



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

May 7, 2009

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome all those attending the Education Through Music's Eighth Annual Children's Benefit Gala.

Since its inception, this award-winning program has enriched the lives of thousands of young people by ensuring that they have access to music education. Driven by a firm belief in the power of music to broaden horizons, encourage personal development, and promote understanding, ETM strives to make music a part of every child's life. The arts and music are such a great way to inspire children, teach new skills, and make the school day something to look forward to. That's why New York City is dedicated to bringing these benefits to all New York City public school students through programs like ArtsCount, and we're grateful for groups like ETM that share our goals.

Events like tonight's enable the ETM to extend its vital work into more and more schools in need, and I applaud everyone in attendance for sharing their support. I also join in congratulating tonight's honoree, Joshua Bell—a phenomenal violinist and terrific champion of music education. In addition, I'm pleased to recognize everyone associated with Education Through Music for contributing so much to the lives of young New Yorkers. On behalf of the City of New York, please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable evening and continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael R. Bloomberg".

Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor