



BERKSHIRE CHORAL
INTERNATIONAL

Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund Grant Program
Massachusetts Cultural Council
10 St. James Avenue, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116-3803

To Whom It May Concern:

I write this in support of the grant proposal from Saint James Place for the Cultural Facilities Fund of the Massachusetts Cultural Council. I recently toured the facility in Great Barrington and was impressed with the renovation and plans. We will soon begin a long range plan for our organization and looked at the new spaces that will become available in 2016 as an opportunity for future needs.

Berkshire Choral International (BCI) was founded in 1982 as a not for profit educational institution with a unique purpose: to provide amateur singers with professional-level choral immersion experiences. During weeklong singing vacations at culturally rich US and international locations, knowledgeable amateurs study, rehearse, and perform masterpieces of choral repertoire under direction of world-class conductors. Workshops and classes with our professional staff, round out the educational experience.

Currently, our office is located in Sheffield, MA on the campus of Berkshire School. The office space, and/or the performance venue, at Saint James Place would give us an opportunity to be more centrally located and provide a greater presence to our organization in the community.

The presence of this new community resource will be a valuable addition to the arts in Southern Berkshire County. As the leader of a long-standing arts organization in this community I whole heartedly encourage the Massachusetts Cultural Council to give strong consideration to this grant proposal for Saint James Place.

Regards,

Debi Kennedy
President & CEO
Berkshire Choral International