

Elaine C. Carroll <ecarroll@NewHavenSymphony.org>

Monday,

AppTes

Subject:

Music Haven testimony

Attachments:

Appropriations Committee Conservation + Development Subcommittee - Public Hearing for Music Haven testimony (Carroll).docx; Appropriations Committee Conservation + Development Subcommittee - Public Hearing for Music Haven testimony (Carroll).pdf

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

I applaud your ongoing commitment to provide funding through the Connecticut Office of the Arts for the many worthy arts organizations in Greater New Haven. As you continue the difficult work of balancing the budget, I draw your attention to Music Haven, one of the New Haven Symphony's most valued community partners.

Last year, Music Haven secured Direct Line Item Funding of \$100,000 for one year only. It is imperative that this funding continue for FY21. Their work in providing free musical training to students from low-income neighborhoods is unparalleled. Rather than quote their truly impressive statistics [100% tuition free, 90% Black and Latinx musicians, 100% matriculation to college, and more], I will speak to Music Haven's impact on your New Haven Symphony.

New Haven Symphony is committed to building an ensemble that better reflects the community we serve. Music Haven has exemplified diversity, equity, and inclusion principles since their inception. Their faculty show incredible respect for their students; this builds not only self-esteem and conflict resolution skills but passionate, talented musicians. The young musicians who started the Music Haven program in elementary school are now matriculating at universities and auditioning for jobs. They attend our NHSO concerts and write insightful reviews of our work. We hope it is only a matter of time before you find them in the ranks of our Symphony. Without this invaluable pipeline of talent, we will be unable to succeed in our diversity, equity, and inclusion goals in the future. While not every player will enter music as a profession, the children of Music Haven today are the performing arts audience of Connecticut's future.

Music Haven receives no local public support in their \$650,000 operating budget to support these laudable goals. Every dollar the state can provide will make a transformative difference in the lives of their young musicians. Thank you for any support that you can provide our partners at Music Haven. If I may provide any further information in support of their cause, you can contact me at ECarroll@NewHavenSymphony.org or at 203-865.0831 x 12.



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Upcoming Concerts

Saturday, February 15	7:00 pm	<u>2020: Vision for the Future</u>	Gala	Omni Hotel, New Haven
Saturday, February 22	2:30 pm	<u>Beatles: Sgt. Pepper/White Album</u>	Pops	Hamden High School
Sunday, February 23	3:00 pm	<u>Beatles: Sgt. Pepper/White Album</u>	Pops	Shelton High School
Thursday, March 5	5:30 pm	<u>Symphony Supper</u>		Union League Café, New Haven
Hall	6:30 pm	<u>Prelude</u>	FREE Talk	Sudler
	7:30 pm	<u>Dvorak & Price</u>	Classics	Woolsey Hall
Saturday, March 7	3:00 pm	<u>Neighborhood Concert</u>	FREE	Stetson Library, New Haven
Saturday, March 14	10:00 am	<u>Around the World: Puerto Rico</u>	FREE Family	Davis Street School
	2:00 pm	<u>Around the World: Puerto Rico</u>	FREE Family	Davis Street School
Sunday, March 15	2:00 pm	<u>Around the World: Puerto Rico</u>	FREE Family	Shelton Intermediate School

A ticket to the Symphony Gala 2020 on February 15 is the ultimate Valentine's gift! Click [HERE](#) to learn more.