

Opening Statement: Chairman James Moran
Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Request
John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

Michael Kaiser, President

April 14, 2010

Good morning. Mr. Kaiser, on behalf of the Subcommittee, I want to welcome you today.

Just as with Mr. Powell, it has been a while since you last appeared before this Subcommittee. We are happy to have you back.

Originally established in 1958 as a National Cultural Center, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts has been a living memorial to the late President since 1964. At one time administered through the National Park Service, the Board of Directors has had responsibility for all operations of the Center since Fiscal Year 1995.

Your total request for Fiscal Year 2011 is \$37,420,000, which is \$3 million less than we provided for Fiscal Year 2010. The majority of this reduction comes from your Capital Repair and Restoration account. Your request does not include funding for the Arts Management Program, for which we provided \$500,000 last year.

Joining your staff this year is Kathy Kruse, who spent many years supporting the Center through her work on the staff of the late Senator Ted Kennedy. I want to take a moment to recognize the late Senator Kennedy's contributions to and support of the Center. He is very much missed in the halls of Congress and I am sure at the Center. But we are happy that in her new position, Kathy can help to continue Senator Kennedy's important work in support of the Center.

Before I ask you to begin your statement, I would like to turn to our Ranking Member. Mr. Simpson, would you like to make a statement?