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### Letter, 1948 December 28, from John Work to Eva Jessye

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**Fisk University**  
NASHVILLE 8, TENNESSEE

December 28, 1948

Dear Miss Jessye:

I have been an ardent admirer of yours ever since the time your choir appeared on the Capitol Theater stage in New York away back in the twenties. I have always heaped extravagant praise upon your groups for their very excellent singing. I have heard them many times. I therefore appreciated your letter and program highly.

Because choral singing is such an intensive musical activity here and because our own hundred voice choir gives so many concerts on the campus, we have never presented another choir at Fisk. It has not seemed wise to do so in light of our very limited budget for concert purposes, and so it would seem improbable that we would be in the position to present your choir here in the near future despite our sincere desire to do so. If I am able to persuade any other sponsoring group to present you here, you can rest assured that I will do so.

Please give my personal regards to my friend Eloise Uggams.

With sincere admiration and best wishes, I am

Very cordially yours

John R. Mark