

CONCORD COLLEGE

HER MAJESTY, QUEEN SIRIKIT OF THAILAND DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

YOUR MAJESTY, GRACIOUS AND BELOVED QUEEN SIRIKIT OF THAILAND, IT IS WITH SPECIAL JOY THAT WE COME INTO YOUR ROYAL PRESENCE TODAY, AND WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY BOTH TO RECOGNIZE YOUR GOOD WORKS AND TO STRENGTHEN THE BRIDGE OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE PEACE-LOVING PEOPLES OF THAILAND AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. SINCE THE BEGINNING OF YOUR REIGN, AND WITH THE SUPPORT OF HIS MAJESTY, THE KING, YOU HAVE GIVEN MOST GENEROUSLY OF YOUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE FOR THE BENEFIT OF YOUR PEOPLE, AND YOUR SPLENDID DEEDS HAVE BROUGHT YOU THE RESPECT AND ADMIRATION OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD. YOUR NATURAL WARMTH, YOUR SINCERITY AND YOUR PERSONAL CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF ALL THAI, REGARDLESS OF RACE, SEX OR CREED, HAVE EARNED FOR YOU THE AFFECTIONATE TITLE OF "GODMOTHER" OF ALL THAI PEOPLE. THE CATALOGUE OF ALL THE WORTHY PROJECTS THAT COME UNDER YOUR ROYAL PATRONAGE IS A LIST TOO LONG TO RECITE HERE, BUT WE ARE ESPECIALLY AWARE OF FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE FOR THE EDUCATION OF NEEDY CHILDREN; THAT SERVE THE HANDICAPPED — THE BLIND, THE DEAF AND THE MENTALLY RETARDED; THAT PROMOTE THE FOLK ARTS AND CRAFTS, ESPECIALLY "SUPPORT," THE FOUNDATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF SUPPLEMENTARY OCCUPATIONS AND RELATED TECHNIQUES; THAT GIVE MEDICAL HELP TO THE SICK; AND, THAT FOSTER CONSERVATION AND WILDLIFE. YOUR MAJESTY'S PERSONAL CONCERN FOR REFUGEES IS WELL-KNOWN, AND THE WORLD ADMIRES THE RESPONSIBLE WAY THAILAND HAS RECEIVED AND CARED FOR THESE UNFORTUNATE PEOPLE OF INDOCHINA. YOUR DEEP RELIGIOUS FAITH GIVES YOU STRENGTH AND DIRECTION IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE AND HAPPINESS THAT IS A SEARCH SHARED BY ALL HUMANITY. YOUR UNBOUNDED COMPASSION IS A BEACON OF HOPE FOR MANY AND AN INSPIRATION TO THOSE OF US IN ACADEME. INDEED, THE TWELFTH DAY OF AUGUST WILL BE A DAY ON OUR CAMPUS WHEN WE JOIN YOUR PEOPLE IN CELEBRATING YOUR LIFE OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE. TODAY, AT THIS SPECIAL CONVOCATION, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY GRANTED BY THE WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF REGENTS AND ON BEHALF OF THE FACULTY AND STUDENTS OF OUR INSTITUTION, IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT CONCORD COLLEGE SALUTES YOU, GRACIOUS LADY, BY INSCRIBING YOU ON OUR ROLLS AND BY CONFERRING UPON YOU OUR DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS.

GIVEN UNDER THE SEAL OF CONCORD COLLEGE, AND CONFERRED FROM THE ACADEMIC HALLS IN ATHENS, WEST VIRGINIA, ON THIS THE SEVENTH DAY OF JANUARY, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN, AND OF THE COLLEGE THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH.

PRESIDENT