

November 30, 2015

Dear Friends,

I am truly honored to have been chosen to serve as President of the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities. As a product of and lifelong advocate for public education, I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to advance the mission of this outstanding institution and join such a fine community of artists and distinguished scholars. Prior to my arrival in August, I knew of the school's national reputation for excellence in both pre-professional arts training *and* traditional academics. What I experienced during my first hundred days has not simply met those expectations but exceeded all that I had imagined.

The Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities – *a public residential high school* – is the finest of its kind in the nation. In just sixteen years, an astounding record of student and alumni achievements has been established in all areas of study. In many ways, we feel the best is yet to come as our alumni and students continue to develop their careers in the arts and humanities, as well as in sciences, technology and health professions.

Here are a few highlights of recent achievements:

- The 2015 graduating class of **105 students** earned more than **\$29 million in scholarships** from the most competitive colleges, universities, and conservatories throughout the state and nation.
- The Governor's School is rated consistently in the **top 1% of high schools in the nation** by *US News and World Report*, *Newsweek* and *The Daily Beast*.
- School-wide ACT and SAT scores are consistently ranked in the state's top 3 public high schools (outranked only by two schools that require ACT and SAT scores for admission).
- Last year, student achievements included **one National Student Poet Ambassador**, **two National YoungArts Finalists in drama**, **one National Portfolio Gold Medal in the Scholastic Arts and Writing Awards Competition**, and one student winning a **First Place Award in the International Ballet Competition's Youth American Grand Prix Semi-Finals** Contemporary Dance category.

The list of accolades is extensive and grows more impressive every day.

My personal goals for Governor's School are twofold: 1) to enhance the level of artistic and academic excellence of our students; and 2) expand the scope of our mission throughout South Carolina. Our school plays a vital role in the development of art and culture throughout the state, and I am eager to increase our efforts.

To expand the scope of our mission and continue to offer a remarkable education to our state's exceptionally talented young students, we need your financial support. Our partnership with the Governor's School for the Arts Foundation is critical to the success of our students and their experiences at the school. We rely on the Foundation to provide funding for students who need financial assistance, for special programs, equipment and facility needs, guest artist residencies, and support for our outreach efforts. **Your financial support helps set the SCGSAH apart from other public high schools and aligns us with the top arts education programs in the nation.**

I have enjoyed meeting many of you, and I am grateful for the warm welcome and good wishes received. If we have not yet met, I look forward to the opportunity so I may share our vision in more detail.

Thank you for considering our request, and my best wishes for a safe and prosperous holiday season.

Sincerely,



Cedric Adderley, D.M.A., President
South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities