



**THE POLICE COMMISSIONER  
CITY OF NEW YORK**

April 7, 2016

Mr. Terry Greiss  
Executive Director  
Irondale Ensemble Project  
85 South Oxford Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11217

Dear Mr. Greiss,

Thank you for inviting us to collaborate with Irondale on the creation of a model program that brings together officers and community members in trust-building exercises of theatrical play. This project provides participants a neutral space within which to explore controversial subjects from different vantage points, and the opportunity to step into another's shoes. The techniques honed by the police/civilian actors working together over the course of 10 weeks culminate in a community performance that raises awareness of issues surrounding police community relations. My executive staff advised me that the two performances in February received exceptionally positive feedback from the participants. Members of my staff were also deeply moved by the public performances. Such performances can play an important role in shaping public attitudes and decreasing tension within our communities.

The Department would like to continue this venture in creative community engagement and would welcome the opportunity to extend our work together once funding is secured. Please keep my office apprised of your efforts in this area. I have asked Susan Herman, Deputy Commissioner of Collaborative Policing, to serve as my point person on this project.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Bratton".

William J. Bratton  
Police Commissioner