

THE ARTHUR ASHE FOUNDATION

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June 27, 1997

President William Jefferson Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I have asked my friend, Vernon Jordan, to personally deliver this letter. I would be honored if you and Mrs. Clinton would serve as Honorary Chairpersons for a gala dinner on August 23, 1997 to celebrate the naming of The United States Tennis Association's premier tennis stadium, The Arthur Ashe Stadium.

This celebration, the Breaking Barriers Gala, will be an important historic event for all Americans. In addition to the naming of The Arthur Ashe Stadium, the Foundation will also celebrate the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's entering major league baseball and the impressive victory of Tiger Woods at the Masters in Augusta. The Aetna Voice of Conscience award will be presented to Rachel Robinson, wife of Jackie Robinson, for her unwavering commitment to our young people.

The Arthur Ashe Foundation is dedicated to promoting respect for the individual; the elimination of racism; increasing access to health and education; and the teaching of other life skills to at-risk youth through the sport of tennis. The Foundation hopes to raise \$1.5 million through the Breaking Barriers Gala to support its programs for disadvantaged youth.

Mr. President, I would be so appreciative if you and Mrs. Clinton could join me and my daughter, Camera, on this historic day. The ribbon cutting ceremony will precede Arthur Ashe Kid's Day in the new stadium on the afternoon of August 23rd. I know that your schedule is difficult but your presence and participation in this event will mark it as one of the most important days in sports history. It will also honor the legacy of Arthur Ashe in a most extraordinary way.

I will call Vernon in the next couple of days in the hope that you and Mrs. Clinton will at a minimum lend your names and support. We will need to finalize the invitation by July 7th and would like to include your names as Honorary Chairs of the event. My daughter and I want to thank you for your consideration and want you to know that we have tremendous admiration for you and the work that you are doing to move this country forward.

With our sincere appreciation,

Jeanne Moutoussamy-Ashe
Jeanne Moutoussamy-Ashe

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"I know I could never forgive myself
if I elected to live without humane
purpose, without trying to help the
poor and unfortunate, without
recognizing that perhaps the purest
joy in life comes with trying to help
others."

- Arthur R. Ashe, Jr.
from "Days of Grace"