

February 5, 2002

Dear Mr. And Mrs. Cappelluti,

My name is Ashley Phillips and I am a clarinet player at Wake Forest University. I have just received word that I have been honored to receive the Christian Cappelluti Prize in Music. Thank you so very much for providing for such a wonderful honor.

I would like to tell you all a little bit about myself. I am a junior, chemistry major here at Wake Forest and I hope to attend vet school after I graduate. I am not minoring in music or anything, but am very involved with music here and am a Presidential Scholar in music. I am the principal clarinet player in Wind Ensemble and Orchestra. I also started a clarinet quartet my freshman year and have been playing in that ever since. This year I began playing in a woodwind quintet. All these activities keep me quite busy, but I think it is all worth it because I love playing and making music. I think it is a nice, relaxing break from all the studying.

This past fall I saw a flyer on the walls of the music department about auditions for the National Wind Ensemble. In high school I always enjoyed participating in the All-State and All-County bands because it was a fun thing to do and the music challenged me. I was really excited to see this flyer because I had never found or heard of anything like that for college students. I decided to go ahead and give it a shot and make the CD to send in to the committee. I received a phone call a few weeks later notifying me of my acceptance. I was ecstatic! The National Wind Ensemble is held at the end of the semester for about 6 days in May. We have to find a way to New York City (where I have never been before) and we will have rehearsals everyday and end with a concert in Carnegie Hall! I knew that it was expensive when I decided to audition, and decided that if I was meant to go to New York, and if I made it, that the money for this would come to me somehow. This scholarship will help me pay for my trip to New York City and have the experience of playing with amazing high school and college musicians across the country and perform in Carnegie Hall. I can't thank you enough for helping me get there. These means a great deal to me and I feel very honored to receive this prize.

Sincerely,

*Ashley Phillips*

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