Dear Friends,

It’s hard to believe that a year ago I was teaching piano in India! It has been a very full year for me personally and an extremely productive one for Winsor Music.

We had two hard-working interns this summer, Katie Hoyer and Jess Marlor, both students from Smith College. They each concentrated on a project — Katie worked with Stephen Kruse, our managing director, to create a new website. I think they did a wonderful job! Check it out and see what you think: winsormusic.org. Jess set up our 30-day Kickstarter campaign to fund concerts at the Mather School in Dorchester. I’m thrilled that we raised over 175% of our goal! Eighty-three generous backers made it possible for us to present six concerts for the next two years. I feel strongly that teaching young people music is one of the most important things we do — we want to show youngsters that music can be fun and that it can bring joy into their lives. We’re grateful to all of our Kickstarter backers, and look forward to having a good time with the kids at the Mather School on November 19th.

“Music inspires creativity, action, commitment, and passion, and it transform lives.” — Jess Marlor

For the second year in a row, I’m very happy to report that we raised $8,000 for Winsor Music summer scholarships. As a result we were able to help eight students go to summer music programs. Most of them were from Project STEP, a string training program for young black and Latino string players (projectstep.org). Our goal for next summer is to be able to have an impact on even more students’ lives by raising $10,000.

“My summer at Encore Coda was extremely unbelievable! My lessons with Rhea were very helpful and I performed the first movement of the Saint-Saens Violin Concerto No.3. My second camp, the New England Chamber Music Festival, was EVEN BETTER!! I was in a chamber group with someone who is now my best friend! I love the viola that was given to Njeri and me by Winsor! I love its deep core sound, and I had an AMAZING time playing it this summer! Thank you SO much for allowing me to go to these camps!” — Njioma Grevious

Winsor Music Chamber Series programs are now for the most part Young Artist Concerts. In September, we featured Tony Rymer, whom I have known and worked with for 10 years. It has been very exciting to follow the path of this talented young cellist, and I am very proud of all that Tony has accomplished. He graduated from New England Conservatory last spring and is now pursuing a career as a soloist and chamber musician.

“Over the past 10 years that I’ve played with Winsor Music, I have grown not only as a cellist but also as a conscientious musician. Playing with Winsor’s wonderful musicians has taught me a lot about music, but also about the value of performing for others.” — Tony Rymer
Our concert on November 30th will feature Yuki Beppu in a trio sonata by J. S. Bach. Yuki was born in Japan in 1997 and started playing the violin at the age of 4. She has been a student at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School since 2003, has won numerous prizes, and was featured on the PBS radio program “From the Top.” Yuki also performed for President Obama and Governor Patrick in 2010. This will be the third time she has played on the Winsor Music Chamber Series.

Our November concert will also feature the Boston premiere of John Harbison’s *Crossroads* for soprano, oboe and strings with a text by Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and Cambridge resident Louise Glück. *Crossroads* is the product of a Winsor Music consortium, a group of sixteen ensembles that jointly commissioned the piece; each ensemble will give a local premiere. So far this year three performances of *Crossroads* have taken place. I performed the world premiere this summer with SummerFest in La Jolla, and since then it has been presented by Serenata in Santa Fe and by the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra in an orchestral version. John is one of the leading American composers of his time, and *Crossroads* is a fantastic piece, not to be missed!

“Winsor Music, well known for its choice programs and eloquent performances, has been the spearhead for the consortium which made possible the creation of “Crossroads,” my third collaboration with Louis Glück. The piece is being performed across the country, with the performers exchanging information, and audiences hearing the piece in a variety of interpretations. This administratively complex arrangement benefits all, artists, presenters, and listeners.” — John Harbison

Leaving my “comfort zone” and taking on some new challenges this past year, I had some wonderful adventures and learned an important life lesson. I spent almost two months in India, for the most part teaching in a hallway next to the girls’ bathroom at the Taktse International School. It took me two weeks to get an electric piano up and running in a city plagued with power outages and lousy batteries. In the spring I visited Nepal for a month and went on a trek in the Himalayas where we handed out fleece jackets to many wonderful Nepalese people who live on next to nothing. In June I fell off of a stool while trying to put up new window shades and ended up spending the summer on crutches. Together these experiences taught me something very important: the message I have been getting is — don’t take anything for granted!

Sometimes I’m sure that I am the luckiest person in the world to be able to bring music into people’s lives, young or old. And I am so fortunate to have you supporting that effort. Thank you so much for your generosity, past and future! Without your support it would not be possible.

Gratefully yours,

Peggy Pearson

**SAVE THE DATES**

Saturday, November 30, 2013 at 8:00 pm
Pre-concert talk by John Harbison at 7:00 pm
Follen Community Church, Lexington

Thanksgiving Young Artist Concert

Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 pm
Home of Nelson Gore, Cambridge

Annual Party and Concert

Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 7:30 pm
Emmanuel Church, Boston

Bach Institute Final Performance

Saturday, April 12 at 8:00 pm
St. Paul’s Church, Brookline

Andy Waggoner Premiere