

July 23rd, 2020

David Chazen

317 Park Avenue

Aspen, CO  81611

Dear X,

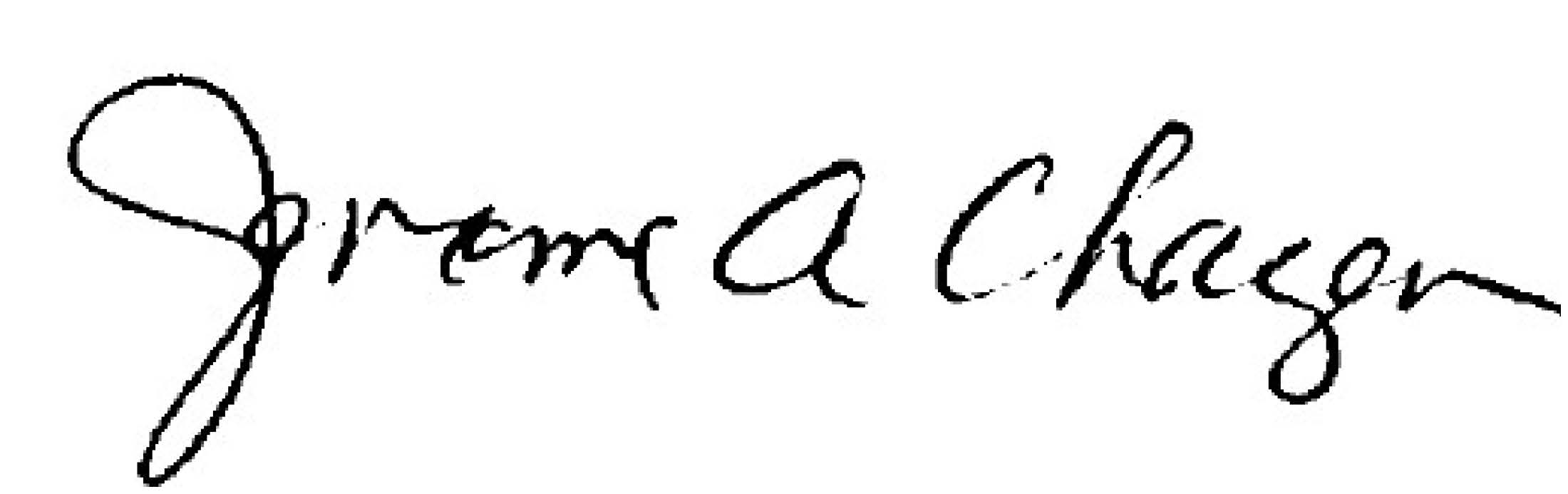
I hope this note finds you and yours well during these challenging times. During the past five months, I have dedicated significant time and effort to the Louis Armstrong House Museum to strengthen our capacity to continue our service and mission. Never before have I realized how vital it is that we honor Louis Armstrong’s legacy, and how appropriate his work is in today’s world. The Louis Armstrong House Museum continues to be engaged in multiple projects that celebrate, promote and share Armstrong’s contributions as a musician, social justice advocate, and humanitarian.  
   
I am writing today in the hope that you will join me in supporting the Louis Armstrong House Museum’s (LAHM) Virtual Gala on Thursday evening, September 17th.  As Chair of the Board, I have also volunteered to Chair this Gala because I deeply believe in the work LAHM is doing and recognize how critical it is that we have the financial resources to sustain and build the organization. I turn to you, as someone who has supported us in the past, to play a key role in our Gala’s success and to make another generous contribution.

“Now” is an exciting time at LAHM. Our new Director, Regina Bain brings to us the perspective of someone committed to African-American culture and eager to ensure the Louis Armstrong House Museum is an institution deeply rooted in arts, education and community; all things that Mr. Armstrong himself espoused and fulfilled during his lifetime. Despite the pandemic, construction has resumed on our new Louis Armstrong Center across the street from the Museum in Corona, and we anticipate opening to the public in spring 2021 with a host of new programs, tours, and a permanent exhibit curated by Jason Moran.     
   
Our Virtual Gala will be a rewarding experience featuring renowned musicians contributing their efforts and also a special presentation about Louis and his role in social justice activities. In fact, our Gala falls on the same date (September 17th) that Louis Armstrong put his career on the line to courageously speak out against the injustice of the "Little Rock Nine" being denied access to their school! Armstrong's public statements against Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus and even President Eisenhower are still just as relevant today.

**Please see attached reply form to make your contribution. If you any need assistance, please reach out to our Managing Director, Pedro Espinoza, at Pedro.Espinoza@qc.cuny.edu / 646-406-5677.**

I thank you for your consideration and hope you will join us on September 17th.

Sincerely,



Jerry Chazen,

Chair, Louis Armstrong House Museum Board of Directors

**Board of Trustees** Jerry Chazen, Chair

Jay Hershenson

Jackie Harris

Robert F. Smith

Stephen Maitland-Lewis

Jeffrey Rosenstock

Frank H. Wu

Michelle Stoddart

Philip Berry

34-56 107th Street • Corona • Queens, NY 11368-1226 • 718.478.8274 • Fax: 718.478.8299 • #WonderfulWorld • LouisArmstrongHouse.org