

January 14, 1980

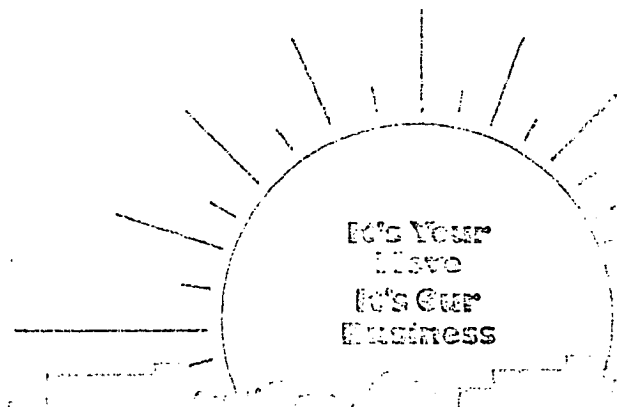
Mr. Al Ligrani
Space Center Rotary Club
Houston, Texas 77058

Dear Mr. Ligrani,

This letter is to serve as a request for your consideration to sponsor Karen McMahon for a scholarship to Meadowmount School of Music in New York. Karen is the daughter of Sewell and Ella McMahon. Sewell has worked for Monsanto as a chemist for twenty one years, and has a PhD. He and Ella have lived in this area all during that time. Ella started with us in real estate about two years ago. She worked for a year and was a dedicated salesperson, doing well in her production. A back operation was necessary for her, and the recuperation took awhile. Shortly after she was back in the office regularly, her husband, Sewell, started complaining of headaches and impaired vision. The diagnosis was a brain tumor, which turned out to be malignant. An operation was performed, however, since that time the prognosis has not been good, and now Sewell is bedridden, and the costs have been mounting steadily as there has been therapy given in Galveston involving high costs.

Karen is such a highly talented musician we feel we should try to help her in some way attend a school which can really benefit her in a career of music. We want to include in this letter Karen's background in music, which is impressive, and her qualifications for your consideration.

Karen has lived in the Clear Lake Area for all of her 19 years. She first began playing violin at Seabrook Intermediate through an experimental music (string) program there. The school honored her with the Outstanding Musician's Award. She attended Clear Lake High School, during which time she was a member of the National Honor Society for four years and a member of the TMEA Musicians All-State Organization for four years. This is an orchestra made up of selected high school students from across the State. In 1976 she was concert mistress of the Texas Youth Orchestra.



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Through various solo competitions, mostly University Inter-scholastic League, she has received 15 medals. Clear Lake High School awarded her the Musician's "Quadrangle Award". In the summer of 1977 she was an exchange student to Germany, sponsored by the Bay Area Lions. Beside her study of violin, she also enjoys studying German, piano, voice and guitar. She is a deligent dabbler in paints. She is interested in the violin as a career. Most likely she would use her talents in a leading Symphony Orchestra. She will always teach privately. She has chosen to go to Meadowmount to study because of their high standards. She knows the experience will have a far reaching effect on her college studies and her career.

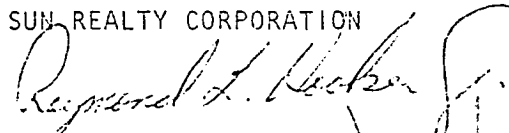
Meadowmount School of Music is located in the Adirondacks, near Westport and Elizabethtown, Essex County, New York. The admission date for the 1980 summer session is June 28, 1980. The fees involved cover an eight week period and include room, board, laundry of linens and practice clothes and eight private lessons, one hour each. The cost includes chamber music classes or supervised practice if recommended by students' teacher. The total cost is \$1270.00. No transportation costs are included in this amount.

Let me interject here that the McMahon's have sent one son to college and had it not been for this unfortunate turn of events may have been able to do so for Karen. However, the costs incurred have been prohibitive. We appreciate your consideration on behalf of Karen McMahon. It would be unfortunate to have her chances for a career in music set back by circumstances beyond her control, especially after so much hard work has been put forth and achievements made by her own efforts.

If more information is needed, we have a brochure here about the school. Please feel free to call us anytime.

Sincerely

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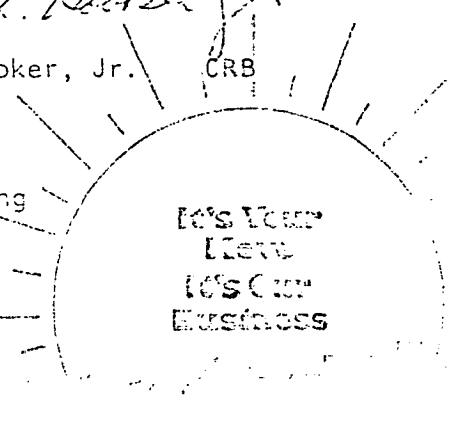


Raymond L. Hooker, Jr.

CRB

RLH,Jr.:ch

P. S. Karen would like to play for the noon meeting of the Rotary Club whenever it is convenient. She would have her own accompaniment.



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