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International Association for Jazz Education Missouri Unit

Bruce Caldwell Executive Manager Washington Music Educators Association

Dear Mr. Caldwell,

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of Scott Harris and Shhh Productions. It is my understanding that Mr. Harris would like the opportunity to provide your Music Educators Association with his recording services. Please let me explain why you should give his company, Shhh Productions, every consideration when choosing a professional recording company.

I have known Scott Harris for 23 years. During that time, Scott and I have played in many bands, orchestras, and jazz ensembles together. We co-directed a high school band program in a large St. Louis area high school, and have worked together on numerous recording contracts. I have found him to be one of the finest musicians I've ever met, which is certainly one of the many reasons why he so successfully can record and engineer concerts of any genre and age group.

When working with Shhh Productions, I've always felt like the educational value and the professional approach to the students and educators was paramount for the business and for Mr. Harris. When working a recording session, Scott would involve the students and the director, allowing them to participate in the experience. I've known him to spend many hours and even days with directors mixing a recording session to perfection. Shhh Productions and Scott Harris can and will provide this personal and professional service to your participating groups because that is the way they approach every recording session – with the utmost respect for the music and the musician.

Currently, Scott Harris records the honor groups at the Missouri Music Educators Conference, the Missouri Choral Directors Association, the Missouri Bandmasters Association, summer band and jazz camps throughout Missouri, and nearly every Missouri District Band, Choir, Orchestra, and Jazz honor group. In addition to these recordings, Shhh Productions is also called on by countless local school districts to record their concerts and produce recordings for their students. This widespread support in the Midwest for Scott Harris and Shhh Productions would not be possible if not for the consistent, professional, and outstanding product that is exhibited every year by this business.

As an executive board member for the Missouri Unit of IAJE, I have been involved with the hiring of Scott Harris for running sound systems and recording concerts sponsored by our state unit. Working with the business side of Shhh Productions has always been easy, fair, and with open lines of communication.

Based on my knowledge of Scott Harris and Shhh Productions, I wholeheartedly support his candidacy for recording concerts at your Music Educators Conference. I would be most happy to answer any other questions you might have regarding Mr. Harris and Shhh Productions.

Very Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Melsha MO-IAJE Secretary and Website Manager 12521 Big Bend Rd. Kirkwood, MO 63122 314-821-1095 (home)