



JACOBS SCHOOL OF MUSIC

INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Bloomington

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February 23, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this addendum to be adjoined to the previous letter of support that I wrote for Dr. Erin Brooks in spring 2019.

Between February 2020 and February 2021, Dr. Brooks not only assisted with my successful funding application for an Indiana University Presidential Arts & Humanities Conference Hosting Grant, but was also the main co-organizer and co-administrator who worked alongside me to make the virtual conference for which we were awarded funding—"Music, Sound, and Trauma: Interdisciplinary Perspectives"—the overwhelmingly successful event that it was. In the last decade investigations into the socio-cultural and psychological causes and effects of trauma have proliferated in popular media and academic scholarship, including music studies. "Music, Sound, and Trauma: Interdisciplinary Perspectives" was the first interdisciplinary conference to bring together the most prominent scholars working in and beyond music and sound studies to address the myriad ways that music and sound historically and contemporaneously not only have helped people process trauma, but also have been implicated in violent experiences that might result in trauma. Taking place February 12-14, 2021, this virtual conference featured over 100 presenters from all over the world in invited talks, roundtable conversations, lecture recitals, paper presentations, workshops, and concerts across many disciplines—from musicology, music education, and ethnomusicology, to literature studies, psychology, and theater studies. Dr. Brooks and I designed this conference to engender conversation amongst researchers, students, performers, educators, and laypeople throughout the world about how attending to trauma as a physiological, psychological, and social phenomenon might produce individual, interpersonal, and social healing.

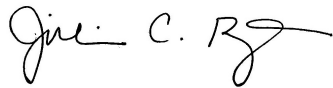
"Music, Sound, and Trauma: Interdisciplinary Perspectives" was an incredibly successful and impactful event. The subject of the conference, as well as the fact that the event was virtual and free to anyone who wanted to attend, drew more than 1100 attendees to register. This number speaks to the need for and reach of an event like this one. Dr. Brooks and I, after receiving requests from numerous participants to hold an event like this conference more regularly, are currently considering what future events might emerge from this conference. In the meantime, the research and discussions presented in this conference will form the core of an *Oxford Handbook of Music, Sound, and Trauma Studies* (co-edited by the conference's co-organizers), as well as numerous other print and digital publications, including a website devoted to resources for those in academic and non-academic contexts who wish to know more about current research on trauma, and a special issue of the *Journal of Music History Pedagogy*.

Dr. Brooks's contributions to this conference were many. In addition to helping me to plan the conference and write the grant proposal, Dr. Brooks was central to adjusting this conference to an online, virtual format. Dr. Brooks assisted me with every single step of planning this conference and bringing it to fruition. In the weeks leading up to the conference, Dr. Brooks and I engaged almost

daily in discussion and creative problem solving. I also witnessed Dr. Brooks's always kind, compassionate, supportive, enthusiastic, and encouraging collaboration with the IU musicology graduate students who helped us to make the conference a success. During the conference, Dr. Brooks was constantly on call with me to address any issues that arose, while also giving a paper, participating in two roundtables, chairing two keynote presentations, and joining me and others in presenting welcome and closing remarks for the conference. Quite frankly, this conference could not have taken place or have achieved the success that it did without Dr. Brooks's committed, inspiring collaboration.

I would be delighted to speak with you more about Dr. Brooks and her participation in "Music, Sound, and Trauma: Interdisciplinary Perspectives." Please feel free to contact me with any questions, either by telephone (812-671-2304) or via e-mail (rogersjc@indiana.edu).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill C. Rogers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jill" and last name "Rogers" clearly distinguishable.

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