My dear Governor:

The one thousandth anniversary of the great epic poet of Persia, Aubl-Kasin Firdausi, will be celebrated this year in many lands.

In New York City a group of scholars connected with the American Institute for Persian Art and Archaeology, Columbia University, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the New York Public Library, plan to prepare an exhibition of the works of Firdausi together with a complete bibliography of those works of his, whether in manuscript or in printed form, which are owned in this country. The Committee also plans a reception to be tendered to the Persian Community in New York City and to scholars and persons interested in Persia and her accomplishments. At that time we hope that Professor A. V. W. Jackson of the Department of Indo-Iranian Languages at Columbia University will deliver an oration on the poet.

On behalf of the Committee on Arrangements I write to invite you to become a member of the Honorary Committee for this celebration.

The persons whom we are asking to join the Honorary Committee are as follows:

His Excellency Gafar Khan Djalal, the Persian Minister at Washington
His Honor, the Mayor of the City of New York, Fiorella H. LaGuardia
His Honor, the Governor of the State of New York, Herbert H. Lehman
Dr. David Eugene Smith, Professor Emeritus of Mathematics at Columbia University, Order of Elim, First Rank, of Persia. Collector of Persian Manuscripts and Objects of Art.
Phiroz D. Saklatvala, Honorary Consul General of Persia.
Mrs. William H. Moore, Order of Elim, First Rank, of Persia.
Franklin Mott Gunther, President of the American Institute for Persian Art and Archaeology.
A. V. Williams Jackson, Professor of Indo-Iranian Languages, Columbia University.
Arthur Upham Pope, Director of the American Institute for Persian Art and Archaeology.
Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Faithfully yours,

[Signature]