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**From:** John Temple Ligon <johntemple.ligon@wifur.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2016 4:51 PM  
**To:** John Temple Ligon  
**Subject:** Take a kid to the S. C. Philharmonic

The John de la Howe School in McCormick, South Carolina, is second home to kids who had it too tough to stay at home. The high school crowd attends public schools in McCormick County, and between the tight budgets at school and on campus, they don't get taken to a whole lot of places.

As chairman of the John de la Howe Foundation I have appointed my self something of a cultural tour guide for the kids. A couple years ago we took them to Frank Lloyd Wright's Auldbrass Plantation in Beaufort County. They have toured the rare book section of USC's Cooper Library and the portraits and stacks in the South Caroliniana Library on the Horseshoe. For several years we had a pretty reliable attendance schedule at the Palmetto Opera in the Koger Center. One trip to Columbia we split the group so the girls took in window shopping in Five Points and the boys toured the military museum on the S. C. National Guard campus on Bluff Road.

On Saturday, February 4, we want to bring down about 10 or 12 high school kids from the John de la Howe School with accredited adult supervisors to have lunch at the Gourmet Shop. Then we plan to tour the S. C. Capitol grounds, Trinity Churchyard, the Columbia Museum of Art and the South Caroliniana Library.

The kids get a grocery shopping trip to the Devine Street Pig, where they pull live lobsters out of the tank.

We go to my place on Terrace Way for the lobster kill.

Then we take our seats in the Grand Tier at the Koger Center. Tickets to the South Carolina Philharmonic can be bought for the students at half-price, but even so, when the tickets are added to the Gourmet Shop lunch, museum admission and full lobster dinner fare, the tab reaches for \$1,000 for the day. The John de la Howe bus and the salaried supervisors are sunk costs, but we really have to hustle for the \$1,000.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP TAKE THE KIDS TO THE S. C. PHILHARMONIC.

Drop in at 2225 Terrace Way, 6 p.m. till 9 p.m., this Friday, December 30, and drink Prosecco and enjoy Brie on sliced baguette and other tastes. We'll have two opera singers backed with a pianist, the same group we had for the same purpose last year. We raised the money and the kids had a grand time, and they thank you very much.

Tickets to the drop-in, like last year, are \$25 per person. If you can't make it, you can mail it. Checks can be made out to the John de la Howe Foundation. Thanks.

John Temple Ligon

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