



RECEIVED

MAY 20 2013

OFFICE OF  
COUNCILMEMBER TODD GLORIA

City Of San Diego  
COUNCILMEMBER MARTI EMERALD  
DISTRICT NINE

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 20, 2013

Reference: M-13-05-10

TO: Council President Todd Gloria

FROM: Councilmember Marti Emerald

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marti Emerald".

SUBJECT: Nomination of Kathi Diamant to the Horton Plaza Theatres  
Foundation Board of Directors

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It is with great pleasure that I nominate Ms. Kathi Diamant to the Horton Plaza Theatres Foundation Board of Directors.

Ms. Diamant brings an impressive background in both arts and academia clearly showing her many and ongoing contributions to San Diego's cultural community. An actress herself, she performed in countless stage productions, including at the Tenth Avenue Playhouse in downtown San Diego. Ms. Diamant's more than 25 years of experience in broadcast media and print journalism include her most recent role as an on-air anchor and producer at KPBS, where she continues to volunteer in fundraising and community outreach.

Ms. Diamant is a respected author, receiving countless accolades for her award-winning biography *Kafka's Last Love: The Mystery of Dora Diamant*. This passion-driven project led her to found and direct San Diego State University's Kafka Project, which is dedicated to investigating the lost works of internationally renowned writer Franz Kafka. She is a frequent contributor to the San Diego Union-Tribune and other Southern California publications with her articles spanning travel, arts, and culture, and shares her love of the arts with students as an adjunct professor at both San Diego State University's (SDSU) College of Arts and Letters and Osher Institute for Lifelong Learning.

Ms. Diamant's advocacy for the theatrical arts and for the artists who bring productions alive is demonstrated through her service on the Board of Directors of the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA), as well as through her involvement with both the Actors Equity Association and the Authors Guild. She previously served on San Diego's Arts and Culture Commission and is the recipient of multiple awards, grants, and honors, including an Emmy Award for Outstanding Performer in 1985, and the Living Legacy Award from the Women's

Page 2  
Councilmember Marti Emerald  
May 20, 2013

International Center in 2006. Furthermore, her civic engagement extends beyond the artistic community and includes her volunteer work at Franklin Elementary and other organizations committed to the advancement of women and children. Ms. Diamant received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre Arts from Florida State University.

I know Ms. Diamant will bring to the Horton Plaza Theatres Foundation her unparalleled passion for the theatrical arts and a strong commitment to promoting San Diego as a cultural destination. I appreciate your consideration of his nomination and welcome you to contact me with any questions.

ME/ch

cc: Honorable Members of the City Council

enc: Résumé, application, and letters of recommendation (3)

## KATHI DIAMANT: Curriculum Vitae

Home Address: [REDACTED]  
Mailing Address: [REDACTED]  
Telephone: [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Websites: <http://kathidiamant.com>; [www.kafkaproject.com](http://www.kafkaproject.com)

### PERSONAL:

Born May 15, 1952, New York, New York. Lived in France and Germany from 1954 to 1963, and in South Korea from 1968-1970 and from 1974-1976. Educated in DOD elementary and high schools and graduated from Seoul American HS, 1970. Married to Byron LaDue since 1996.

### EDUCATION:

Hedgebrook Master Writing Classes, Memoir (Honor Moore), Playwriting (Theresa Rebeck), Whidby, WA 2009-10

American Film Institute, Los Angeles, CA, Screenwriting Program, 1995

Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, B.A in Theatre and Communications, 1974

University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, Humanities undergraduate 1970-72

### EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS/LECTURES:

Lecturer, University of California, San Diego, Department of Literature, 2012

Adjunct Professor, College of Arts and Letters, San Diego State University 1998-present

Faculty, Osher Institute for Life Long Learning, San Diego State University, 2008-present

Guest Lecturer, Simon Frazer University, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, 2009

Guest Lecturer, University of California San Diego Friends of the Library Annual Meeting, 2008

Guest Lecturer, Jewish Women's History seminar, University of California, San Diego, 2004

Guest Lecturer, Stuzane Lecture on Women in Judaism, Lipinsky Inst. for Judaic Studies, SDSU, 1999, 2004

Guest Lecturer, SDSU German Interdisciplinary Colloquium, 1999

### HONORS/GRANTS/AWARDS:

- Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Residency grant, Washington, DC, 2012
- Silver Circle, National Association of Television Arts & Sciences, 2007.
- Living Legacy Award, Women's International Center, 2006
- Geisel Award, "The Best of the Best", San Diego Book Awards, *Kafka's Last Love*, 2004
- Senior Research Grant, Hadassah International Research Institute at Brandeis University, 2001
- Research Grant for Biography: *Kafka's Last Love*, 2000, Ludwig Vogelstein Foundation, 2000
- Research Grant for Kafka Project/ SDSU Foundation, Weingart Foundation, 1998
- Resident Writer, Cottages at Hedgebrook, Whidby Island, WA. January-February 1993/March 2001
- 1997 Sundance Screenwriters Lab Finalist for screenplay "Kafka's Last Mistress."
- Streisand Festival of New Jewish Plays, 1994: "DORA'S STORY: A Memory Come Alive"
- San Diego Magazine's "People To Watch in 1990"
- Emmy Award for Outstanding Performer, National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, San Diego, 1985
- Best Actress Award, Tallahassee Little Theatre, Florida 1979-1980
- One of Ten Outstanding Women in Korea for International Women's Year, 1975.

**PROFESSIONAL UNIONS/ ASSOCIATIONS:**

- SAG/AFTRA (American Federation of Radio and Television Artists), member 1981-present; Board of Directors, San Diego Local, 2006-present
- AEA, Actors Equity Association, 1988-present
- Authors Guild, 2003-present
- Modern Language Association, member, 2010-2012
- Kafka Society of America, member, 2007-present
- National Writers Union, 2000-2006
- San Diego Writing Women, 1988-present

**RESEARCH:**

**KAFKA PROJECT, SDSU, Founder and Director, 1996-present.** Research project dedicated to finding the lost papers of the writer Franz Kafka and Dora Diamant

Assembled international advisory committee, obtained Kafka Estate permissions and legal justification; developed German government involvement and assistance; directed and documented research in Poland with Library of Silesia, University of Silesia and Polish National Archives in June/July 2008; led four-month research project in German archives between June 1-September 30, 1998, resulting in documentation proving the confiscation of Dora Dymant-Lask's property by the Gestapo in 1933. Attended symposium "Researching and Recovering Holocaust-era Assets," December 1-4, 1998 at the National Archives & Records Administration, College Park, MD. Currently oversees all activities of the project, including direction of ongoing research in Germany, summarizing findings and providing new information for publication to Kafka scholars; supervision of assistants and translators; developing and maintaining contacts with scholars and historians to consolidate new data and plan methodology; fund raising and grant writing; public information through media advisories, radio interviews, newspaper articles, speaking and lecturing. In 2008 and 2012, led Kafka Project fundraising tours to Prague, Krakow and Berlin for a total of 32 travelers.

**WRITING CREDITS:**

**BOOKS**

- Author: KAFKA'S LAST LOVE: The Mystery of Dora Diamant, published by Basic Books 2003; UK: Secker & Warburg, 2003, in paperback by Vintage/Random House in August 2004. Published in Spain 2005 by Circe/Oceano; in France 2006 by Hermann Editions; in Russia 2008 by TEXT/Chais Family Library of Jewish Thought; in China 2011 by the Jiangsu Peoples Press; in Brazil 2012 by Via Lettera; in German 2013 by Onomato. KAFKA'S LAST LOVE won the San Diego Book Awards for both Best Biography and Best of the Best (Theodore Geisel Award) and was reviewed by over 60 national and international publications, including (USA) *Kirkus Reviews*, *Booklist* (starred review), *New York Times*, *Boston Globe*, *Washington Post*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Buffalo News*, *Baltimore Jewish Times*, *San Diego Magazine*; UK: *Guardian Unlimited Books*, *New Statesman*, *UK Telegraph*, *Times Literary Supplement*; *Literary Review*; *London Review of Books*, *Evening Standard*, *Observer*, *Independent*, *Independent on Sunday*; *London Times*, *Times on Sunday*, *Yorkshire Post*, *Jewish Telegraph*, *Sunday Herald* (Scotland), *The Scotsman*; *Irish Times*, *Irish Independent*; Israel: *Jerusalem Post*, *Ma'Ariv*, 2003; *The Hindu*, (India) 2004; *Canadian Jewish News*, 2006; *En Premiere*, (France) 2007; *Shqip*, Albania, 2007; Poland (six articles-2000-2006); "Ultimo Amor de Kafka," *Europa Press*, 2005 (Spain); *Aftonbladet*, 2004 (Sweden).
- Contributor: "THE INSURANCE MAN: KAFKA IN THE PENAL COLONY, edited by Zaslov and Jeffries, "Kafka in the Yellow Room" published by LineBooks and SFU Gallery, 2010.
- Contributor: Contributor: LONDON: CITY OF DISAPPEARANCES, edited by Iain Sinclair, published by Hamilton Hamish, London, 2006.

### JOURNALS/ACADEMIC PAPERS

- MLA Special Roundtable: "Kafka and the Holocaust," Presenter January 5-8, 2012
- DEUS EX MACHINA, nr. 125, June 2008, "Kafka!" Journal of Literature, Belgium. Excerpt from "Kafka's Last Love." <http://deusexmachina.be/blog/?tag=kathi-diamant> (Translated in Dutch)
- KAFKA-KATERN, quarterly of Kafka Circle of the Netherlands, 1998-1999; "New biographical Aspects of Dora Diamant" July 1999; "Summary of the Results of the Kafka Project Berlin Research June 1 – September 30, 1998." (Translated into Dutch.)
- STIFTUNG TOPOGRAPHIE DES TERRORS, BERLIN, for museum exhibit. "Report of the Kafka Project on the Unknown Fate of Franz Kafka's Last Writings Lost during the Nazi Reign of Terror in Berlin" 1998 (Translated into German)

### PROFILES/INTERVIEWS

*New York Times Sunday Magazine*, "Kafka's Last Trial," 9/26/2010; *TIME Magazine*, "Were Kafka Manuscripts Stashed in a Swiss Bank?" 7/22/2010; "A Kafkaesque Battle for a Writer's Papers," *Washington Post* 1/6/2010; Prague International Radio, Kafka Project in Prague update" July, 2008; *Haaretz*, Israel, 2009, 2010, *Cahier Bernard Lazare*, Paris, 2008; "Dora, Kafka et Moi" *JE*, Paris, May 2007; "Kafka's Doomed Love," *UK Guardian*, 2006 (reprint from 1999); "Finding Dora", *San Diego City Beat*, 2006; BookThink, 2005; "Writer Discovers Romance in Kafka's Final Year," *The Forward*, 2003; *San Diego Union-Tribune*, Copley News Service, 2003; *San Diego Reader* (cover) 2003; "Finding Kafka's Last Love," *St. Petersburg Times*, 2003; *San Diego Jewish Journal*, 2003; "The Adventures of Kathi and Dora," "Resting Places," and "Fruit of Pursuit" *Jewish Chronicle* (London), 1998, 1999, 2003. "Radio: BBC Radio4, 2004; "These Days", KPBS, 2008, 2003, 1998; *Yediot Ahronot* (Israel), 2000, "Kafkas Geliebte," *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 1999.

### BLOGS

- "Culture Lust" on [www.KPBS.org](http://www.KPBS.org), theatre arts contributor for public broadcasting, bi-monthly, 2011
- San Diego Jewish World.com, contributor 2008-2011
- San Diego Writing Women@Blogspot.com, quarterly, 2009-present
- KPBS.org Blog Commentaries: "Magical Mystery Literary History Tour" June-August 2008

### MAGAZINES

COOKING LIGHT, national publication, "Fitness: Water Workouts" June, 2003  
REAL WOMAN, national publication/women's health issues, 1998-1999  
KOALA CLUB, S.D. Zoological Society's children's magazine 1994-1998  
JOURNEYWOMAN, Adventure Travel Journal/Online Magazine,  
"The First All-Woman Canoe Expedition in North Saskatchewan," 1997.

### NEWSPAPERS "

**COPLEY NEWS SERVICE**, contributor, 1996-2008; stringer, 1988-1995; published in 250 newspapers from Alaska to Hawaii, Mexico, and Canada, including *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *New York Post*, *Washington Times*, *Houston Post*, etc. covering travel, arts, celebrity profiles, adventure, health & fitness.

**SAN DIEGO UNION TRIBUNE**, 1995-2000, regular contributor to "Night & Day" weekly entertainment section, Home and Travel sections, covering outdoor adventure, travel, recreational activities in San Diego.

**RIVERSIDE PRESS ENTERPRISE**, 1999-2000

Weekly column on San Diego events, arts & culture, for Riverside, California major daily: 40+ articles on and about San Diego—complete list available on request

**WEST COAST COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS** (*Good Times*, *La Jolla Light*, *Clairemont Light*) 1997-2000, Arts reviewer covering theater, art, film, dance, and poetry: 25+ articles

"Send in the Troupes: Profile of Margaret Porter and Quincy Troupe" 1998

WOMEN'S TIMES, 1991-1994, Monthly Arts column on art, theatre, photography, culture and trends.

**TELEVISION:**

PBS (2008-2011) On Air Anchor/Host/Producer for National Pledge Shows and Events  
KPBS-TV and Radio, (2004-2008): Anchor/Producer for On Air Fundraising; Creator & Host: San Diego Treasures  
KPBS-TV, PBS, San Diego, 1997-2004: Volunteer on-air anchor for PBS membership pledge campaigns.  
KFMB-TV, CBS, San Diego, 1983-1990: Co-host of live daily television talk show, "Sun Up San Diego."  
KNBC-TV, NBC, Los Angeles, 1983: Guest host for "The Sunday Show."  
KQVR-TV, ABC, Sacramento, 1981-1983: Producer and co-host of live daily talk show, "Good Morning California."  
WNCT-TV, CBS, North Carolina, 1980-1981: Producer and co-host of live, two-hour daily talk show, "Carolina Today," as well as several specials.

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS/ COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS:**

Rolling Reader at Franklin Elementary School, 1995-present  
YMCA Youth and Family Services, Board of Management, 1988-2008  
Big Sister, Big Sister League of San Diego, 1983-2007  
Girl Scouts San Diego/Imperial County, Inc., Board of Directors, 1993-1996  
Task Force for GSA Summit on Diversity, member 1995  
Gaslamp Quarter Theatre Association, Board of Directors, 1988-1990  
California Center for Victimology, Board of Directors, 1987-1990  
Children's Hospital Auxiliary, Honorary Lifetime Member

**FEATURED SPEAKER:** Hundreds of events for professional and charitable organizations, 1983-20011  
Including San Diego Interfaith 9/11 Commemoration, Balboa Park, San Diego, San Diego Book Awards, Keynote  
Speaker, 2005 Southern California Writers Conference, Keynote speaker; Spirit of the Land Symposium,  
SDSU; National Yiddish Book Center, Guest Lecturer, Amherst, MA, Shakespeare & Company-Paris Literary Arts  
Festival, 2003; Women's International Center's Living Legacy Awards, MC, 1984-1999; Guest Speaker at Brandeis  
University National Women's Committee, North County Chapter, Lions Club Women of Southern California, Old  
Mission, Downtown and North Park Rotary, Downtown Lions, PEN Women International, Hadassah, Jewish Women's  
Federation, North County Jewish Women, La Jolla Women's Club, Poway Woman's Club, California Women in  
Business, Senior Community Centers of San Diego, Press Club of North San Diego County, and many more.

**Complete Listing of accomplishments in the following categories available upon request:**

TAI CHI AND QIGONG CLASSES  
ACTING CREDITS/FEATURE FILM/STAGE ROLES TELETHONS/COMMERCIAL/CORPORATE VIDEO  
INTERACTIVE/TRAINING/IMPROVISATIONAL THEATRE  
PUBLIC SPEAKING/MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES/SPEAKERS BUREAUS

# KATHI DIAMANT\*

\*Member: Actors Equity Association, SAG-AFTRA

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

San Diego, CA 92102

Email: [REDACTED]

Website: <http://kathidiamant.com>

## STAGE ROLES (Partial):

"Acts of Faith"	(Aunt Sarah/Hegelstein)	LaterThanEver Productions, 10th Ave Playhouse
"Munched"	(MaryBeth)	Fritz Blitz, Lyceum Theatre (Best Actress, Best Ensemble, Best Play)
The Women"	(Miriam)	6 <sup>th</sup> @ Penn Theatre
"Lysistrata"	(Ensemble)	6 <sup>th</sup> @ Penn Theatre
"Vagina Monologues"	(Ensemble)	San Diego Repertory Theatre
"Dora's Story"	(Kay)	Streisand Festival of New Jewish Plays
"The People's Enemy"	(Jill)	Old Globe, New Play Reading Series
"The Nerd"	(Tansy)	Gaslamp Quarter Theatre Company
"A Late Snow"	(Ellie)	The Bowery Theatre, San Diego
"Luann Hampton Laverty Oberlander"	(Luann)	Second Stage Theatre, CA
"Same Time Next Year"	(Doris)	Second Stage Theatre
"Vanities"	(Kathy)	East Carolina Theatre
"Sexual Perversity In Chicago,"	(Deborah)	Florida Studio Theatre
"Dracula"	(Lucy)	FST
"The Effects Of Gamma Rays..."	(Tillie)	FST

## FEATURE FILM:

"Happy Hour" w/ Jamie Farr and Rich Little. (Lead: Kathy) Four Square Productions. 1986

## TELEVISION:

PBS	National Pledge Host, narrator, various programs	2004-2009
KPBS	Anchor for On-Air Fundraising, Host, San Diego Treasures Anchor, Arts Briefs	2004-2008
KFMB	Actor, "San Diego At Large," Girls Night Out	1985-1986
KFMB	Co-Host "SunUp San Diego"	1983-1990

## INTERACTIVE/TRAINING/IMPROVISATIONAL THEATRE:

MYSTERY MASTERS: Private/corporate events for theatrical murder mystery company, 1988-2008.

LIVE ACTION EDUTAINMENT: Medical, business, military, and entertainment clients, performing "mini soap operas" for management/sexual harassment training, 1993-2000.

CALIFORNIA WESTERN SCHOOL OF LAW: "National Public Defenders Workshop." Various Roles as trial witnesses for public defenders' training seminars. 1995-1998

## EDUCATION:

BFA in Theatre, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, 1974



SAN DIEGO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Department of Women's Studies  
*College of Arts and Letters*  
San Diego State University  
5500 Campanile Drive  
San Diego CA 92182 • 6030

August 22, 2011

Woodrow Wilson Center  
Short Term Grants for Eastern European Studies

Dear Grants Committee:

I write to support most enthusiastically the application of independent scholar Ms. Kathi Diamant, Director of the Kafka Project, for Woodrow Wilson Center grant for Eastern European Studies. I can think of no one more deserving than Ms. Diamant of this support for her important project.

With grant support, Ms. Diamant will be able to continue her remarkable project to locate the lost papers and manuscripts of Franz Kafka, one of the literary giants of the twentieth century. These extremely important historical and literary documents were believed to have been in the possession of Ms. Dora Diamant, companion of Franz Kafka and thought to have been confiscated by the Nazi Gestapo in a raid on the Diamant residence in 1933.

The recovery of these documents would contribute in critical ways to scholarly research on Kafka as a literary figure of immense stature and to the continued debate about Kafka's portrayal as a lonely and alienated man, a characterization to which Kafka's family long has objected. Thus, the Wilson Center grant would be supporting research that would not only add critically to what we think we know about Kafka but also be providing support for policy changes that could lead to the continued recovery of and access to important scholarly materials seized by the Nazis. Ms. Diamant's research and publications have already led to significant revisions in the portrayal of Kafka as a literary and historical figure. In 2008, The Kafka Project, which Ms. Diamant directs under the auspices of San Diego State University, learned that if the lost papers and diaries of Kafka still exist, they are most likely located in Poland.

I first met Ms. Diamant twelve years ago, while she was in the process of assembling an advisory board in support of the Kafka project. She approached me about joining the board and I naturally hesitated. I am not a literary scholar, but a professor of Women's Studies. However, the more I learned about the Kafka project and Ms. Diamant's

considerable talents as a researcher, as well as about the importance of Dora Diamant, I could not resist. I am proud to have connected SDSU to this valuable, scholarly project of historical record-recovery and biography.

Speaking directly to Ms. Diamant's qualifications for this project, I must underscore the fact that although she is not a formally trained historian, her journalistic background serves her immensely well in the work she has set out for herself. Used to following all sorts of leads, unafraid to be bold and persistent in seeking information necessary to complete the "story"—these talents have led to the enormous success with which Ms. Diamant has met thus far. Aided by the changed political environment in reunified Germany, and supported by the recognition of the most prominent Kafka scholars in the world, including the eminent Dr. Wagenbach himself, Ms. Diamant has been able to make significant progress in documenting the confiscation of papers from Dora Diamant's Berlin residence. I am certain that, if the papers can be found, Ms. Diamant will find them.

Ms. Diamant, a journalist by trade, has proven herself capable of similarly rigorous interdisciplinary work. The fact that Kafka scholars support her in her endeavors attests to her research talents. Moreover, having attended many of her presentations and watched the audience of scholars engage with her findings, I can verify further the seriousness and scholarly and policy significance of her research.

I urge you to support this invaluable work. With the support of the Wilson Center, Ms. Kathi Diamant will be able to continue her efforts to uncover the lost treasures that may represent the documents that will lead to significant revisions in Kafka's biography and in critical literary studies of the relationship between the person and the work.

Please contact me if further information is required.

Sincerely,

Kathleen B. Jones, Ph.D.  
Professor Emerita of Women's Studies

619-788-4550

August 22, 2011

Woodrow Wilson Center Short Term Grant Application for Kafka Project

Letter of Support for Ms. Kathi Diamant's proposal

Over 36 years ago, Kathi Diamant and I met in Seoul, Korea, while on assignments to the U.S. Army Soldier and Family Support Services. Over the years, we have continued our personal friendship and shared in our professional development and achievements.

My library science training and career path within the Department of Defense (DoD) culminated in serving as the civilian policy analyst at the Defense Technical Information Center ([www.dtic.mil](http://www.dtic.mil)), which is the central repository and secondary disseminator of DoD-supported scientific, technical, and engineering information. DTIC was established in 1945 as the Air Documents Division to collect and catalog World War II captured scientific and technical information from Germany and Japan. It still holds copies of these documents, known as the Air Technical Index (Intelligence) collection, the majority of which has not been reviewed for public release and is still subject to access controls and distribution limitations imposed over sixty years ago.

Through participation in CENDI ([www.cendi.gov](http://www.cendi.gov)), an interagency federal information center cooperative, I learned about a Symposium on Holocaust-Era Assets Records and Research (<http://www.archives.gov/research/holocaust/>) hosted at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in December 1998. At my urging, Ms. Diamant attended this event where she met other researchers and experts who provided suggestions and leads for her quest for original source materials about Franz Kafka and his social milieu. She is an able, passionate, persistent and determined detective.

Ms. Diamant's proposed research would inform my own work about international and foreign government policies for the handling of materials captured during military conflicts. This is an issue today for the United States in dealing with recently acquired al-Qaeda and Iraqi materials as well as access to and exploitation of the ATI collection; both raise questions about ownership and data rights to the physical property and intellectual content.

Trudy Peterson concludes in her treatise "Archives in Service to the State" [<http://www.trudypeterson.com/downloads/ARCHIVES.pdf>] : "The laws of war as applied to seizure of documents are complex. For a variety of reasons, they are mostly ignored." Although Ms. Diamant has a specific purpose and goal, it is my opinion that her proposed research will contribute to our understanding of "Captured Enemy Property" (see Amer J of Intl Law, William Gerald Douney, Jr. (DA JAG), [<http://www.nfaoa.org/documents/CapturedEnemyProperty.pdf>]) and formulation of U.S. policy.

Bonnie Klein  
CENDI Secretariat Consultant to the CENDI Copyright Working Group  
1853 Faversham Way  
Woodbridge, VA 22152  
703 910-4660

September 23, 2009

The Alicia Patterson Foundation  
1730 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Suite 850  
Washington, DC 20006

To The Judges,

This letter is written to recommend Kathi Diamant for an Alicia Patterson Foundation Fellowship in 2010. I am familiar with your organization and know that Kathi is a perfect example of the freelance writer that APF is designed to support. Her ongoing research project is not only newsworthy, but news-making. Her investigation into the lost papers of Franz Kafka was covered by newspapers worldwide this year, including articles in "The Guardian" in London (Aug. 7) and "Yediot" in Israel (May 20).

Ms. Diamant has been writing for Copley News Service since 1988, and has contributed more than 80 articles on a variety of subjects, including travel, arts & entertainment, and health. I have been here since that time and can attest to her professionalism, her enterprising and careful research, and entertaining style of writing, which has grown and developed over the past 11 years. She has never missed a deadline, and has always delivered what she promised, or more.

Kathi's relationship with CNS is somewhat unique. We were her first professional print outlet, and have been aware of the greater purpose of her career as a freelance writer (to write about the life of Dora Diamant) from the very beginning. Her earlier research trips to learn more about Dora and Kafka -- to England in 1990 and 1995, and to Israel in 1991 -- were supported by CNS assignments, which got her to those locations. When Kathi told us she was "retiring" from full time travel writing to work on her play about Dora and Kafka, CNS continued to utilize her talents, and assigned her health-related and other stories that she could write without traveling.

As a witness to Kathi's dedication to uncovering the truth about an unclosed chapter in literary history, I have no doubt that she will continue to pursue this story with the unflagging enthusiasm and discipline she has consistently demonstrated. The fact that she has already produced remarkable results has fueled a new determination to devote herself full time to this remarkable and valuable story, international in scope and significance. I am sure that her articles for the ATF Reporter would be among the most widely read -- and talked about -- in your publication.

Sincerely,

Glenda Winders  
Editorial Director

