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**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Smith, Curt, Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1992

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**OA/ID Number:** 13889  
**Folder ID Number:** 13889-004

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**Folder Title:**  
In Performance, Washington D.C., 2/4/90

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>

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(Smith/Blessey)  
7:30 P.M.  
February 1, 1990  
PBS

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: IN PERFORMANCE  
EAST ROOM  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1990  
5:00 P.M.

Thank you for this wonderful concert. Barbara and I are delighted to have hosted yet another "In Performance at the White House."

This has marked the final concert in a series, "The House I Live In." And I'm sure those of us here in the East Room would agree with the millions watching on PBS: The house we live in has never sounded better!

I suspect that listening from Above, at least two Presidents would share that view. The two Presidents whose birthdays we're honoring. For while George Washington never lived in this house -- the only President not to -- he loved music, and dancing. Having seen my foxtrot, Barbara won't believe this. But it's said that our first President -- unlike certain successors -- danced at his inaugural with every lady present.

America's 16th President, of course, did live here. And I've often said that any President's kinship with Abraham Lincoln is perhaps the most personal of all. We know of Lincoln's agony, and his greatness. Yet not many realize that he, too, cherished music. Indeed, diaries by Lincoln's friends tell of a President "in tears" while listening to a ballad.

This evening, "A Presidents' Day Party" has been enriched by songs that Lincoln and Washington would have loved -- and that America loves today. Songs performed by artists like Marilyn Horne, Patti LuPone, Gary Morris, Jeffrey Osborne, and members of the Dick Hyman Trio. And which remind us of music's power to touch the human heart.

We've seen that tonight, felt it: From Cole Porter to Simon and Garfunkel to "America the Beautiful." Works which span the generations -- as indeed, does "the house we live in." Both link races, and religions. Each boasts a rich heritage. Each is a symbol of promise.

Miss Horne's song, "Make a Rainbow," spoke of that promise. And of those who embody it -- the children of the world. So for kids of every age -- kids who love music -- kids who remain inspired by Washington and Lincoln -- let me thank you for this delightful evening. God bless you. And God bless our beloved land -- the United States of America.

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