

PALAMA SETTLEMENT SCHOOL OF MUSIC

810 N. Vineyard Street — P. O. Box 39 — Phone 8545

HONOLULU 10, HAWAII

September 29, 1948

Dorothy Chun

~~FRANK KNIGHT DALE~~

Director

Dear Friend,

A Settlement Music School functions for the purpose of giving music lessons at a rate low enough to make them accessible to many. Because the School has just begun its third year it is not possible to give lessons at rates too much below that of the standard ones. We are part of the Palama Settlement, a social agency which is supported financially by the Honolulu Community Chest. Because the Chest has difficulty every year in reaching its goal, our budget is a rather small one. We are forced to be almost self-supporting.

Our enrollment is over seventy students. Out of the seventy-odd pupils about twenty are adults. The age of our students ranges from six and a half to that of a high-school senior. Because our program is geared to the after-school hours, our teachers can teach only fifteen to twenty hours a week. There are two teachers in addition to the director who teaches almost as many hours. We have an instructor of dance who comes for an hour twice a week. We have a part-time secretary and a part-time janitor. Once a week we have a volunteer layman who conducts our informal listening sessions for a period of three weeks each.

There are ten different classes meeting each week. Six of these meet twice a week and the rest just once. Six of these are day theory classes for the school children. There are two adult theory classes, one of voice pupils and one for piano and organ pupils. These adult classes meet one evening a week. There is offered free to music school students two classes in appreciation, in which is given appreciation in singing, listening, and some music history. In the past year students were required to take only two hours of classes a week. In these two hours we had to cover both appreciation and theory. This year the program is planned so that two hours are required for theory alone, and the appreciation class is an elective. For the adults and people of the community an informal listening session is offered free. Music played during these two hours is chosen by those who come to listen. It is hoped that out of these sessions round-table discussion groups can be formed in which members can exchange ideas freely and informally. In addition to our music classes a class in Modern Dance Interpretation of Music is offered twice a week.

Private lessons in both voice and piano are offered. In the two years past only piano was offered. It is hoped that private lessons in all fields of music will be offered when demanded.