
**Very Special Arts Wisconsin
Permanent Collection Opening
Madison, Wisconsin
April 22, 1994**

THANK YOU, KAY (Linblade).

IT IS AN GENUINE HONOR AND PRIVILEGE TO JOIN YOU THIS EVENING -- AS WE CELEBRATE THE VERY SPECIAL ARTS WISCONSIN PERMANENT COLLECTION ... AND RECOGNIZE THE TALENTED ARTISTS WHOSE WORK HAS BEEN SELECTED FOR INCLUSION IN THIS COLLECTION.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, ART SPEAKS TO EACH OF US IN A VERY PERSONAL, EMOTIONAL WAY.

AND THROUGH ART, THE ARTISTS SPEAK TO US ... AND REACH OUT TO US.

THIS COMMUNICATION ... BETWEEN ARTIST AND ART LOVER ... CANNOT TAKE PLACE UNLESS THE ARTWORK IS AVAILABLE TO BE VIEWED BY MANY.

THE VERY SPECIAL ARTS PERMANENT COLLECTION PROVIDES A WONDERFUL VEHICLE TO SHARE THE ARTWORK OF WISCONSINITES WITH MENTAL AND PHYSICAL CHALLENGES.

AND, THROUGH ITS GENEROUS SPONSORSHIP, INTERNATIONAL PAPER WILL GIVE MANY OF OUR CITIZENS THE OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW AND ENJOY THE VERY SPECIAL ARTS PERMANENT COLLECTION.

ALL OF US CAN BE PROUD OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THESE VERY SPECIAL ARTISTS -- AND OF THE CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP OF INTERNATIONAL PAPER.

TOGETHER, THEY HAVE FORMED A TRUE "PARTNERSHIP" -- ONE OF THE HIGHEST ORDER.

AS INTERNATIONAL PAPER AND V-S-A WISCONSIN WORK TOGETHER TO ENRICH THE LIVES OF THOSE WITH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL CHALLENGES --- THEY ENRICH ALL OF OUR LIVES BY MAKING THESE WORKS OF ART AVAILABLE TO US.

INTERNATIONAL PAPER RECOGNIZED A WORTHWHILE PROJECT -- AND BACKED IT -- BOTH FINANCIALLY AND WITH VOLUNTEERS.

THE ACTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL PAPERS AND ITS EMPLOYEES REPRESENT EVERYTHING THAT I LOVE ABOUT THE PEOPLE AND CORPORATIONS THAT MAKE WISCONSIN THEIR HOME ...

... KIND, GENEROUS PEOPLE WILLING TO GIVE SOMETHING OF THEMSELVES TO HELP OTHERS.

THEY TYPIFY THE SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERISM AND SELFLESS PUBLIC SERVICE THAT HAS MADE OUR STATE AN OUTSTANDING PLACE TO LIVE.

IT'S PEOPLE AND CORPORATE CITIZENS LIKE THESE THAT MAKE ME SO VERY PROUD TO

Source: Marquette University Libraries; Tommy G. Thompson Collection; Series 2:
Gubernatorial Speeches

SERVE AS GOVERNOR OF THIS GREAT STATE.

THANK YOU INTERNATIONAL PAPER -- YOU'VE GIVEN US A REASON TO CELEBRATE TONIGHT.
THANK YOU ALSO TO WAUSAU INSURANCE ... AND AMERITECH.

AND MOST OF ALL ... THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU ... FOR MAKING TONIGHT A TRUE
CELEBRATION.

IT IS NOW MY PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE SOMEONE WHO IS ONE OF VERY SPECIAL ARTS
WISCONSIN'S MOST DEDICATED AND MOST FERVENT SUPPORTERS ... MY WIFE, SUE ANN
THOMPSON.