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Appropriations Committee: Conservation & Development Subcommittee

Public Hearing | Tuesday, February 11, 2020

MUSIC HAVEN

Senator Osten, Representative Walker, Senator Hartley, Representative DiMassa, Representative Horn, and esteemed members of the Appropriations Committee,

Public funding for the arts in Connecticut is very limited. Including arts organizations of Greater New Haven which could all use more funding. In particular, organizations that provide programming for inner-city, underserved youth who lack the exposure and experiences of their suburban peers. Organizations like Music Haven offer distinct and impactful programs for youth who would not have access otherwise. Music Haven provides high-quality instruction to Black and Latino students from low-income neighborhoods. With the majority of New Haven Public School students (47%) being Latino and 37% being African American enrichment programs by Music Haven and ARTE Inc. are more vital now than ever before. Music Haven and ARTE Inc. provide vital after school enrichment programs that impact the lives and development of these youth.

This year Music Haven is receiving Direct Line Item Funding of \$100,000. However, they are only receiving that allocation for the first year of the biennium and not FY21. I urge you maintain Music Haven's allocation for FY21.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. Feel free to contact me at 203-804-9175 or arteinc@comcast.net.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David S Greco", written over a light blue horizontal line.

David S Greco
Co-Founder / Director