



January 20, 1998

Ms. Ann Ballinger
Miami Valley Folk Dancers
210 Virginia Avenue
Dayton, Ohio 45410

Dear Ms. Ballinger:

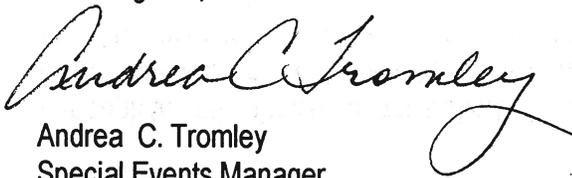
On behalf of the entire Dayton Holiday Festival Committee, I would like to thank the Miami Valley Folk Dancers for helping to make the 1997 Grande Illumination and "Fifth Third Bank Holidays Around The World" so successful! Your participation on November 28 delighted what turned out to be one of our biggest crowds ever.

Although the rain showed up for a short while, it failed to dampen the spirits of the thousands of people who came from all over the Miami Valley to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season. Since then, we have heard many positive comments about the entertainers who appeared that night. From the first "roving" entertainer to the last act on Courthouse Square, all brought delight to the faces of the children, families, and individuals who came downtown for the Grande Illumination.

As you may know, 1997 marked the 25th anniversary of this wonderful Dayton tradition. Mrs. Virginia Kettering started the Dayton Holiday Festival in 1972 so that all families, regardless of their economic means, could enjoy the holiday season. Over the years, the event has continually grown and has brought the holiday spirit to the people of the Miami Valley. Today, the month-long celebration attracts about 80,000 people between Thanksgiving weekend and the end of December.

Thank you again for your participation in one of the most beloved annual events in the Dayton area. You really helped to make the night the great success that it was. I hope we will be able to work with you again in the future!

Best Regards,


Andrea C. Tromley
Special Events Manager

