

Toni Walker  
CT House Appropriations Committee Chair  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2707  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Committee Chair Toni Walker and fellow Committee members,

It has come to my attention that the State Legislature forgot to put Music Haven's \$100,000 line item in the budget, as promised in February of last year. I am requesting that it be added back in, to support a critical program for the City of New Haven and surrounding areas.

Music Haven promotes the arts by expanding access to classical music performance to communities who have traditionally been excluded from participating. Furthermore, it provides crucial tutoring and mentoring opportunities for youth, who may work with the program throughout their entire K-12 years. It has the result of a 100% college matriculation rate for its graduates, despite overwhelmingly serving communities with much lower rates.

Please refer to this article from the previous year: <https://www.newhavenarts.org/arts-paper/articles/arts-army-rallies-to-keep-music-haven-in-state-budget>

Many thanks for your consideration,

Jeannette Penniman  
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