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the proposed obverse and reverse for the Byron Nelson Congressional Gold Medal and bronze duplicates. The Commission approved the design with the recommendation that the word "Champion" on the reverse be integrated with the circumferential placement of the words "Player, Teacher, Humanitarian." The Commission also recommended that the commas between these words be eliminated to improve the legibility of the pictorial image.

As always, the staff is available to assist you in future submissions.

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Sincerely

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

ce: Kaarina Budow, U.S. Mint

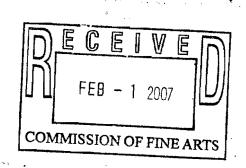
FILE COPY



DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

January 30, 2007

The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728



Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) are the design candidates for the Congressional Gold Medal for Byron Nelson. The United States Mint will strike a single gold medal in honor of Byron Nelson in recognition of his significant contributions to the game of golf as a player, a teacher, and a commentator. Bronze duplicates of the original, official medal will be made available for sale to the general public.

The Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee reviewed the enclosed design candidates at its meeting on January 23, 2007. Once the designs have been reviewed by the CFA and revisions have been incorporated, as appropriate, we will send the recommended design candidates to the Secretary of the Treasury for review and approval.

We appreciate your review of the Congressional Gold Medal design candidates honoring Byron Nelson at your meeting on February 15, 2007. A representative of the United States Mint will present the designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Hope you are well histy!

Enclosures: 1) Obverse design candidate

2) Reverse design candidate

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM 401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001-2728 202-504-2200 202-504-2195 FAX

25 January 2007

Dear Mr. Moy:

At its meeting of 18 January, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed alternatives for the last five of the reverse designs for the 50 States Commemorative Coin Program. The Commission's recommendations were as follows:

Oklahoma - Design #OK-2.

New Mexico - Design #NM-1.

Arizona - Design #AZ-1.

<u>Alaska</u> - Design #AK-1. The Commission requested that the phrase "Land of the Midnight Sun" be replaced by the phrase "The Last Frontier," the nickname more commonly associated with and unique to the state of Alaska.

<u>Hawaii</u> - Although the Commission members did not support any design as presented, they recommended a simplified version of #HI-3, with only the image of Diamond Head and omitting the rendition of King Kamehameha.

The Commission has appreciated the opportunity to review the entire series of state quarters and congratulates the United States Mint on the success of the program.

Thomas E. Luebke, AIA

Secretary

Sincerela

Edmund C. Moy, Director United States Mint 801 9th Street, N.W., 8th Floor Washington, DC 20220

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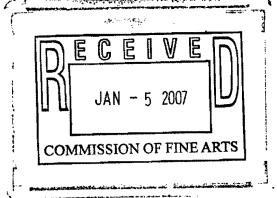


# DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY UNITED STATES MINT

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

January 4, 2007



The Honorable Earl A. Powell, III Chairman Commission of Fine Arts National Building Museum 401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312 Washington, D.C. 20001-2728

Dear Mr. Powell:

Enclosed for review and comment by the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) at its meeting on January 18, 2007, are copies of the candidate reverse designs for the 2008 commemorative quarter-dollar coins honoring Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, Alaska and Hawaii.

The 50 States Commemorative Coin Program Act (Public Law 105-124) provides for the redesign of the reverse side of the quarters with designs emblematic of each of the 50 states. The law provides for five states to be honored each year, beginning in 1999, in the order in which the states ratified the U.S. Constitution or were admitted into the Union.

The enclosed candidate designs are scheduled to be reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) at its meeting on January 23, 2007. After consultation with the CFA and CCAC, we will send the candidate designs to the Secretary of the Treasury for his review and approval. The designs will then be returned to the individual states for the Governors' final design selections. The final selections will be sent to the Secretary for approval.

We appreciate your review of the enclosed candidate designs at your meeting on January 18, 2007. A representative of the United States Mint will present the candidate designs at this meeting.

Sincerely,

Edmund C. Moy

Director

United States Mint

Enclosures