

THE OVERTON WIND ENSEMBLE

DR. REGINALD M. HOUZE, CONDUCTOR

Dear

I hope this correspondence finds you well. As a member of **The Overton Wind Ensemble** (the orchestra of 50 brasswind, woodwind, and percussion players) I am pleased to share with you the wonderful news that we have received the distinguished invitation to give a concert at America's most prestigious concert venue, **Carnegie Hall**. The special concert will be given as a part of the **Eighth Annual New York Band and Orchestra Festival**, June 16, 2010. This appearance will mark not only The Overton Wind Ensemble's Carnegie Hall debut, but will also be a first for the entire Memphis City Schools. As such, we will join the ranks of the world's finest performers.

For more than a century, Carnegie Hall has set the standard for excellence in performance. Its walls have echoed with applause for the world's outstanding classical artists, as they have for the greatest popular musicians of our time and for the many prominent dancers, politicians, authors, and crusaders who have appeared on its stage. From **Gustav Mahler** to **Liza Minnelli**, from **John Philip Sousa** to **Leopold Stokowski**, from **Fats Waller** to **Woodrow Wilson**, and from **Paul McCartney** to **Luciano Pavarotti & Leontyne Price**, Carnegie Hall has been host to them all.

With any great opportunity comes great responsibility. The travel expense to cover the cost is in the neighborhood of \$1000 for each student. That one thousand dollar mark coincides with the number of miles from Memphis to New York City. With that in mind, please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to our **One Mile – One Dollar Sponsorship Program**. The program is an easy and inexpensive way to help finance this once in a lifetime experience. Your sponsorship of one dollar, per one mile would be an incredible affirmation of this positive youth activity. In knowing that your dollar will go a long way, I ask that you consider helping me finance my travel from one city to another. When you sponsor one or more a "legs" of the journey, you will help me make my dream a reality in short order!

If you wish to make a large-scale donation in an amount greater than what is listed here, please contact The Overton Wind Ensemble at **overtonbands@gmail.com** or **901-416-2169**. Donations are tax-deductible.

Leg		# of Miles/Dollars
1.	Memphis, TN to Jackson, TN	88
2.	Jackson, TN to Nashville, TN	124
3.	Nashville, TN to Cookeville, TN	79
4.	Cookeville, TN to Knoxville, TN	100
5.	Knoxville, TN to Bristol, TN	115
6.	Bristol, TN to Roanoke, VA	146
7.	Roanoke, VA to Harrisonburg, VA	100
8.	Harrisonburg, VA to Hagerstown, MD	109
9.	Hagerstown, MD to Harrisburg, PA	73
10.	Harrisburg, PA to Carnegie Hall!!!!	66
TOTAL:		1000

Carnegie Hall has always had a national and international significance. America's great music ensembles have been a staple of Carnegie Hall programming since the hall's first decade, when both the Boston Symphony and Chicago Symphony made their first visits. With your help, The Overton Wind Ensemble and I will soon join that celebrated list of America's finest musical organizations.

With gratitude,