



**Duke Ellington
School of the Arts**

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**Duke Ellington
School of the Arts
Project (DESAP)**

*DESAP is an independently
operated public school in
partnership with:
D.C. Public Schools
The George Washington University
The John F. Kennedy Center
for the Performing Arts
The Ellington Fund*

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Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. Anthony Hood, Chair
Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Hood:

I am writing in support of Georgetown University's 2010 Campus Plan. The Ellington School of the Arts is extremely fortunate to have Georgetown University as its partner. Faculty, staff and students have demonstrated their dedication to our school in many ways and have truly been an asset. The students have been exemplary in their on-going support with countless volunteer efforts they've assumed. For example, this year, among other things, students partnered with Ellington in an initiative called the Biology Thesis Program. This is an educational outreach program which pairs Georgetown senior biology students with classroom teachers throughout the academic-year, to develop and teach biology to high school students. The Georgetown students take rigorous teacher-training course-work to help prepare them for success in the classroom. Their lessons meet DC and National Standards and emphasize science literacy for real-world use.

Other efforts Georgetown students have undertaken are:

- Volunteering during DC Public Schools Beautification Days, sponsored by DC Public Schools, to do painting, picking up trash, and other exterior beautification efforts
- Participating in the Male Development Association where male students from Georgetown mentor male students at Ellington
- Assisting Georgetown staff with Girl Talk, a mentoring program dealing with gender related issues, including eating disorders and sexual harassment.

**ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia**

CASE NO.

10-32

EXHIBIT NO.

61

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Mr. Anthony Hood, Chair

Zoning Commission

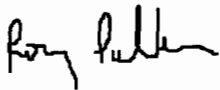
Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Georgetown faculty, staff and alumni have provided and continue to provide academic, programmatic and financial support through such efforts as:

- Contributing annually to the "Ellington Fund" fund raiser - the musical benefit concert. The concert is a major benefit and the proceeds are used to enhance the school's financial resource base and to provide academic and artistic opportunities for its students and staff.
- Contributing \$7000 to finance the replacement of the landmark Adirondack chair which was warped and damaged, and sits on the front lawn of Ellington School. In addition to financing the project, Georgetown's facilities department managed the project.
- Providing classroom space on Georgetown's campus when Ellington's dance studio flooded and uninhabitable.
- In 2001, when the threat to close Ellington school loomed because of crumbling steps at the R Street entrance, Georgetown University's president immediately dispatched staff from its facilities department to repair the steps - thus preventing the shutting of the school.
- The local Georgetown University Alumni Club painted the walls in the main stairwells and the hallways as one of their annual service projects. This was done prior to the celebration commemorating Duke Ellington's birthday celebration, an event on which a Georgetown alumnus served as co-chair.

These are just some examples of the generosity from Georgetown University to the Duke Ellington School of the Arts. I believe Ellington School, the Georgetown community, as well as the greater Washington community, benefit by having such a caring organization go beyond its gates to provide service to its neighbors. As Georgetown University prepares to submit its 2010 Campus Plan, please know that Georgetown has our support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rory Pullens". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rory" being more prominent than the last name "Pullens".

Rory Pullens
Head of School and CEO