



HERRON SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
IUPUI

June 1, 2015

Governor Mike Pence
Office of the Governor
Statehouse
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2797

Dear Governor Pence:

I am writing to sincerely thank you for making public funds available to the Indiana Arts Commission to fund the "Individual Artist Program" Grants to directly support artistic work by Indiana artists. I was a recipient of a \$2,000 award to partially fund a project which engaged members of the public to consider how science, specifically genetic research, is changing our perception of the future.

The proposed project was tremendously successful on several fronts. With the IAC's support, I was able to travel to the world's largest genetics conference and used art to engage attendees about how they think genetic research will affect the future. In 5 days, over 230 individuals were photographed alongside their response to this question. The project has increased my national profile as an artist who explores the impact of science on society. As a direct result, I was asked to produce a similar initiative at the inaugural *Festival of Genomics* at the Boston Convention Center later this month and my work was published in *Frontline Genomic Magazine's* March 2015 issue. Overall, the project was incredibly well received and has definitely helped to advance my artistic career.

I am excited to announce that the Genetic Portrait Project will create an installation at the Indiana Love Show in Fountain Square later this summer. I look forward to offering this experience to my local community.

In closing, I would like to thank you and fellow state legislators who stand up to support the Indiana Arts Commission and individual artist grants. It is a great asset to artists living in the state and I hope you will continue to fully support such programs and look for ways the IAC can broaden its ability to engage Hoosier's in more public dialog about ideas that will ultimately shape our future.

I have attached a summary of the project along with photographs of the main event in San Diego, CA last fall. If you interested you can see more portraits at the projects Facebook page: www.facebook.com/thegeneticportraitproject. I would of course be happy to discuss the project with you further at any time.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stefan Petranek'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Stefan' and last name 'Petranek' clearly distinguishable.

Stefan Petranek

Assistant Professor of Photography & Intermedia

Herron School of Art and Design | IUPUI

spetrane@iupui.edu | 317 278 9490



HERRON SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
IUPUI

June 1, 2015

Rep. Gregory Porter
Indiana House of Representatives
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2786

Dear Senator Taylor:

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Indianapolis, IN 46204

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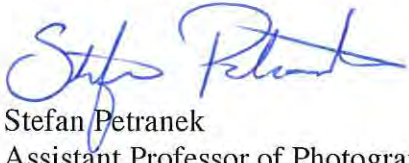
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