

FACT SHEET

The Aristos Foundation was incorporated in the State of New Jersey in December 1986 as a public, nonprofit educational-cultural organization. The Foundation's purpose is the preservation and advancement of traditional values in the arts, as defined by Aristos in its statement of editorial philosophy and as exemplified in the body of work published in the journal since its inception.

Aristos was founded in 1982 by its Editor and Publisher, Louis Torres; it is the only existing periodical devoted exclusively to championing traditional values (as opposed to modernism) in the arts. The name "Aristos," derived from the Greek word meaning "best, finest," was chosen to convey the spirit of the highest cultural achievements of Western civilization--a spirit which projects and celebrates the best and noblest aspects of man.

Response to Aristos from general readers, scholars, and artists not only indicates that the Journal is carrying its message to a diverse audience for which it fills an otherwise unmet need but suggests that there exists a potentially larger readership.

The Aristos Foundation assumed publication of the Journal in July 1987 and will, as its financial base and special funding permit, undertake additional cultural activities in the future.

PHILOSOPHY

The following is a brief outline of the Foundation's philosophy (a fuller statement is contained in the March 1986 editorial of Aristos, entitled "A Unique Perspective on the Arts"):

- o Fundamental to our approach is a concern for objective answers to the essential questions: What is art? What role does it play in our lives? Contrary to the prevailing view of critics and scholars in our culture, the Foundation holds that for valid esthetic, critical, and historical commentary on the arts, art can and must be objectively defined.
- o Art at its highest nurtures and sustains the human spirit by emphasizing the positive and significant aspects of human existence, rather than focusing on the negative and the trivial.
- o Such art comprises diverse styles, from various historical periods (our own included), but all of it shares certain essential qualities--among them, craftsmanship, intelligibility, and the capacity to delight, move, or inspire us.