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Dear Elizabeth,

I am writing to see if you could come and give a workshop here!

The Chimneyville School is in the process of getting a permanent weaving studio. Dan Overly, the Director of the school thought that it may be great to have a workshop to celebrate the grand opening, so I suggested your name. Dan, of course, knew of you and thought that you would be perfect, especially since he'd like the weavers to have continuity and it may be possible for you to come here on a yearly basis. So Dan has put me in charge of organizing the workshop.

Could you come and teach a workshop at Chimneyville? I hope the answer is yes, and I'm going to assume that it is and give you some of the details if you could come.

First of all, let me tell you where we stand. We are a pretty small number of weavers, with very diverse backgrounds and interests. Some of us are interested in pattern weaving (myself included), while some others are pretty much interested in color and texture effects on plain weave fabric. How can we have a workshop for such a varied group? I hope you have the answer to that! Last year, on a special government craftman exchange, we were able to get Dini Moes from Canada to teach a workshop here. I organized it and I'm not sure I did a very good job, because I totally misjudged the background of people (some of whom I didn't even know personally, so I took their words for it). So, some people were totally frustrated because of the lack of background, while some others didn't get as much out of the workshop because of those who were slowing down the process. I personally got a lot more from talking to Dini than I did from the actual weaving. Is it possible to structure an "unstructured" workshop? Because of our small number, we pretty much have to have it opened to everybody, or people will be really disappointed (or they'll sign up any way).

In terms of time, the studio probably won't be finished till August, but summer, I've found, is a good time for workshops, because of people who have children in school. I also found that the weavers prefer weekend because so many of us work; that would limit us to the first three weekends in August. Is that convenient for you? Would a Friday, Saturday and Sunday be good? Or would you rather not have it on a Sunday?

The school has an apartment upstairs which is opened to

visiting instructors and craftsmen; however, I would like to invite you to stay at my house, because I think that you would be more comfortable. The apartment is not well cooled and that side of campus is pretty isolated at night, especially in the summer. We usually have get togethers at my house during evenings of workshops, so that would be more convenient, too. We usually have an evening of show and tell and a social gathering.

The school will need to know your daily honorarium and transportation expenses to Jackson. I would like information about you since I will be sending a letter out inviting the various weavers; also, the school will be sending out press releases about the workshop. And I would like to know what kind of workshop we can have! (You can send me all the information, I'll pass on to the school what they need).

I do hope that you will consider coming and I am still looking forward meeting you!

Sincerely yours,

Marcy