



18 October 2013

Dear HMA Henschel Community Awards Grant Committee,

Thank you again for the generous grant of \$5750, which was awarded to Shelter Music Boston during your 2013 grant cycle. The grant has already funded six concerts performed in June, July, and August at Pine Street Men's and Women's Inns. The grant will also fund six concerts to take place in October, November, and December at the Men's and Women's Inns.

After each concert I distribute and collect a short survey. This enables me to document responses to SMB concerts as well as to collect data that can be analyzed to assess the impact of our performances over time. I have sent, in a separate document, the survey write-ups from each of the Pine Street Inn summer concerts and I am sure you will take great pleasure in reading the comments from our audience members. My favorite from the PSI concerts this summer comes from a gentleman named Dale who has attended all of our concerts since he arrived at PSI in March. After the August concert Dale wrote, "Before the concert I was feeling just OK. I had a bit of a headache and some joint pain. After: I was pain free and rejuvenated. Classical music heals!" We perform for 35-50 shelter guests each time we visit PSI. At the Women's Inn a number of staff members are amongst our regular audience members. They consistently comment on the improvement to the shelter environment provided by the concerts; as well, they simply smile and enjoy the music, which energizes them and ultimately enables better service delivery by happy staff members.

In addition to the remarkable interaction with the shelter guests documented in the surveys, I am also thrilled to share with you the scope of the repertoire performed in the concerts. Our June-August programs presented repertoire from the 17th to 21st centuries including a number of works by living composers. I've sent, also in a separate document, a complete list of June-December repertoire for your perusal. We had our largest ensemble yet during the August concerts—this consisted of flute, marimba, viola, and two violins. Our flutist was Marissa Chaffee, the first SMB intern, who assisted with concert production and documentation all summer. As well, Marissa performed on all of the August concerts. As a result of her internship, Marissa has decided to add a minor in Entrepreneurship to her course of study at UConn Storrs, where she is majoring in Flute Performance. It was a pleasure to mentor a young person as well as to introduce her to the mission, values, and goals of SMB. I will continue to encourage young musicians to pursue the social service work of delivering concerts to environments of need. To this end, I am cultivating relationships with the Entrepreneurial Musicianship program at NEC, and the Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, as well as posting for interns at Harvard and numerous other schools in the city.

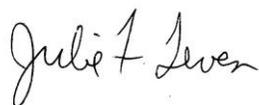
In December 2012, I was honored to be chosen by [Root Cause/Social Innovation Forum](#) to be their first-ever Classical Music Social Innovator. This has meant that in addition to producing 32 concerts in

six shelters so far this year, I have been working very hard to increase the visibility, networks, and sustainability of Shelter Music Boston via the complex Social Innovation Forum program. Here is the [link](#) to the presentation I gave to over 300 business, government, and philanthropic leaders on May 9 at the Social Innovation Forum Showcase. My presentation was the first-ever Showcase pitch to include live music!

The generous grant you have provided is listed on the SMB website, was announced in our social media outlets, and is referred to in various printed material. I've attached a copy of the insert I will be sending with our November annual appeal letter; this will reach all of our individual donors. We list the HMA grant as one of our 2013 accomplishments.

Finally, I am truly grateful to have been a 2013 Henschel Community Awards Grantee and I am certain this letter demonstrates the impact the grant has had on me as the founder, executive and artistic director of Shelter Music Boston. Most important though is the impact of the grant on the homeless shelter guests of Pine Street Inn. Each month the concerts bring the dignity, creativity, and passion of classical music to some of the most underserved citizens of Boston. The concerts inspire hope and it is an honor to change a life by playing my violin. Thank you for supporting this mission.

Regards,



Julie F. Leven
Founder ❖ Executive and Artistic Director
Shelter Music Boston