

HEMINGWAY
PRESERVATION
FOUNDATION, INC.

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We the undersigned writers and poets support the license application that has been submitted to the Treasury Department by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Hemingway Preservation Foundation, Inc., to conduct architectural research and restoration work at Ernest Hemingway's home in San Francisco de Paula, Cuba.

We believe that the Hemingway home, *Finca Vigía*, like Mark Twain's home in Hartford, CT, and William Faulkner's in Oxford, MS, is a vitally important literary and cultural landmark that must be saved for future generations. It celebrates the life of one of America's most important authors and is the only American cultural site that the Cuban government operates as a museum. The *Finca* must be available to future Americans and Cubans – and to readers around the world – so that they can fully appreciate Ernest Hemingway and his unique contribution to American and world literature.

We do not consider this a political issue. We take no position on policies that the United States has established toward Cuba. This program lies outside the conflict and politics that divide our two countries. As writers, our position is simple and clear: it is imperative that *Finca Vigía* and all its important papers, books, photographs and memorabilia of Ernest Hemingway not be lost forever.

Respectfully,

Walter Ablish	Russell Banks	Louis Begley	Elizabeth Benedict
Anne Bernays	Sven Birkerts	Craig Boreth	David Bradley
Ken Burns	Colin Channer	Robert Coover	Michael Cunningham
Don DeLillo	Roddy Doyle	Louise Erdrich	Martin Espada
Jonathan Safran Foer	Richard Ford	Jonathan Galassi	Doris Kearns Goodwin
Richard Goodwin	Allan Gurganus	Jessica Hagedorn	James W. Hall
Daniel Halpern	Jennifer Haigh	Israel Horowitz	Maureen Howard
Swanee Hunt	John Irving	Justin Kaplan	Edmund Keeley
William Kennedy	Barbara Kingsolver	Chang-rae Lee	Don Lee
Margot Livesey	Norman Mailer	Terry McCoy	Mary McGuckian
Christopher Merrill	Mark Mirsky	Rick Moody	Bradford Morrow
Walter Mosley	Paul Muldoon	Toby Olsen	Jay Parini
Ann Patchett	Richard Price	Bino A. Realuyo	Salman Rushdie
Richard Russo	Joanna Scott	Patti Smith	Scott Spencer
Frederic Tuten	Bruce Weigl	Eliot Weinberger	Edmund White