

March 17, 1977

Mr. John Cheever
Cedar Lane
Ossining, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Cheever,

As Director of Special Projects at Bennington, I have been working with Nicholas Delbanco in organizing a Prose Fiction Workshop at Bennington this summer. We are most anxious to have your encouragement in our efforts, and particularly to have you join us one day in July to talk with thirty students and to enjoy Vermont in the good weather.

Nick is planning our July workshop, and will be teaching it with John Gardner. I know he would be delighted to talk with you about the idea and the methods they will be using. Each week we will have one or two guest writers, and Nick could also tell you who the others will be.

Though it is admittedly meager, we are offering \$200 to each of our guests, plus a promise of good company, comfortable housing and a chance to talk with anyone around Bennington ~~that~~ might like to see or meet. I hope that, with the leeway of choosing any date July 5 through 31, will be enough to urge you to accept.

I would like to meet you myself, as I'm an Ossining-Briarcliff person. My mother, Audrey Graham, teaches with your wife (and assured me that my letter would get as prompt a reply as a call from her might) and I'm an old cohort of John Glazer's. My growing-up Sundays were spent in All Saints' Church.

I hope you will give good consideration to our invitation, and will look forward to hearing from you shortly.

Sincerely,

Christine Graham
Director of Special Projects