I wish you could be sitting with me in my office right now. It is a cool, crisp autumn morning and the laughter of children on a school field trip can be heard throughout the gardens behind Woodrow Wilson's birthplace. Feeling the enthusiasm and excitement of these students just may be the best part of my job. Education is at the heart of what we do here at Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library - whether it is school children, college students or adults - but we could not do it without YOU.

Now, more than ever, we need your support. The last decade has been difficult for history and arts and cultural sites because of decreased funding in our sector across the nation. At the same time, we are seeing less emphasis on the teaching of history and civic education. Did you know that according to a recent study, only 1 in 5 native born Americans under the age of 45 would pass the U.S. Citizenship test required for naturalization? Your support allows us to respond to the critical lack of history education in our country today and because we receive no state or federal funding, every dollar makes a difference as we inspire the next generation.

We recently received a $60,000 museum planning grant from the Jessie Bell duPont Fund, and we are currently planning for the re-installation of our permanent exhibit galleries in the museum. Many of these galleries are thirty years old! This is an exciting time as we re-imagine a museum that focuses on the themes of Wilson's life and times and how they relate to today's world. But as we plan for the future, we must respond to the current needs of our organization: ongoing educational programs, special temporary exhibits, continued collections care, and an aging physical plant.

Your donation to this year's annual fund will allow us to provide content to a world seeking relevance and understanding. The similarities between Wilson's time and today are striking and there is so much we can learn from the past as we navigate our future.
Remember, when you support the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library, you are supporting top-notch educational programs, special exhibits, collections care, and you are maintaining our historic buildings and gardens!

Your financial support today impacts our tomorrow. **Let's make sure there are children enjoying trips to the WWPL for generations to come.** I hope you will join me in giving a tax-deductible contribution to our Annual Fund so that we can continue to improve our Presidential Library and Museum.

Sincerely,

Robin von Seldeneck
President and CEO

P.S. Be sure to visit our website at www.woodrowwilson.org to sign up for our weekly email newsletter. It's the best way to stay up to date on all our events and programs. You can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.