

Dear Representatives of the Appropriations Committee,

I am a resident of Woodbridge, a professor retired from Southern Connecticut State University and now teaching part-time at Yale. For years I have been an energetic supporter of Music Haven. Two of its founders, Marc Mann and Larry Harris, are long-time friends of mine. They along with others launched Music Haven in order to bring the joy of music into the lives of young people to whom it would otherwise be unknown. But the excellent programs affect these young people's lives in other ways no less important. The students develop, along with musical ability, skill in managing their time and directing it towards worthwhile ends, a sense of organization, collaboration and comradeship, accomplishment; they become fuller members of our society, better prepared for whatever life brings them. The success that Music Haven has had is simply extraordinary, and I've been able to witness some of that success with my own eyes at their concerts.

Finally, after years of mostly private funding, Music Haven made it on to the State's budget last year, and it was very grateful for the support of \$100,000. But this year, for no reason that's apparent, it's been dropped. All other arts organizations in the Greater New Haven area have retained their financial support from Connecticut. Why is Music Haven singled out for this unfair treatment? **AS A CONCERNED CITIZEN I DEMAND THAT FUNDING BE RESTORED FOR MUSIC HAVEN.** This is an important matter that requires your attention--and your action.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Solodow, Ph.D.

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