

December 20, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

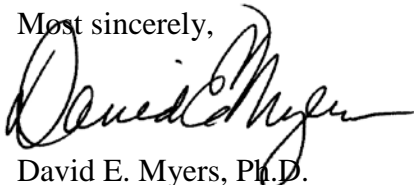
I am writing to attest to the artistic quality and culturally-unique nature of the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts (TIPA). TIPA will come to Minnesota in 2011 to present many performances of KIPO! which is best described as a "circus of spirit, song and dance from the Land of Snow." The production and performances are being orchestrated by an extraordinary non-profit organization called TigerLion Arts.

In my many years of experience as a professor and academic leader in the field of music, I have worked with a wide range professional musicians, performers, and educators. I have published, presented, and consulted widely, including work with the National Association of Schools of Music, the National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts, Opera America, the Music Educators National Conference, the College Music Society and the International Society for Music Education, lending me a broad perspective in the field of music performance and education. I have had the privilege to lead the University of Minnesota's School of Music for two years.

My team and I are both excited and honored to welcome His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama to the University's Twin Cities campus in May 2011. This rich cultural and spiritual experience, officially hosted by the University of Minnesota's Center for Spirituality & Healing and the Tibetan Foundation of Minnesota, will orient our students, faculty and broader community audiences to the extraordinary talents of the world's most renowned Tibetan musicians and dancers. KIPO! promises to be a rich celebration of traditional Tibetan music and dance, and the community-based workshops will facilitate cross-cultural experiences and greater understanding among participants. I look forward to working with all the organizations involved in the inspiring endeavor.

At the University's School of Music, we value diverse, culturally-distinctive art forms. We encourage educational opportunities of the highest quality for our constituencies, and we anticipate that this unique learning opportunity will be of enormous benefit to all. Please do not hesitate to contact me with additional questions or supporting information. .

Most sincerely,



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Professor and Director
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