

26 January 2002

Mr. and Mrs. Cappelluti:

I am writing to express my gratitude to you for generously endowing the Christian Cappelluti Prize at Wake Forest University; this past week, I was excited to learn that I was selected to receive this award. I am a sophomore music major, and this award will certainly aid me in my studies; I am currently considering various summer opportunities toward which the funds could be applied.

Growing up in a small city in West Virginia, I began studying piano at the age of five. Around age thirteen, however, my attention turned to guitar. My involvement as a saxophonist in the school wind ensemble also heightened my interest in music, and by the time I reached tenth grade, my decision to study music in college was made. My senior year of high school, I had a great experience as the drum major of the marching band, which gave me a passion for conducting. I also began some attempts at composition during high school. Currently, I am studying the classical guitar with Ms. Pat Dixon and composition with Dr. Dan Locklair; I find each to be very rewarding. My first major solo performance at the university will be on March 5, when I play the first movement of Antonio Vivaldi's Concerto in D for guitar and string orchestra. My future studies and my career certainly lie in music, but I am yet uncertain as to which area I will pursue.

This semester, I am fortunate to be taking classes in only my two favorite disciplines: music and Italian. I began studying Italian last year, and my love for the language has continued to grow. In fact, I am planning to travel to Venice with Wake Forest's study abroad program next spring. While there, I hope to continue my study of music by taking a course at the conservatory of music.

Again, thank you for your generosity; I will treat my responsibility as a recipient of this award with the utmost respect.

Sincerely,



Andrew S. Estel