Alan N. and Heather K. Jacobs
2230 Q Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

February 23, 2000

Government of the District of Columbia
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, N.W.
Suite 210
Washington, D.C. 20001

'00 FEB 24 P 3:54

Re: Application for Special Exception, Docket No. 16554

Dear Commissioner:

We have resided at 2230 Q Street, NW for the past 11.5 years, approximately ½ block south of the Barney Studio house. We are opposed to the request to use this residentially zoned house as a music and art school.

The application, if approved, would bring an intense overwhelming use into our historically designated neighborhood. After carefully reviewing the application, we have reached the following conclusions:

1. The property's location on Sheridan Circle will create a safety hazard for children being dropped off or picked up by auto during the evening rush hour. There are only 2 legal parking spaces in front of the Barney House and they are always occupied, therefore cars will be forced to stop or double park illegally in the outer traffic lane of the circle. We have witnessed motorists travelling south on Massachusetts Avenue into the circle failing to yield to traffic in the circle on numerous occasions. These motorists, some of whom are driving far in excess of the speed limit as they drive through the circle in the curb lane preparing to turn right on 23rd Street, would create a potentially hazardous situation for parents stopped to drop off or pick up their children.

2. The proposed application will further overwhelm the parking in our already overly congested neighborhood which is inundated with parked cars from foreign embassies and people visiting the commercial neighborhood of P Street and Dupont Circle. The Church of the Pilgrims, which is located approximately 1 block south of the property and directly behind our house has many functions which are held mostly on weekend evenings. People attending these events park illegally along Q Street and in our rear alley, not only blocking the use of our garage, but also inhibiting the ingress/egress of emergency vehicles. Coupled with the neighborhood restaurants and clubs, our neighborhood is virtually inundated with parked cars on weekend nights. The application states that there would be 64 weekend recitals with as many as 90 people attending. The application states that 9 cars can be squeezed by tandem parking in the driveway. I believe that these spaces will be used by the 9+ instructors and the owners leaving no spaces for students or guests. I cannot imagine how our adjoining neighborhood can absorb the additional cars that will result from this use.

3. There would be totally unacceptable levels of noise to the adjoining neighbors.

4. If this business use is allowed, what would prevent the owners from renting the Barney House out for

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private parties, weddings, etc. It is common knowledge that the city will issue one day liquor licenses for parties and events. Do not permit another H.H. Leonards to sneak into our neighborhood.

Please do not recommend approval of this application to permit a music and art school in our neighborhood. It simply is not compatible.

Sincerely,

Heather K. Jacobs Feb. 23, 2000

Alan & Heather Jacobs