



THE SHEPHERD SCHOOL OF MUSIC

September 1, 1995

Washington University  
c/o Professor Jeffrey Kurtzman  
7605 Balson  
St. Louis, MO 63130-2150

To Whom It May Concern:

In response to Professor Jeffrey Kurtzman's inquiry, I would like to testify to what is a common practice among my musician colleagues and myself in the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University: namely, the practice of hugging a performer after a concert or recital, or hugging a colleague upon the receipt of good news--a promotion, an addition to the family, etc.

It is my observation that we musicians, by virtue of our artistic nature, are an exuberant lot. We frequently express our pleasure at a fine musical performance in this manner; or, in a collegial, familial way, at the good fortune of a colleague. I have done this hundreds of times in my twenty-two years at Rice University.

Anne Schnoebelen  
Joseph and Ida Kirkland Mullen Professor of Music  
Chair, Department of Musicology