

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



RUSS K. SAITO
Comptroller
BARBARA A. ANNIS
Deputy Comptroller

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119**

WRITTEN COMMENTS
OF
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TAXATION
ON
March 13, 2008
H.B. 3243, H.D. 2

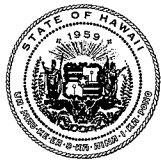
**MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE HONOLULU SYMPHONY AND ITS
PROGRAMS**

Chair Fukunaga and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to comment on H.B. 3243, H.D. 2.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) defers to the Legislature's assessment as to the need to assist the Honolulu Symphony with financial support. However, DAGS would oppose this bill if appropriations for it take away from projects in the Administration's budget submittal.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

THE
STATE
FOUNDATION
ON
CULTURE
AND
THE ARTS



LINDA LINGLE
Governor

RUSS K. SAITO
Comptroller

LORI V. THOMAS
Chairperson

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SANDRA ALBANO
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PETER ROSEGG
GEORJA SKINNER

RONALD K. YAMAKAWA
Executive Director

TESTIMONY
OF

MAR 12 2008

STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND TAXATION

March 13, 2008

H.B. 3243 HD 2

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE HONOLULU
SYMPHONY AND ITS PROGRAMS

Chair Fukunaga and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H. B. 3243 HD2.

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), as Hawaii's state arts agency, encourages and supports programming in arts and culture, history and the humanities, as central to the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. The SFCA supported both Acts 97 and 156, which appropriated \$4 million to the State of Hawaii Endowment Fund, in support of the Honolulu Symphony. We are pleased to verify that the transfer of the \$4 million to the Endowment took place on Friday, February 29, 2008.

We understand the challenges that arise when administering as complex an operation as the Honolulu Symphony and we stand by the quality of artistry and performances that the Symphony continues to provide. While the SFCA is not in a position to request additional funds for either itself or its constituents, we wholeheartedly support the fine musical tradition that the Honolulu Symphony has established in Hawaii and the need to keep it flourishing.

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TT: (808) 586-0740
E-mail: sfca@sfca.state.hi.us
Web Page: www.hawaii.gov/sfca

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

testimony

From: maurice kaya [mauricekaya@mac.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2008 7:01 PM
To: testimony
Subject: Testimony in Support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR1008-08)

Testimony in Support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR1008-08)
Submitted by: Shelley Kaya, Board Member, Honolulu Symphony Associates
for a hearing by the
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation
Hawaii State Capitol
Thursday, March 13, 2008
1:40 p.m. – Room 224

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Espero, and members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation, I am pleased to provide this testimony in support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2, making an appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its programs.

Funds in the amount of \$810,000 need to be appropriated for fiscal year 2008-2009 to meet the shortfall in funding for the operations of the Honolulu Symphony and its programs. The bill needs to be amended with this specific amount and with this specific timing.

Last year's \$4 million appropriation (Act 156) is for a symphony endowment fund and cannot be released for that purpose until matching endowment donations are received by private parties. Only the interest on that \$4 million endowment fund can be used for operations such as wages and expenses.

If the symphony receives a nominal 5% per year interest on this \$4 million, and if matching funds were obtained and pledged today, they would receive \$200,000 a year from now. That is not enough to make up the current shortfall created in part by being displaced by the Lion King.

How long can our musicians and their families continue to live in Hawaii? \$810,000 is needed NOW to pay the musicians and staff, who have not been paid on time since December and are several weeks behind in pay.

Hawaii cannot afford to lose its world-class symphony. Our musicians provide us with artistic excellence and are mentors and teachers to our children. I strongly urge you to pass HB3243 H.D.2, with \$810,000 in fiscal year 2008-2009 specifically stated.

testimony

From: kadoyama@gmail.com on behalf of Keith Kadoyama [keith@honolulusymphony.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 4:50 PM
To: testimony
Subject: Testimony for EDT, 3/13/08 @ 1:40 p.m.

Submitted for Thomas J. Gulick, Executive Director

Thomas J. Gulick, Executive Director, Honolulu Symphony
To the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Hearing date: Thursday, March 13, 2008

In Support of HB 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR 1008-08), Making an Appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its Programs

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Espero, and members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation, I would like to submit this testimony in support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2, making a State appropriation to meet the shortfall in operational funding for the Honolulu Symphony and its programs.

Many of you have heard the recent press regarding the financial plight of the Honolulu Symphony. The past several months have been extremely trying for the organization. Our musicians have played despite not knowing when their next paycheck will come, and our administrative staff has made the same sacrifice to ensure the continuation of this organization.

We thank the State for recognizing the importance of a professional symphony orchestra in Hawaii and for its wish to support this cultural and educational asset. Through Act 156, this legislative body, has made provisions for an increase in the long term funding and support off the Honolulu Symphony through an increase in its permanent endowment. The distinction between the provisions of Act 156 and the current request in HB 3243 HD2 must not be confused.

In clarification of the relationships that exist, the Honolulu Symphony Society is the administrative entity that is tasked with the daily operations of the organization. The Honolulu Symphony Foundation is a separate entity charged with the maintenance and administration of funds for the perpetuation of a professional symphony orchestra in Hawaii.

Act 156 allows for a transfer of up to \$4 million to the Symphony Endowment Fund, managed by the Honolulu Symphony Foundation. The funding must be matched on a 1-to1 basis and only the interest gained may be utilized for operational needs. Interest income through Act 156 is estimated to generate approximately \$200,000 a year which may be transferred to the Honolulu Symphony Society for its operations, however, this revenue would not be realized until a year after funds have been placed in endowment. Additionally, even if these funds were available immediately, they would be insufficient to meet the current operational shortfall of the Honolulu Symphony Society.

The original submission of HB 3243 sought a direct appropriation of \$810,000 to the Honolulu Symphony Society's operations in support musician's salary and ongoing programming. This bill specifically addresses a critical shortfall in revenues and requests immediate operational support to sustain the organization and its many educational programs, such as our upcoming community outreach

concert in Laie.

This free concert will be presented the evening of March 12, 2008 in conjunction with the BYUH Concert Choir, Hawai'i Youth Opera Chorus, the Kahuku High School Choirs, and the Ko'olauloa Children's Chorus and is to be held at the BYU Hawai'i Cannon Activities Center. Through this concert, we hope to engage a new community and to share our special gift with families from the Winward Coast who may not normally have the opportunity to experience a live symphony performance.

As executive director, these are the times we hope to never face. Through this difficulty, however, I have seen what this orchestra and the Honolulu Symphony mean to our community. In December, our community stepped forward to show their support. Through an incredible outpouring of aloha the Honolulu Symphony raised over half a million dollars in just over three weeks. Over 1,000 individuals from across our state, the mainland, and as far away as Singapore made a commitment to the see the continuation of the oldest orchestra west of the Rocky Mountains. These funds allowed the organization to meet its immediate payroll and critical operational needs, however, the Honolulu Symphony still faces a significant operational shortfall which threatens its existence.

The Honolulu Symphony is a cultural and educational asset which is in serious financial jeopardy at this time. The operational funding requested is critical to the continuation of the Honolulu Symphony, and we request the support of this committee for HB 3243 H.D.2.

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"If it's good enough to call, then it's good enough to raise"

testimony

From: J Darigo [jdarigo@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 12:08 PM
To: testimony
Cc: Keith Kadoyama; Norm Foster
Subject: Legislative Update and Testimony Request: HB 3243

This testimony is being submitted for EDT 3/13/08 at 1:40 p.m.

Testimony in Support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR1008-08)

Submitted by: Jane Darigo, Registered Nurse Straub Clinic & Hospital, LCDR Nurse Corps Officer
Navy Reserves, volunteer cellist Army Community Theater Fort Shafter
for a hearing by the
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation
Hawaii State Capitol
Thursday, March 13, 2008
1:40 p.m. – Room 224

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Espero, and members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation, I am pleased to provide this testimony in support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2, making an appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its programs.

From Hawaiian 'oli to high school marching bands to the classical and popular compositions performed by the Orchestra, music is human expression at the highest level that communicates across the generations, cultures and geographic locations. For over a century, our Symphony has been recognized for its diverse musical entertainment offerings, including MasterWorks, Pops concerts, and youth education and outreach performances. Its mission is to "enhance the quality of life of the people of Hawai'i by sustaining a symphony orchestra of the highest artistic quality, and to serve as a community leader for musical activities that include concerts, operas, ballet and educational programs".

The members of our Orchestra form the cornerstone of the performing arts in this community, ensuring the availability of highly trained professional musicians to the Hawai'i Opera Theatre, Ballet Hawai'i, Chamber Music Hawai'i, the Maui Pops, and for numerous touring artists year-round.

Equally as important, these musicians serve as the backbone of music education in our State. According to the Hawai'i Music Educators Association, less than 50% of public elementary schools in the state have an active music program. Most classroom teachers have little training, few resources, and no time to offer a music curriculum to their students. Budget constraints often prevent Hawaii's schools from providing students with any meaningful exposure to music education. The Honolulu Symphony fills this need through Education and Community Outreach programs that introduce young people to symphonic music and promote a life-long love of music and music-making.

The Honolulu Symphony impacts every facet of life within our community. It enhances the reputation of our state nationally and internationally, adds to the cultural diversity of our State, and positively affects the local economy. The legislation before you speaks of the importance of this organization to the State, and reaffirms the many benefits our outstanding orchestra continues to contribute to local communities. We must not lose this powerful and invaluable resource for human development in our

State.

testimony

From: Don Immel [contact@donimmel.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 12:54 PM
To: testimony
Cc: kadoyama@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony in Support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR1008-08)

Testimony in Support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR1008-08)

Don Immel, and Erin Kaser Immel (daughter of Tom Kaser, former staff writer for the Honolulu Advertiser)
 Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation
 Hawaii State Capitol
 Thursday, March 13, 2008
 1:40 p.m. – Room 224

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Espero, and members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation, I am pleased to provide this testimony in support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2, making an appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its programs.

Erin and I wish to emphatically request that the Senate Committee support this important cause! Erin grew up listening to the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra, and I was fortunate to perform a season as Principal Trombonist of the orchestra a few years ago. I had to leave Honolulu for a performance job in Denmark due to the need to have a stable income for my family. The HSO have changed SO MUCH for the better in just a few short years! Due to wonderful, important changes in the orchestra's management, the entire organization has pulled together and is focused on success! This is the time to help the HSO over an important hurdle. HSO has strong leadership, great musicians, a wonderful new artistic director... NOW is the time to support the arts. NOW is THE time for government to step up and support meaningful art and culture for the citizens of Hawai'i. This is a fantastic orchestra. Beyond that, the HSO provides enormous economic activity in Honolulu!

Erin and I would love very much to come back and live, pay local taxes to, and support the local economy in the place of her birth. We wish we had this option! For now, we are in Denmark as I perform with a 52-week, full-time orchestra. My orchestra here receives 95% of its operating expenses from the government! In Hawai'i, it must - of course - be more of a balanced approach to supporting large arts organizations; including funds from private donors and corporations as well as government. But the government MUST lead the way in making important decisions about quality of life, culture, art (etc.)! Please lead. Please support the arts on the LOCAL level.

From Hawaiian 'oli to high school marching bands to the classical and popular compositions performed by the Orchestra, music is human expression at the highest level that communicates across the generations, cultures and geographic locations. For over a century, our Symphony has been recognized for its diverse musical entertainment offerings, including MasterWorks, Pops concerts, and youth education and outreach performances. Its mission is to "enhance the quality of life of the people of Hawai'i by sustaining a symphony orchestra of the highest artistic quality, and to serve as a community leader for musical activities that include concerts, operas, ballet and educational programs".

The members of our Orchestra form the cornerstone of the performing arts in this community, ensuring the availability of highly trained professional musicians to the Hawai'i Opera Theatre, Ballet Hawai'i, Chamber Music Hawai'i, the Maui Pops, and for numerous touring artists year-round.

Equally as important, these musicians serve as the backbone of music education in our State. According to the Hawai'i Music Educators Association, less than 50% of public elementary schools in the state have an active music program. Most classroom teachers have little training, few resources, and no time to offer a music curriculum to their students. Budget constraints often prevent Hawaii's schools from providing students with any meaningful exposure to music education. The Honolulu Symphony fills this need through Education and Community Outreach programs that introduce young people to symphonic music and promote a life-long love of music and music-making.

The Honolulu Symphony impacts every facet of life within the Honolulu and wider island(s) community. It enhances the reputation of our state nationally and internationally, adds to the cultural diversity of our State, and positively affects the local economy. The legislation before you speaks of the importance of this organization to the State, and reaffirms the many benefits our outstanding orchestra continues to contribute to local communities. We must not lose this powerful and invaluable resource for human development in our State.

Thank you for your shared concern for the HSO.

Sincerely,

Don Immel and Erin Kaser Immel

Jackie Mahi Erickson
1315 Kaweloka St.
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

For hearing: **Thursday, March 13, 2008. @ 1:40pm.**
Room 224

To: **Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation**
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

Subject: **In Support of HB3243, HD2 (HSCR1008-08),**
Making an Appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its
Programs

Chairman Fukunaga, Vice Chairman Espero, and Honorable Committee
Members,

My name is Jackie Mahi Erickson. I am in favor of HB 3243, HD2 and ask for your support of this important bill which would appropriate funds to meet the shortfall in funding for the operations of the Honolulu Symphony and its programs.

Section 1 of this Bill explains the importance of the Honolulu Symphony to Hawaii and the need for State support.

Throughout the USA and all over the world we see that diversity of culture and arts, including music, are important indicia of a community's soul and quality of life. Our Symphony has been recognized for its diverse musical offerings, including MasterWorks, Pops concerts, and youth education and outreach performances. The members of our Orchestra form the cornerstone of the performing arts in this community, ensuring the availability of highly trained professional musicians to the Hawai'i Opera Theatre, Ballet Hawai'i, Chamber Music Hawai'i, Pacific International Chamber Association, the Maui Pops, and for numerous touring artists year-round.

Without the Symphony, these musicians who serve as the backbone of music education in our State, would likely seek employment elsewhere. According to the Hawai'i Music Educators Association, less than 50% of public elementary schools in the state have an active music program. Most classroom teachers have little training, few resources, and no time to offer a music

curriculum to their students. Budget constraints often prevent Hawaii's schools from providing students with any meaningful exposure to music education. The Honolulu Symphony and its musicians fill this need through Education and Community Outreach programs that introduce young people to symphonic music and promote a life-long love of music and music-making.

Internationally, nationally and locally, Hawaii's diverse cultural stature has grown and, in spite of difficult economic situations which resulted in the Symphony musicians and staff suffering pay cuts, the ever improving musical reputation of Honolulu Symphony continues upwards.

During the 2006 and 2007 Hawaii Legislative Sessions the House and Senate acknowledged the desirability and the difficulties a community our size has to provide quality classical music to Hawaii's public and to educate our children to the wonders and beauty of such music. Hence, in 2007, the legislature appropriated \$4m in support of the Symphony. In 2007, the Symphony was fortunate to have renowned Maestro Adreas Delfs agree to join the Symphony as its Conductor, to lead its musicians, to bring his experiences and to share his vision so Hawaii can further enhance the enjoyment and quality of classical music in Hawaii. It was a terrible disappointment when the legislative appropriations pursuant to Act 97 were not available to the Symphony in 2007, and, at the same time the Symphony's concert revenues and donations weren't enough to make up for losses resulting from months of performances at smaller and less desirable substitute music halls instead of the NBC concert hall.

HB 3243, HD2, is very important to the education of our youth and to the musical needs of our community.

I ask for your support of this bill.
Mahalo.

Jackie Mahi Erickson

Mari Yoshihara
Associate Professor of American Studies
University of Hawai'i at Manoa

To the Committee on Economic Development and Taxation
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Hearing Date: **Wednesday, Thursday, March 13, 2008 at 1:40pm**

[I will not be able to attend the hearing in person; therefore I am submitting this testimony in writing.]

In Support of HB3243, Making an Appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its Programs

My name is Mari Yoshihara. I am an associate professor in the Department of American Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, specializing in the history of American culture and the arts. I am the author of the book, *Musicians from a Different Shore: Asians and Asian Americans in Classical Music*, recently published by Temple University Press. I submit this testimony in support of HB3243 which would appropriate \$810,000 for fiscal year 2007-08 to support the Honolulu Symphony and its programs.

The Honolulu Symphony is facing a severe financial crisis, and the musicians have gone without regular pay since December. Despite this situation, this season the symphony has given some of the best performances in recent years. The new conductor Andreas Delfs's artistic leadership is clearly infusing the musicians with renewed energy. Their energetic performance with the Hawai'i Opera Theatre last month has exemplified the musicians' dedication to world-class performance.

As a longtime supporter of the Symphony, I know that the orchestra's financial difficulty is nothing new. For many years the Symphony's finances have suffered seriously, culminating in the 20% cut in the musicians' already modest salary in 2003 which has only been restored this season. As a scholar who has studied the history and economy of classical music in America, I also know that such a situation is not unique to the Honolulu Symphony. The structural issues facing the Symphony—e.g., the cuts in public funding for the arts, the rising cost of performances, the aging and shrinking audience for classical music—are shared by orchestras everywhere in the United States.

But the Honolulu Symphony also plays unique roles in our community that distinguish it from the nation's other orchestras. Although some people may feel that the Symphony represents a form of elite high culture and that going to a symphony concert is an unaffordable luxury, these perceptions are mostly false. The Honolulu Symphony indeed serves as a key node of Hawai'i's cultural life, its work extending far beyond classical music.

Its Masterworks Series features both classical European masterpieces and the innovative works of living composers from various backgrounds—Tan Dun, whose music bridges the East and the West; young composer Kenji Bunch, who merges his classical training with his versatility in pop, rock, and bluegrass, for instance—and performs them at the highest professional level. It brings world's best soloists—ranging from conductor Seiji Ozawa and soprano Renée Fleming to pianist Jon Nakamatsu and violinists Midori and Sarah Chang. The Pops Concerts bring superstars of diverse genres—Dianne Reeves, Diana Krall, Pat Benatar, Kenny G, to name a few—who would not come to the islands if it were not for the Symphony. In the Pops concerts, the Symphony also collaborates with local Hawai'i musicians—such as Keali'i Reichel, the Brothers Cazimero, Jake Shimabukuro, and Amy Hanaiali'i Gilliom—and merge the traditions of orchestral music with Hawai'i's unique musical cultures.

The Symphony works hard to make these performances available to the general public. The full-priced tickets for its regular concerts start at a mere fourteen dollars, with discounts available to students, seniors, and military personnel. The Symphony gives free concerts in the parks, educational concerts in public schools, and performances in the neighbor islands. The Symphony also provides the music for the performances of Hawaii Opera Theatre and Ballet Hawaii every year. The Symphony musicians play a major role in music education across the state, both through private lessons and school programs from elementary to university levels. In other words, the Honolulu Symphony is the centerpiece of the performing arts, musical life, and arts education in the state. It is rare to see an institution that brings such diverse cultures together as the Honolulu Symphony does.

Yet for me, the islands' rich cultural and artistic life is not just about being able to attend these wonderful performances. It is about knowing that there are many musicians in town who are every day striving for the highest level of artistic achievement. The exciting and moving moments of the concerts are made possible only through the many solitary and frustrating hours of daily practice and rehearsals that the musicians dedicate themselves to. Yet the financial difficulty makes it impossible to sustain such a commitment. Already some of the symphony musicians are having to take on a second or third job in order to pay the bills, cutting into the time and effort they can devote to music and thus impoverishing the cultural life for all of us on the islands.

It is important for Hawai'i to support the Symphony, not because the music the Symphony performs is any more important than any other cultural form that exist in Hawai'i, but because the Symphony is one of the centerpieces of the rich and diverse cultural life of the islands. By letting the Symphony not only survive but also flourish, we also sustain and enrich the arts and cultures of Hawai'i as a whole. Please pass this bill so that the musicians can continue the priceless work they have done for many years. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mari Yoshihara

testimony

From: Agnes M. Niyekawa [agnesmn@hawaiiintel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2008 11:38 PM
To: testimony
Subject: RE: HB 3243
Attachments: Symphony by D. Swift

Testimony in Support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR1008-08)

Submitted by: Agnes M. Niyekawa, Prof. Emeritus, UHM
for a hearing by the
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation
Hawaii State Capitol
Thursday, March 13, 2008
1:40 p.m. – Room 224

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Espero, and members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation, I am pleased to provide this testimony in support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2, making an appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its programs.

From Hawaiian 'oli to high school marching bands to the classical and popular compositions performed by the Orchestra, music is human expression at the highest level that communicates across the generations, cultures and geographic locations. For over a century, our Symphony has been recognized for its diverse musical entertainment offerings, including MasterWorks, Pops concerts, and youth education and outreach performances. Its mission is to "enhance the quality of life of the people of Hawai'i by sustaining a symphony orchestra of the highest artistic quality, and to serve as a community leader for musical activities that include concerts, operas, ballet and educational programs".

The members of our Orchestra form the cornerstone of the performing arts in this community, ensuring the availability of highly trained professional musicians to the Hawai'i Opera Theatre, Ballet Hawai'i, Chamber Music Hawai'i, the Maui Pops, and for numerous touring artists year-round.

Equally as important, these musicians serve as the backbone of music education in our State. According to the Hawai'i Music Educators Association, less than 50% of public elementary schools in the state have an active music program. Most classroom teachers have little training, few resources, and no time to offer a music curriculum to their students. Budget constraints often prevent Hawaii's schools from providing students with any meaningful exposure to music education. The Honolulu Symphony fills this need through Education and Community Outreach programs that introduce young people to symphonic music and promote a life-long love of music and music-making.

I strongly believe that Hawaii should become the Pacific Center of Music just as being the Pacific Center of Medicine. We should attract Japanese tourists to attend Honolulu Symphony concerts, just as they attend the New Year concerts in Vienna. There are always a large number of Japanese in the audience. Please note the attachment, an article by Prof. David Swift of UHM, which appeared in the Stra-Bulletin on Sunday.

The Honolulu Symphony impacts every facet of life within our community. It enhances the reputation of our state nationally and internationally, adds to the cultural diversity of our State, and positively affects the local economy. The legislation before you speaks of the importance of this organization to the State, and reaffirms the many benefits our outstanding orchestra continues to contribute to local communities. We must not lose this powerful and invaluable resource for human development in our State.

testimony

From: Peter Coraggio [profondo@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 3:39 PM
To: testimony
Subject: Legislative Update and Testimony Request: HB 3243

To Whom:

This testimony is being submitted for EDT 3/13/08 at 1:40 p.m.

Testimony in Support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR1008-08)

Submitted by:

Peter Coraggio, Professor Emeritus, Music Department, University of Hawaii at Manoa

for a hearing by the

Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation

Hawaii State Capitol

Thursday, March 13, 2008

1:40 p.m. - Room 224

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Espero, and members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation, I am pleased to provide this testimony in support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2, making an appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its programs.

The University of Hawaii Music Department faculty consists of a small number of full-time faculty members and a large number of lecturers. Most of our instrumental teachers are members of the Honolulu Symphony. These lecturers cannot live here in Hawaii with the salary they receive from the Honolulu Symphony. Each must teach numerous private students to survive.

The Honolulu Symphony expenses cannot be covered by ticket proceeds alone. The budget must be supplemented by private and corporate donations. But this still leaves a deficit.

Without the support of the community through government assistance, the Honolulu Symphony may not be able to continue to exist. That would cause a snowball effect throughout our community. The UH music programs will suffer and perhaps will also cease to exist.

Please support the Honolulu Symphony and all of its programs that benefit all the citizens of our State of Hawaii.

Thank you.

Peter Coraggio

testimony

From: Donald Womack [dwomack@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 7:25 PM
To: testimony
Cc: kadoyama@gmail.com; Norm Foster; Tom Gulick; Jane Murakami
Subject: Testimony in Support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR1008-08)

Testimony in Support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR1008-08)
 Submitted by Dr. Donald Womack, Professor of Music, University of Hawai'i-Manoa
 for a hearing by the
 Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation
 Hawaii State Capitol
 Thursday, March 13, 2008
 1:40 p.m. – Room 224 To the Senate Committee on Economic Development

I am writing to express my strongest support of SB 304 and HB 3243, which seek to support the Honolulu Symphony by appropriating \$810,000 to fund the orchestra's programs during the 2007-08 fiscal year. This appropriation would provide significant and well-deserved aid to one of the state's most important cultural treasures, an organization that has significant impact on the economy, reputation, cultural life, and education in Hawai'i.

As you know, over the past decade arts funding in general has seen a deep series of cuts, with the result that many private and public arts organizations and programs are struggling financially, even while they shine artistically and culturally. The arts are all too often thought of as a luxury. On the contrary, art is an essential component of any society, as necessary to the well being of a community as food and water are to the well being of the body.

The contributions of the Honolulu Symphony are extensive, and reach deeply into our society to make a positive impact. You are, no doubt, aware of the cultural importance of one of the nation's oldest orchestras. I'm sure you also know that the Honolulu Symphony makes a significant contribution to the state's economy and attracts tourists as well.

You may not, however, be aware of the symbiotic relationship between the Honolulu Symphony and the University of Hawai'i at Manoa Music Department, and of the consequent impact the symphony has on education in the state.

The UHM Music Department owes much of its ability to provide a quality education for our students to the Honolulu Symphony. The majority of our faculty are in some way involved with the symphony. A large number of our part-time faculty are symphony members, and many of full-time faculty also collaborate with the symphony on creative work, community service and educational projects.

The relationship between the Honolulu Symphony and the UHM Music Department is multi-tiered – symphony members teach our students, who, in turn, go on to teach in schools throughout the state. A strong symphony benefits education statewide. A weak symphony – or worse, no symphony – would be a devastating blow to music education (not to mention the economy) statewide.

To put it simply, supporting the Honolulu Symphony also supports the UHM Music Department, which further supports music in the schools. It is widely known that school children perform better in all subjects – reading, writing, math, science, etc. – when they participate in the arts. **The process of**

creating something new has a profound effect on the human mind. In essence, it helps us learn how to learn, and consequently forms the long-term foundation for a productive and peaceful society.

Given the Honolulu Symphony's wide-ranging contributions to the cultural, economic, and educational well being of the State of Hawai'i, I ask that you please support this appropriation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Dr. Donald Reid Womack
Composer and Professor of Composition and Theory
University of Hawai'i-Manoa

On Sabbatical for 2007-08
Fulbright Senior Research Scholar
Guest Composer in Residence, AURA-J
Tokyo, Japan
(+81) 80 6645 6030

testimony

From: Heidi Wilcox [heidawilcox@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 7:57 PM
To: testimony
Subject: Testimony for H.B. 3243 H.D. 2

Testimony in Support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR1008-08)

Submitted by: Heidi Wilcox
Assistant Concertmaster of San Francisco Opera Orchestra
for a hearing by the
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation Hawaii State Capitol Thursday, March
13, 2008 1:40 p.m. - Room 224

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Espero, and members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation, I am pleased to provide this testimony in support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2, making an appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its programs.

From Hawaiian 'oli to high school marching bands to the classical and popular compositions performed by the Orchestra, music is human expression at the highest level that communicates across the generations, cultures and geographic locations. For over a century, our Symphony has been recognized for its diverse musical entertainment offerings, including MasterWorks, Pops concerts, and youth education and outreach performances. Its mission is to "enhance the quality of life of the people of Hawai'i by sustaining a symphony orchestra of the highest artistic quality, and to serve as a community leader for musical activities that include concerts, operas, ballet and educational programs".

The members of our Orchestra form the cornerstone of the performing arts in this community, ensuring the availability of highly trained professional musicians to the Hawai'i Opera Theatre, Ballet Hawai'i, Chamber Music Hawai'i, the Maui Pops, and for numerous touring artists year-round.

Equally as important, these musicians serve as the backbone of music education in our State. According to the Hawai'i Music Educators Association, less than 50% of public elementary schools in the state have an active music program. Most classroom teachers have little training, few resources, and no time to offer a music curriculum to their students. Budget constraints often prevent Hawaii's schools from providing students with any meaningful exposure to music education. The Honolulu Symphony fills this need through Education and Community Outreach programs that introduce young people to symphonic music and promote a life-long love of music and music-making.

The Honolulu Symphony impacts every facet of life within our community. It enhances the reputation of our state nationally and internationally, adds to the cultural diversity of our State, and positively affects the local economy. The legislation before you speaks of the importance of this organization to the State, and reaffirms the many benefits our outstanding orchestra continues to contribute to local communities. We must not lose this powerful and invaluable resource for human development in our State.

testimony

From: Ethel Iwasaki [eciwasaki@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2008 9:02 PM
To: testimony
Subject: In support of HB 3243

Honorable Members of the House of Representatives:

It is imperative that HB3243 is passed to insure the life of the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra. This group is essential to the cultural life of Hawai'i. We also need it to show visitors and others that we have an excellent orchestra, comparable to any in the other 49 states.

Please vote 'yes' for HB3243. Many thanks.

Ethel Iwasaki

The Twenty-Fourth Legislature
Regular Session of 2008

THE SENATE

Committee on Economic Development and Taxation
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 224
Thursday, March 13, 2008; 1:40 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON H.B. 3243, HD2
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE HONOLULU SYMPHONY
AND ITS PROGRAMS**

The ILWU Local 142 supports H.B. 3243, HD2, which appropriates funds to support the Honolulu Symphony and its programs.

The Honolulu Symphony is Hawaii's symphony. Not only does it offer beautiful music to Honolulu residents but, through its community outreach program, hundreds (if not thousands) of public school students throughout the state have experienced live orchestral music performed by true professionals. Through this program, school children from Ka'u to Kekaha for the first time in their lives are able to enjoy the majesty of a live symphony performance, a cultural experience that is often cherished for a lifetime.

These Symphony professionals, however, have recently been asked to work for no pay for several weeks due to lack of funds to pay their salaries. If the Honolulu Symphony is to continue its good work, it needs financial support. H.B. 3243, HD2 will provide that support.

The ILWU urges passage of H.B. 3243, HD2 to continue the music and enhance the cultural experiences of our keiki. Thank you for considering our testimony.

The Hawaii Teamsters and Allied Workers,
Local 996

1817 Hart Street
Honolulu, Hi. 96819

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Senator Will Espero, Vice-Chair
Committee on Economic Development and Taxation

Date: March 13, 2008, at 1:40pm, room 224

Re: Support HB3243, HD2, Making an Appropriation to the Honolulu Symphony and its Programs.

The Hawaii Teamsters Local 996 negotiates and enforces over 50 contracts serving 6000 members in various industries in Hawaii and Guam.

We believe that the Symphony Experience enriches the educational programs for youth and is also a great entertainment alternative for adults. You can enjoy a variety of symphonic music on public radio, FM 88.1.

The Hawaii Teamsters Local 996, Supports HB3243, HD2.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Glenn Ida
Local 996 PAC Co-Chair
295-1280

testimony

From: Anjj Lee [anj@anjlee.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2008 10:30 AM
To: testimony
Cc: Norm & Ruth; kadoyama@gmail.com
Subject: testimony is being submitted for EDT 3/13/08 at 1:40 p.m. HB 3243 / Please send ASAP

Testimony in Support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR1008-08)

Submitted by Angela Elbern
for a hearing by the
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation
Hawaii State Capitol
Thursday, March 13, 2008
1:40 p.m. – Room 224

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Espero, and members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation, I am pleased to provide this testimony in support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2, making an appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its programs.

From Hawaiian 'oli to high school marching bands to the classical and popular compositions performed by the Orchestra, music is human expression at the highest level that communicates across the generations, cultures and geographic locations. For over a century, our Symphony has been recognized for its diverse musical entertainment offerings, including MasterWorks, Pops concerts, and youth education and outreach performances. Its mission is to "enhance the quality of life of the people of Hawai'i by sustaining a symphony orchestra of the highest artistic quality, and to serve as a community leader for musical activities that include concerts, operas, ballet and educational programs".

The members of our Orchestra form the cornerstone of the performing arts in this community, ensuring the availability of highly trained professional musicians to the Hawai'i Opera Theatre, Ballet Hawai'i, Chamber Music Hawai'i, the Maui Pops, and for numerous touring artists year-round.

Equally as important, these musicians serve as the backbone of music education in our State. According to the Hawai'i Music Educators Association, less than 50% of public elementary schools in the state have an active music program. Most classroom teachers have little training, few resources, and no time to offer a music curriculum to their students. Budget constraints often prevent Hawaii's schools from providing students with any meaningful exposure to music education. The Honolulu Symphony fills this need through Education and Community Outreach programs that introduce young people to symphonic music and promote a life-long love of music and music-making.

Please support the Honolulu Symphony and its programs. It was one of the most eye-opening experiences I had as a young child. Being exposed to greatness and the awesome feeling that the symphony creates in a child who would otherwise be playing video games or going to beach is a wonderful and special thing we can't lose. The Honolulu Symphony is part of Hawaii's culture. Please help to foster its continued work with the community and schools. Every high school band strives to be as tight and effortless as the Honolulu Symphony. Their performances are always flawless and inspiring. Every individual within the symphony puts their time, energy and heart into the ideal which the Honolulu Symphony prides itself on. As an educator in the High Schools, I remember going on field

trips to see the Honolulu Symphony as well as Opera's involving the symphony that positively affected the students. If a picture is worth a thousand words, experience is worth a thousand pictures.

The Honolulu Symphony impacts every facet of life within our community. It enhances the reputation of our state nationally and internationally, adds to the cultural diversity of our State, and positively affects the local economy. The legislation before you speaks of the importance of this organization to the State, and reaffirms the many benefits our outstanding orchestra continues to contribute to local communities. We must not lose this powerful and invaluable resource for human development in our State.

Thank you, Angela Elbern

Tim Bostock Productions LLC

1159 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817, USA

Telephone (808) 521 9699

Fax (808) 521 2923

Email

TBP@ArtsatMarks.com

Testimony in Support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2 (HSCR1008-08)

Submitted by: Tim Bostock, Director, Tim Bostock Productions, also Partner, The ARTS at Marks Garage, and President, Honolulu Theatre for Youth
for a hearing by the
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation
Hawaii State Capitol
Thursday, March 13, 2008
1:40 p.m. – Room 224

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Espero, and members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation, I am pleased to provide this testimony in support of H.B. 3243 H.D. 2, making an appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its programs.

Music is human expression at the highest level that communicates across generations, cultures and places. For over a century our Symphony has been recognized for the high quality and diversity of its music programs, as well as its youth education projects. The members of our Orchestra are at the heart of the performing arts in this community, ensuring the availability of highly trained professional musicians to the Hawai'i Opera Theatre, Ballet Hawai'i, Chamber Music Hawai'i, the Maui Pops, and other nonprofit arts organizations and independent producers such as myself.

These musicians also serve as the backbone of music education in our State. The Honolulu Symphony introduces young people to symphonic music and promotes a life-long love of music and music-making in students across the State. I believe that the inclusion of all artforms in public education is critical to the development of an advanced society. Hawaii's schools need our Symphony, just as they need the Honolulu Theatre for Youth and other arts education companies.

The Honolulu Symphony impacts every facet of life within our community. It enhances the reputation of our state nationally and internationally, adds to the cultural diversity of our State, and positively affects the local economy. The legislation before you provides an urgent opportunity to ensure that the Symphony continues to enrich our lives in Hawaii.

Yours,

The Best Performing Arts from around the World

Lara Nitta

From: TACtestimony

Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2008 10:51 AM

To: Lara Nitta

Subject: FW: In Support of HB3243, Making an Appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its Programs

From: D. Zedalis [mailto:dzedalis@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent: Wed 3/12/2008 12:32 AM

To: TACtestimony

Subject: In Support of HB3243, Making an Appropriation for the Honolulu Symphony and its Programs

I am new to Hawaii – having moved here from New York. Although I am a new member of this state, I want to express my hope that you provide funding to the Honolulu Symphony. I have attended one concert, have provided financial support, plan to become a season ticket holder next year, and also plan to volunteer my time. My husband and I both believe that music is an important facet of our lives – one that should not be neglected. When our children were younger and we lived in Syracuse, NY, the Syracuse Symphony went to every school with a portion of the orchestra just so all children could, at least once a year, hear the beauty of music.

Please help the Honolulu Symphony.

Ronald J. and Debra D. Zedalis

95-217 Haunone Place

Mililiani, HI 96789

3/13/2008