



OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

Greetings,

The purpose of this letter is to support Living Water Arts Foundation and its primary work, Living Water College of the Arts.

Beginning in 1999, the advocates of Living Water College of the Arts have been responding to the need for renewal of the artistic media. Both St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI have spoken of the significant influence the arts have in interpreting and informing society and the great responsibility we have to use the arts responsibly.

Most social ills originate from misconceptions about the value of the human person, largely promoted by artistic media. In our day more than ever, due to emotional rather than rational discernment, society is being swept into acceptance of absurd notions of what human dignity actually is. Media, in its many forms, contributes to this error, but it is also capable of providing insight into the truth. Living Water is designed to assist this capability.

All artists are responsible to inform their own faith and faculty of reason in order to integrate these with their expression. Living Water College of the Arts integrates the development of Art, Faith, and Reason in order to form artists who are capable of responsibly informing our culture.

The Church is commissioned in every age to engage the world and transform it. The work of Living Water Arts Foundation is an active response to the Church's commission. I encourage artists to participate in this training and this work. I encourage the faithful to pray for the success of this work. I encourage all to support this work in their charitable giving and the gift of their time.

✠Richard W. Smith
Archbishop of Edmonton
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