

Katherine Douglas *Public Comment - Group 1*

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**From:** Randy Greif <randygreif@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 1:32 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hello--

I am reaching out in the hopes of your support for the Music Academy of the West, which I believe is a vital part of the cultural heritage here in Santa Barbara. I have attended many of the concerts in the beautiful theater, which have elevated my understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of traditional and new music. I have had the pleasure of volunteering several times as a Board Member of Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra, which collaborated on a number of exceptional and boundary-pushing performances. On those occasions, I had the opportunity of meeting so many of the enthusiastic and helpful staff who took their time explaining about the academy, its goals and its upcoming events — which in turn help support musicians and composers, both new and well-established. The MAW has also reached out to other SB cultural cornerstones such as the Santa Barbara Museum of Art to collaborate and serve cross-promotion that benefits the cultural integrity of Santa Barbara. I urge you to help in keeping this institution functioning at its best and most productive.

Thank you,  
Mark Randy Greif

**Katherine Douglas**

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**From:** Richard Brown <drrichbrown@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 1:34 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

Over the last few years, my wife and I have attended several concerts and a private party at the Music Academy of the West. The Academy is truly a gem. It provides unique training opportunities for budding classical musicians from around the world. It provides unique opportunities for county residents to listen to great music in a serene setting.

I vigorously support the Academy. I ask that you deny the appeal and approve their updated Conditional Use Permit.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Brown  
805 Fawn Place  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Chas Barnard <cbarnard@musicacademy.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 1:35 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Music Academy of the West's updated Conditional Use Permit and urge you to deny the appeal. As a three-time cello alum and now a full-time staff member, I have experienced firsthand the profound impact the Music Academy has on both its participants and the Santa Barbara community.

The Academy has been instrumental in shaping my career as a musician, and I know it has similarly touched the lives of countless musicians from around the world. Beyond its transformative impact on artists, the Academy brings incredible cultural value to our local community, enriching the lives of Santa Barbara residents and enhancing the vibrancy of the arts scene.

Please approve the updated permit, ensuring the Music Academy can continue its mission of fostering artistic excellence and sharing the joy of music with our community for years to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Chas Barnard ('19, '20, '21)**  
Manager of Fellow & Alumni Engagement  
**Music Academy of the West**  
1070 Fairway Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108  
(805) 695-7956  
[musicacademy.org](http://musicacademy.org)

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Holly Boaz <hmsop@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 1:43 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I support the Music Academy of the West. Please approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

I am not a local resident, but I visit Santa Barbara from time to time, and the reason I come is to visit the Music Academy and attend performances. The academy has shaped my career and provided me with immeasurable support and encouragement, and in my estimation, the institution is a national treasure. It truly is a remarkable place, with remarkable artists, creating art and artists of the highest caliber, and is a great asset to Santa Barbara County.

Best Regards,

Holly Boaz

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Ted Anagnoson <tanagnoson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 1:55 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board,

I am the vice president of Vistas Lifelong Learning, an organization of 350-400 people who hold lifelong learning classes in part at the Music Academy of the West.

We hold classes related to the history of music and such at the Music Academy, when they can accommodate us. They have been extremely accommodating of our financial status especially.

Consequently I would like to support the Music Academy and request that if possible, you approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal before you.

Thank you.

Ted Anagnoson  
Professor of Political Science Emeritus  
Cal State LA  
5737 Berkeley Road  
Goleta, CA 93117  
[tanagnoson@gmail.com](mailto:tanagnoson@gmail.com)  
805-636-6056

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Amy Miller <awmiller1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 2:03 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,  
I am writing in support of the Music Academy of the West. In the course of training young musicians for their professional careers, the Music Academy provides world-class concerts, master classes, and operas that can be enjoyed by everyone in our community. Please approve their updated Conditional Use Permit. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Amy Miller  
3630 Olive St.  
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Jeffrey Solow <solowcello@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 2:07 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I was a student at the Music Academy of the West for three summers, 1964, 65, and 66. Those summers were not only invaluable for my development as a young musician, but there is no question that they provided the critical inspiration for me to pursue a life in music. The fabulous faculty, my talented young student-artist colleagues, and — equally — the irreplaceable Miraflores campus in Montecito, were all crucial ingredients in that formative experience.

For these reasons I support the Music Academy of the West and ask you to deny the appeal and support their updated Conditional Use Permit.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Very sincerely yours,  
Jeffrey Solow

Jeffrey Solow  
Professor of Cello  
Boyer College of Music and Dance  
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA 19122  
Past President, American String Teachers Association  
Past President, The Violoncello Society, Inc. (NY)  
h. 215-635-0809  
w. 215-204-8025  
[solowcello@gmail.com](mailto:solowcello@gmail.com)  
[www.jeffreysolow.com](http://www.jeffreysolow.com)

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Ria Marsh <rrsmarsh@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 2:07 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chairman & Members of Board of Supervisors

I want you to know how much the Music Academy means to me and how very much it enriches so many lives.

Ria Marsh

314 Por La Mar Circle

SB 93103

Sent from my iPhone



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Mary Freericks <maryfreericks@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 2:05 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

The Music Academy of the West is an amazing place where talented young musicians are nurtured and many turn into well known performers in our country and abroad. This is one of the major reasons I support the case listed above. I want the Music Academy to continue helping young musicians achieve their goals and to offer concerts we enjoy attending.

Sincerely,  
Mary Freericks

[Mary's Art site](#)

[Mary's Poetry site](#)

[Mary's Art on Saatchi](#)

[Vida - Mary's Wearable Art](#)

[Le Galeriste - Mary's Wearable Art](#)

[Mary's Amazon Author's Page](#)

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Christine Holland <choll@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 2:20 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors

The arts organizations of our community are the jewel that makes our lives special, and they need our support to survive.

The MAW, which enriches our community with the highest level of music, has consistently shown that it, and its audience, are good neighbors. They actively discourage street parking and audience members park in a lot spaced far away from neighbors. Arrivals and departures, which occur for just small slices of time on event days, are quiet and respectful of neighbors. The audience, which are mostly older persons, are quiet. While persons are on campus or in the parking area, there are no irritations to neighbors such as bright lights, loud radio music, extended loud conversations, tailgate parties, etc.

The MAW brings unmatched cultural experiences to thousands in our community, and their activities have very little impact on the few local property owners.

I urge you to fully support the community events of the MAW. Please approve the updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

Christine Holland  
107 Via del Cielo  
Santa Barbara, CA. 93109  
Choll@outlook.com  
(805)689-2519

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Russell Surber <rdsurber@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 2:25 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,  
We write in support of the Music Academy of the West's Conditional Use Permit and urge the Board to approve it and deny the appeal. Each year we motor down to Santa Barbara to spend a weekend enjoying one or two of the many offerings Music Academy of the West offers the community each year. We stay, usually in local B&Bs, and we dine in local restaurants. From personal experience we can assure you that our visits are quite usual for Music Academy of the West supporters, which is to say that in addition to the inestimable cultural gift Music Academy of the West gives Santa Barbara County, its supporters spend considerable amounts of cash while in the area to enjoy Music Academy of the West's programs.

Thank you for allowing Music Academy of the West supporters to express their views on this matter. The Board has the chance to **not** kill the goose that lays the golden egg, and we urge it take that opportunity.

Russell & Denise Surber  
Paso Robles, CA

Text 805-610-0931

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** terri carlson <kaukalapaau@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 2:27 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern:

Every year my husband and I attend 3 events at the MAW. We are elders and take advantage of the community access tickets or rush tickets because we live below the poverty level and are unable to pay for full price tickets. The kind sponsors make it possible for us to enjoy world class events performed by the MAW's very gifted students. Our whole community benefits from these wonderful concerts. I personally know a young woman from Cambria, CA who was my daughter's best friend in high school who was fortunate to attend the MAW summer session 20 years ago. She was accepted to Harvard with a full scholarship and is now working on her PhD in Belgium. This is what future MAW students may aspire to:) All the best, Terri Carlson and Clifford Johnson Santa Barbara, CA 93110 Sent from my iPhone

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Bob Karen <bobkaren@sbeyedoctor.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 2:31 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

I support the Music Academy of the West. Please approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

Thank you,

Robert and Karen Kolarczyk  
3715 Friar Lane  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Lamar Graves <ltkdg@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 3:20 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I support the Music Academy of the West. Please approve their Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal. The program provided valuable experience for my son, Ken Graves, who became a successful professional classical musician after participating in the program.

Lamar Graves  
Summerville, SC

**Sarah Mayer**

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**From:** Annika Okamoto <annikaokamoto@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 5:06 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Music Academy of the West and to ask the Board to deny the appeal against their recently updated Conditional Use Permit approved by the Montecito Planning Commission in April 2023. As a community member and parent whose child attends the Music Academy, I have gotten to know the Music Academy as a vital institution that enriches our community socially, culturally, artistically, and economically by offering world-class musical education and performances. This institution not only enhances the cultural fabric of Santa Barbara, but it also attracts visitors and students from around the globe, fostering creativity, collaboration, and a shared appreciation for the arts.

And even more importantly, the Music Academy provides tremendous value to our local youth by offering several hundred Santa Barbara children access to free music education, scholarships for camps, and opportunities to meet and practice at various local schools without parents having to travel during the workday - a luxury that low-income parents could not afford to do. All of these services are provided free of charge, making a critical difference for underserved populations and the most vulnerable families in our community, particularly those of low socioeconomic status and/or belonging to ethnic/cultural minorities. By offering these life-changing experiences, the Music Academy helps bridge educational and cultural gaps, ensuring that children who might not otherwise have access to such programs can develop their love for music.

I believe the Music Academy's contributions to Santa Barbara far outweigh any points raised in the appeal. I ask that the Board uphold the approval to support the Music Academy as an invaluable resource to the community and the underprivileged families it serves.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,  
Dr. Annika Okamoto  
130 Vega Dr., Goleta CA 93117

**Sarah Mayer**

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**From:** Christina Cabeen <cbcabeen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 5:08 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to support keeping Music Academy of the West's Conditional Use Permit. My daughter was involved with the Music Academy's Sing! Program for several years, and I can't say enough good things about their program, especially now that our elementary schools no longer offer musical education throughout the year. Sing! is a model for teaching a diverse set of kids musicianship in a way we can't get anywhere else in Santa Barbara, especially not for free.

Although most Sing rehearsals are held at local elementary schools, being able to use Music Academy of the West's campus once a month (plus free or discount access to professional shows) is a magic ingredient that makes Sing! work. My daughter says that entering the Music Academy feels like suddenly you're going to the kind of school you read about in books, like Hogwarts in Harry Potter. She spent her first several months of rehearsal breaks exploring all the statues and friezes. Getting to share in the beauty of the Music Academy's Montecito location makes kids feel like they're real musicians and like they can go somewhere with music.

It would be a real loss for Santa Barbara kids if they didn't get that experience -- please approve the Music Academy's updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

Sincerely,

Christina Cabeen

5309 Agana Drive, Santa Barbara 93111



**Sarah Mayer**

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**From:** Andrea Hein <andrea@heinandrea.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 5:28 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

As Montecito residents, my husband and I are enthusiastic supporters of The Music Academy of the West.

It is truly a gem of our community and deserves to continue its operations within the context of the community regulations.

I can't imagine the Montecito/Santa Barbara area without this wonderful contribution to music and culture.

Please renew their Conditional Use Permit.

Regards,

Andrea and Ron Hein

140 La Vereda Road

Santa Barbara, CA 93108

**Sarah Mayer**

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**From:** Michael Fay <fay@acm.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 6:07 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

I understand that the CUP approved in April 2023 for the Music Academy of the West is being appealed, and a hearing before the Board is pending.

I'm sure I speak for many others when I say that the Music Academy is a rare treasure. How else would we get the New York Philharmonic to show up at SBCC or the Santa Barbara Bowl? Think of all the first-rate musicians-in-residence from top music schools, such as Julliard, who spend their summers here, working with musical prodigies from around the world. Note the outreach from the Music Academy to school children in our community. The list goes on -- the Music Academy's sterling reputation enriches our community and spans the globe.

Here's a typical example of the Music Academy's influence: two years ago, I attended a concert by the renowned St. Paul Chamber Orchestra in Minnesota. Afterwards, I asked a member if there were fellows from the Music Academy in the orchestra, and the answer was "Yes!" That might be true of most big orchestras in the United States.

I don't know the fine print of the CUP or the rationale for the appeal, but (I'm shouting): WE NEED TO SUPPORT THE MUSIC ACADEMY OF THE WEST!

Regards,  
Michael Fay  
[fay@acm.org](mailto:fay@acm.org)  
c: 805-403-6486  
1417 Camino Rio Verde, SB 93111 (District 3)

**Sarah Mayer**

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**From:** Mary Sheridan <marysherida@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 7:15 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

As a long-time patron and volunteer for the Music Academy of the West, I am horrified at the thought that they could lose their updated Conditional Use Permit. As a moderate income member of the community, I must seek out affordable cultural opportunities and rely heavily on MAW to experience world class music in my home town. Losing the Music Academy of the West would be a profound loss to Santa Barbara in so many ways. Please deny the appeal.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mary Sheridan  
22 North Voluntario St #E  
Santa Barbara, CA 93103

**Sarah Mayer**

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**From:** Mark Elfont <melfont@ca.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 8:30 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the board of Supervisors,

I find it hard to believe that anyone would appeal the Conditional Use Permit for the Music Academy of the West. The Academy provides a wonderful opportunity for the young musicians in pursuing their professional careers. My wife and I were first introduced to the Academy at the concert at the community college stadium with the NY Philharmonic. Ever since, we have been attending several master classes each season. While we will stay for a week or two in Santa Barbara to attend the programs, we often drive from Santa Clarita for the day. We frequent the restaurants and shops of Montecito and Santa Barbara during our stays and visits. The Music Academy of the West has a rich history of offering a crop of talented young musicians and singers to experience working with some of the best instructors while offering the community the opportunity to share those experiences through a variety of venues that include concerts, group performances, and master classes.

The Music Academy of the West is an incredible asset to the Montecito and Santa Barbara communities and should be given every opportunity to continue their excellent programs.

Dr. Mark Elfont  
Valencia, CA  
melfont@ca.rr.com  
(215) 947-4547  
(215) 498-8061(cell)

**Sarah Mayer**

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**From:** Weston Sprott <wsprott@juilliard.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 8:31 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to share my support for the Music Academy of the West (MAW) and the approval of their Conditional Use Permit. I have worked as a teacher at MAW for the last three years. The impact the organization has on aspiring artists from all over the world cannot be overstated. These young people bring a beautiful spirit and energy to the community, and anything that allows MAW to continue doing this for many years to come should be enthusiastically supported.

Seeking opportunities to generate revenue that supports mission-aligned goals, like providing scholarships to young musicians, is a standard and necessary practice among non-profit organizations. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Weston

Juilliard

Weston Sprott | *Dean and Director*  
Preparatory Division  
The Juilliard School  
60 Lincoln Center Plaza  
New York, NY 10023  
212-799-5000  
[www.juilliard.edu](http://www.juilliard.edu)

## Sarah Mayer

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**From:** dthorpe@thorpelink.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 8:33 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Shauna Quill, Music Academy of the West  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I moved to the Santa Barbara area from LA in late 2021. I was a season subscriber to four classical music groups in LA (from the LA Phil to Musica Angelica). I have a personal relationship with a couple of artists, and one group, who have performed at the Academy since I moved here and with at least two others (including a harpsichordist who has received two Grammy nominations in the classical music category) who would like to have that chance. I have attended six or more Academy concerts since I moved here.

The quality of classical music in Santa Barbara is first rate, and the Academy contributes substantially to that environment. All of my friends in the field of classical music have spoken highly of the international reputation of the Academy; indeed, several have asked me for help in getting them a gig at the Academy.

I have no understanding of the details of the Application before the County or of the opposition. Nonetheless, I want to weigh in with a strong affirmation of the contribution that the Academy makes to quality of life in Santa Barbara County.

Doug Thorpe  
310-230-9556  
[dthorpe@thorpelink.com](mailto:dthorpe@thorpelink.com)  
340 Old Mill Road, SPC 144, 93110

**Sarah Mayer**

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**From:** Dr. John Raffetto <john@ambassadorcare.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 9, 2024 5:28 AM  
**To:** Supervisor Das Williams; Laura Capps; Supervisor Nelson; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; sbcob  
**Cc:** Shauna Quill  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

Our family rushed for gold in 1849. Some of us spread our wings and landed in San Francisco and Santa Barbara over the 50 years that followed.

Our longevity in the area gives us the privilege of throwing our support behind the Music Academy of the West. Please approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

Sincerely,

John

**DR. JOHN RAFFETTO**

Chairman

- The Global Medical Complex
- Rural Centric Care America

Chairman

**AmbassadorCare.com**

American University Park  
Washington, DC

+1 202-236-9883

John@AmbassadorCare.com



**Sarah Mayer**

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**From:** Dr. John Raffetto <john@ambassadorcare.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 9, 2024 6:51 AM  
**To:** Supervisor Das Williams; Laura Capps; Supervisor Nelson; Joan Hartmann; Steve Lavagnino; sbcob  
**Cc:** Shauna Quill  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

Our family rushed for gold in 1849. Some of us spread our wings and landed in San Francisco and Santa Barbara over the 50 years that followed. Dad was a superstar athlete at SB High nearly 100 years ago and mother was a Native Daughter of the Golden West and St Barbara - 1940.

I like to think that our longevity in the area gives us the privilege of special recognition for the weight we wish to throw behind the Music Academy of the West and their updated Conditional Use Permit. We hope you approve it and deny the appeal.

The Music Academy indisputably was and remains a divine instrument of peace and beauty that should be protected at all costs.

Sincerely,

John

**DR. JOHN RAFFETTO**

Chairman

- The Global Medical Complex
- Rural Centric Care America

Chairman

**[AmbassadorCare.com](http://AmbassadorCare.com)**

American University Park  
Washington, DC

+1 202-236-9883

john@AmbassadorCare.com





**Sarah Mayer**

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**From:** Joanne Toll <jojotoll@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 9, 2024 7:14 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am a parent of a student who was so fortunate to participate in Music Academy of the West's program last summer. I was astounded by the quality of this incredible program's educational opportunities. The arts are so often sidelined as frivolous and unimportant, and I was so impressed that the community of Santa Barbara feels strongly that the arts and arts education at a high level should be accessible to those who seek it out.

The support from the community was overwhelming and wonderful. Every performance we attended was packed with enthusiastic audience members.

Additionally, the reputation of the program in the classical music community at large speaks to its prestige and importance.

Please approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

Thank you.

Joanne Toll  
1013 Easy St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90042

**Sarah Mayer**

---

**From:** James Shelton <jamespoe@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 9, 2024 8:08 AM  
**To:** Supervisor Das Williams  
**Cc:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Music Academy of the West

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Councilman Williams;

The MAW is an invaluable resource and offers nothing but positivity to Santa Barbara & Montecito. We look forward to the concerts each summer and it brings in serious money to our city. The MAW should receive nothing but support from county and city politicians. I hope you, Mr. Williams, will do all in your power to insure MAW gets land use it must have to continue to be the shining example of the music we and the world loves.

Thanks for your attention,

James Shelton  
Santa Barbara, CA

**Sarah Mayer**

---

**From:** Jack Bernal <jack.a.bernal@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 9, 2024 8:27 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors,

I am emailing regarding the Conditional Use Permit for The Music Academy of the West to facilitate itself in Santa Barbara. This program has been life-changing for my career as a musician, providing me with priceless hands-on experience with amazing artists and a daily schedule simulating the life of a professional musician. Not only that, but the community that the Music Academy of the West has provided me has allowed me to meet some of my closest friends within the Santa Barbara Community. Having the opportunity to experience Santa Barbara while pursuing my passion has allowed me to grow as an individual in countless ways. I urge you to consider the importance of The Music Academy of the West's presence in Santa Barbara.

Thank you,  
Jackson Bernal  
12820 Lamp Post Lane, Potomac, MD, 20854

**Sarah Mayer**

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**From:** Michael Chabinyc <mchabinyc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 9, 2024 9:17 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my support for the update to the conditional use permit from the Music Academy of the West. They are an important arts organization in the Santa Barbara area that brings the next generation of musicians to the area and provides outstanding programming to the community.

An important aspect of their programming is the relatively low ticket price during their summer series. They provide both low-cost community access tickets (similar to the price of a movie) and free admission for 7-17 year olds. This structure allows folks to see world-class musicians and young talents well-below the cost of comparable series, like UCSB Arts & Lectures. Given rising costs all around, it is surely a challenge to keep this tradition up.

I have been to many events at the Music Academy campus over the years and have not noticed any significant traffic, either coming or going, or other impacts on the area.

I support the Music Academy of the West. Please approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

regards,  
Michael Chabinyc

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Janice Melhorn <janicemelhorn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 9, 2024 12:50 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I support the Music Academy of the West. Please approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

Music Academy of the West is one of the top summer chamber music festivals in the United States drawing talent from across the country and around the globe. It is a huge feather in Santa Barbara's cultural cap to host this festival.

I traveled to the festival multiple times last summer (at least 10 times) from the Los Angeles area. Each time, I supported your local businesses by dining at various restaurants. I also stayed overnight a total of 6 nights in Santa Barbara rentals.

--

Kind regards,  
Janice L. Melhorn  
2848 Frances Avenue  
La Crescenta, CA 91214  
818-541-1451  
janicemelhorn@gmail.com

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** larry fechter <pslarry1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 9, 2024 2:26 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Shauna Quill, Music Academy of the West  
**Subject:** support for Music Academy of the west case # 21-RVP-109 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

We are full time residents of Palm Springs, but have been spending summers in Santa Barbara annually for the past 14 years. While spending summer on the Central Coast is an obvious choice, what anchors us to Santa Barbara is the excellent program at the Music Academy of the West. Without MAW, we could obviously spend our time at any other location with great summer weather.

We make a significant financial contribution to the greater SB County economy. In addition to house rental, restaurant meals, support of service personnel, purchases in stores, farmers markets and wineries, we also join heath clubs, support local parks, etc. We urge you to protect the amazing cultural attraction of the Music Academy. It pays off not only in enhancing cultural activity in the City, and also in providing direct financial support to the county.

Laurence Fechter, Ph.D.  
Thomas Stansbury

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Chin Lau Gutierrez <chinlaugutierrez@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 10, 2024 6:50 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

My daughters, Olivia and Cecilia Chinlau-Gutierrez participate in the Sing Program with the Music Academy of the West and it has been a great experience!

It most benefited my oldest daughter, Olivia, diagnosed with ADHD. It Helped her to learn and socialize; and develop her soft skills through music.

They have been part of this program for 3 years already. We appreciate the Music Academy as it opened doors and provided activities that we never thought before.

We support the Music Academy.

All the best,  
Liliana, Ernesto, Olivia and Cecilia

-

Liliana Chin Lau  
5180 San Lorenzo Drive

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Debra Bernal <debra.bernal@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 10, 2024 8:50 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors.

I am writing in support of Music Academy of the West to emphasize the enormous value that the Music Academy brings to Santa Barbara and far beyond.

Music Academy of the West is one of the most prestigious summer music programs for prospective professional orchestral musicians in the entire world. It attracts the most talented emerging musicians that will one day fill orchestras throughout the United States and abroad. Having a prestigious training program like Music Academy in Santa Barbara is a tremendous asset to the community and surrounding areas but also has an impact far beyond the local community. Santa Barbara is greatly enriched by having this wonderful program, which gives community members access to professional-level orchestral and opera programming locally. I encourage the Board of Supervisors to support the Music Academy of the West unequivocally.

Thank you for your consideration,

Debra Bernal  
12820 Lamp Post Lane  
Potomac, MD 20854



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Ecapsize <ecapsize@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 10, 2024 9:22 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

I support the Music Academy of the West. Please approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.”

I took Ballroom dance classes at the music academy in 1968.

Over the years since then I have attended various concerts, events, and opera films at the Academy.

This is a cultural gem that needs to be able to continue its gift to the community.

Best regards

Captain Joan Sizemore

130 La Vereda Rd

Montecito, CA. 93108

Sent from my iPhone

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Brenda Patterson <bpatterson@victoryhallopera.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 10, 2024 10:06 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

As a former student, active alumna and occasional guest teacher at Music Academy of the West, I am writing to urge your Board to approve their updated Conditional Use Permit, and to deny the appeal.

Music Academy is known in the music world as the “Juilliard of the West”. It is the lifeblood and the beating heart of classical music in this country (and even internationally) - a place where young musicians can gain unparalleled training, inspiration, networking, and mentorship - a school that fosters innovation, excellence and civic engagement in its students.

Its location and campus in Santa Barbara/ Montecito is essential to its effectiveness & impact as a school, both in the world of music and in the local community.

I cannot imagine a more fruitful or productive use of this property, and encourage you to support its ongoing use as a home to MAW.

Sincerely,

Brenda Patterson (alumna '00)

549 Link Evans Ln  
Earlsville, VA 22902

Brenda Patterson  
*Director of Music/ Producer*  
Victory Hall Opera  
Office Tel: (434) 234-7719

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Kevin Smith <ckevinsmith64@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 10, 2024 6:43 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

The Music Academy of the West is an international treasure. I have such fond memories of it from the years I lived in Santa Barbara, many years ago, as a student at UCSB. I was grateful its programs still existed in 2021, when, after my father's passing in Los Angeles, I took comfort in the solace of live music in one of the most beautiful areas in the world. I urge you to approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

Best,  
Kevin Smith  
Iowa City, IA

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Carol Vernon <cvernon426@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 11, 2024 11:20 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129  
**Attachments:** Music Academy County of SB.docx

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Carol Vernon and Robert Turbin  
165 Olive Mill Lane  
Montecito, CA. 93108  
805 969-2011

October 11, 2024

County Board of Supervisors

Via Email [sbcob@countyofsb.org](mailto:sbcob@countyofsb.org)

Re: Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

We learned of Music Academy of the West when we moved to Santa Barbara nine years ago. We began attending performances at Music Academy the first year and have continued to be loyal and dedicated supporters. The caliber of the teaching staff and the amazing fellows coming to learn and perform are first rate. The fact that anyone can attend the master classes for a nominal fee and the community is invited to attend world class performances for \$10 is a major benefit to the greater Santa Barbara community.

We have a friend in Los Angeles who is a professional flautist performing with major orchestras around the world. She credits her time spent as a fellow at Music Academy as preparing her to perform at the level required by world class orchestras.

We are grateful to live in a community which has a vibrant cultural history, and which provides us all with experiences usually only found in large metropolitan areas.

With appreciation for your consideration,

Carol Vernon and Robert Turbin

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Charles Bazerman <bazerman@education.ucsb.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 12, 2024 9:11 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors

The Music Academy brings world class musicians and rising young performers to Santa Barbara every summer and throughout the year. I regularly attend their performances and especially their master classes, which are the highlight of my summer. The voice master classes keep me inspired throughout the year in my own amateur voice studies, and the other master classes deepen my appreciate for all music. The Academy events also provide me with an important regular way to connect with friends who share my passion for music.

It would be a tremendous loss to the community if their Use permit were not renewed.

Respectfully,  
Charles Bazerman

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Louise Hudson <louisehudson@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 12, 2024 12:38 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear County Supervisors,

I fully support the Music Academy of the West and all the wonderful programs and services it offers to the community. Please approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

Thank you!  
Louise Hudson

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** dms <dmschefler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 13, 2024 9:55 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution:** This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I moved to Santa Barbara in 2018 after having visited here each year since 2005. I started visiting the area for its amazing weather, beaches, wine country, and friendly/interesting people. As I got to know the community, and discovered the richness of its cultural offerings, I realized it was unique in its quality of living for my husband and me.

Subsequently, I have become involved in the Music Academy of the West as a board member. I didn't take on that volunteer role because I needed more to do, because I am quite busy. However, the 77 year old institution has consistently provided a source of inspiration and enjoyment for our community. It is recognized nationwide as a great institution and is further revered in many countries worldwide.

Please support the Music Academy of the West's updated Conditional Use Permit.

Thank you,  
Danner Schefler  
527 Crocker Sperry Dr.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93108



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Kate Winn-Rogers <kate@sunset-group.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 13, 2024 2:51 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors;

As you will see from the Subject of this email, I am writing in regard to the Music Academy of the West (MAW) and the recent appeal against their updated Conditional Use Permit (CUP).

I have been a strong supporter of MAW since I moved to Santa Barbara from London back in 2012. I was surprised to find such an amazing musical venue and program in this small town. I was afraid I would have to go to Los Angeles or San Francisco to find wonderful classical music. But I was happily surprised at the breadth of the programming at MAW, the magnificent Summer Festival and the quality of the Fellows (students) and teaching artists. The Academy brings in stellar partnerships such as the London Symphony Orchestra to partner with and to expand the musical horizon in Santa Barbara.

It is my wish and aspiration that we, as a community, continue to not only support MAW, but also to enhance their development over the coming years. A Non-Profit organization needs to raise funds in all ways possible to keep ahead of increasing costs. The CUP changes MAW is requesting are minimal and will not harm the local community in any way. To the contrary, being able to host weddings and other life-events at MAW will allow the Santa Barbara community to experience the wonder of the campus, along with the music and history of our wonderful community.

I have spoken to the MAW Board and management team and they assure me that any additional events will fall within the CUP currently in place. You must also be aware that they previously held wedding and life-events on campus. It is time to reinstate that option for MAW and help our community keep this amazing musical gift we have in this town. It elevates us beyond what our population size would suggest, and I know you are all interested in keeping Santa Barbara a wonderful place to visit and live. Please help by denying the appeal and supporting the Music Academy of the West's updated CUP.

With kind regards,

Kate Winn-Rogers  
[kate@sunset-group.net](mailto:kate@sunset-group.net)  
Mobile: 530 788 3520

**Katherine Douglas**

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**From:** Cheryl Goldberg <cherylmgoldberg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 13, 2024 4:03 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

My husband and I moved to Montecito 22 years ago and we have been long time supporters of the Music Academy of the West. I especially love the masterclasses that are held at the Miraflores campus and attend many of their other summer events. As I get older, I'm finding myself less inclined to drive at night if I have to take the 101 into Santa Barbara mainly due to eyesight issues. For that reason, I really love the fact that so many of their performances are close to my home in Montecito. It would be nice if more of their events could be held at the Montecito location.

Also, I enjoyed seeing the Met Live in HD performances that used to be held at Hahn Hall.

For this reason I please urge you to approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

Sincerely,  
Cheryl Goldberg

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Catherine Moss <catherinemoss33@btinternet.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 14, 2024 3:19 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** The Music Academy of the West

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to urge the approval of the updated Continual Use Permit for the Music Academy of the West.

The Music Academy has played a key role in helping Santa Barbara develop a reputation as a small city that "punches above its weight" in the excellence of classical music education and performances available.

I live in London and have visited Santa Barbara a few times a year for many years to visit my mother. I make sure that summer trips coincide with the Music Academy's summer dates. The Music Academy is also a valuable source of culture and enjoyment for my 90 year old mother.

It is wonderful to see how the quality of students, teaching programme and visiting artists just keeps improving. The Music Academy of the West is a hugely positive presence in Santa Barbara.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Moss  
73 Hereford Road  
London, W2 5BB  
UK

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Mary Harris <mvbharris@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 14, 2024 10:23 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

The Music Academy of the West has served the county of Santa Barbara for more than 75 years, educating the future classical musicians of the world, entertaining our citizens with yearly musical offerings of the highest caliber, and inviting organizations from throughout the county to experience the world class venues on the beautiful Montecito campus. I am writing to support the MAW's CUP request which would allow more access to Hahn Hall, the major auditorium venue, throughout the year, give management the opportunity to repurpose two buildings for better overall usage, and eventually allow a slightly larger cohort of fellows each summer. Having been affiliated with the Music Academy of the West for nearly seven years, I know how meaningful this tranquil setting is, and appreciate how thoughtfully the Mariposa campus has been shared.

Your approval of the CUP will encourage the Music Academy of the West to continue for the next 75 years and beyond, and welcome succeeding generations of music lovers to appreciate the cultural bounty of Santa Barbara County/

Mary Harris  
130 West Victoria, Apt, 1  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
mvbharris@yahoo.com

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Cynthia Fisher <cynthiafisherpcp@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 14, 2024 10:32 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Chair Lavagnino and the Board of Supervisors,

I have been a 32 plus year resident of Santa Barbara County, participating in the world renown Music Academy events since we moved here way back then. It actually contributed to us moving to this area, as the showcase of music is the finest quality on the west coast (we are from LA). The summer program masterclasses are open to the public for a fraction of a price where you can hear the cream of the crop musicians play and artists from all over the world who come to mentor, teach, and inspire. This is world class teaching, events, and classes offered to our community. The concerts at the Academy and thus the Lobero and Granada contribute not only to our music scene but the culture of Santa Barbara. We would be a far lesser community without its presence.

Please approve their updated CUP and deny the appeal.

Thank you,

Cynthia Fisher  
PO Box 539  
Summerland Ca 93013

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Calyssa Davidson <contact@calyssadavidson.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 14, 2024 11:46 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am only a professional violinist today because of the Music Academy of the West.

Growing up in Santa Barbara, my childhood practically took place at the Music Academy of the West. From weekly rehearsals with the Santa Barbara Youth Symphony in the old Abravanel Hall from ages 9 all the way to 16, to countless summers spent in the Music Academy's MERIT program and then eventually attending the Music Academy of the West as a Fellow at ages 20 and 21. My fondest memories and most important pinnacle points of personal growth were all made at the Music Academy of the West.

The Music Academy of the West facilitated the tools that helped me decide I wanted to become a professional violinist eventually leading me to further my studies at Royal College of Music in London, England on scholarship for both my undergraduate and postgraduate studies at ages 20 through to 27. Now at 34 years old, I have the great privilege of playing with orchestras all over the world (including coming back to play with the Santa Barbara Symphony every chance I can!), touring numerous countries doing what I love to do and hopefully also inspiring other young musicians too like I was inspired at the Music Academy.

For me, the Music Academy of the West was a space where lifelong mentors were met, unforgettable performances were had, many tears were shed and gratefully grown from, and where worldwide friendships began. It is the place that allowed me to discover that music was what I was meant to do and to deny that to any future young musicians would be a tremendous shame.

I fully and whole-heartedly support the Music Academy of the West. Please approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal so other young students have the opportunity to discover what they want to do too.

Thank you for your time and warmest regards,

Calyssa Davidson

72 Grove Road  
Windsor, Berkshire  
United Kingdom  
SL4 1HS

[contact@calyssadavidson.com](mailto:contact@calyssadavidson.com)  
07549919323  
[calyssadavidson.com](http://calyssadavidson.com)

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Sue Mellor <sbsuem@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 14, 2024 2:59 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and Members, of the Board of Supervisors,

I am the Venue Chairman for VISTAS LIFELONG LEARNING (VISTAS). As such, the venue choice for any class dealing with music is the Music Academy of the West. Distinguished presenters, such as Prof. Derek Katz from UCSB, who lectures on a wide variety of composers and their compositions, Simon Williams on opera, and Bob Weinman on a variety of musical genres, regularly give us lectures there. The MAW graciously allows us to rent Weinman Hall for these classes and our members are comfortable and pleased to be attending there. We have a membership of over 300 and most of us are retired seniors. VISTAS classes are a benefit not only to its members but to the entire community. The world class Bisno-Schall Clock Gallery at the county Courthouse was a direct result from a VISTAS class given by David Bisno on "Time", together with class members Richard and MaryAnn Schall. Most classes are held at a different venue than the MAW but it will remain our venue of choice for all lectures pertaining to music. Please allow the MAW to continue its rental policy to VISTAS. Sue Mellor, 412 Loma Alta Dr., SB 93109 (SB Courthouse docent since 1983)

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Barbara Lindemann <bliveoaks@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 14, 2024 4:49 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I urge you to approve the updated conditional use permit and deny the appeal for the Music Academy of the West. I have attended multiple events at the Academy for many years, serving as a compeer this past summer for 2 accomplished violin fellows who had never been to Santa Barbara before. They, like fellows before them, can be expected to join the ranks of professional classical musicians in the U.S. and around the world. They carry Santa Barbara with them, and frequently, successful in their career, return to perform here.

The Academy brings world renowned artists to Santa Barbara every summer when other classical music programs are not offered, usually for extended stays. People from all walks of life and every age group are enriched by these visits and programs, offered at reasonable prices.

My friends who spend summers elsewhere have enjoyed renting their homes to the famous teaching artists for the 6 weeks of the Academy.

The traffic and the scheduling are well managed.

Any reductions in their offerings, or (unthinkable!!) cancellation of the Academy, would be a terrific loss to the County.

Thank you for your support of the Music Academy of the West.

Barbara Lindemann

1470 Tunnel Rd.

Santa Barbara 93105



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Tom Orlando <torlando120@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 14, 2024 5:16 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

October 14, 2024

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

We have been involved in and have supported the Music Academy of the West for over twenty years. The Music Academy is one of the treasures of the Santa Barbara community. It's Summer Festival brings talented musicians for all over the United States and the world. Their music is shared in the community at multiple venues including the Miraflores Campus. The Sing program in our local schools allows children of all ages to enjoy music and teaches them the basics of classical and popular music. All of this comes at no cost to the Summer Festival students or the children in the local Sing program.

The Music Academy requires a more stable income stream to be able to provide these wonderful programs. The very minor changes to the Conditional Use Permit should be approved and the appeal denied at the upcoming Supervisor's meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Thomas and Ellen Lehrer Orlando

**Katherine Douglas**

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**From:** Tom Orlando <torlando120@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 14, 2024 5:17 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

October 14, 2024

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

We have been involved in and have supported the Music Academy of the West for over thirty five years. The Music Academy is one of the treasures of the Santa Barbara community. It's Summer Festival brings talented musicians for all over the United States and the world. Their music is shared in the community at multiple venues including the Miraflores Campus. The Sing program in our local schools allows children of all ages to enjoy music and teaches them the basics of classical and popular music. All of this comes at no cost to the Summer Festival students or the children in the local Sing program.

The Music Academy requires a more stable income stream to be able to provide these wonderful programs. The very minor changes to the Conditional Use Permit should be approved and the appeal denied at the upcoming Supervisor's meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Robin Rickershauser <robinrickcom@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 15, 2024 10:08 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

The Music Academy of the West is a Santa Barbara treasure.

It benefits the students (called Fellows) with eight weeks to devote completely to their music under the tutelage of world-class faculty. All expenses are paid, freeing them from financial pressures. The Fellows are extremely talented and chosen from a large number of applicants.

It benefits community audiences with numerous first-class performances and master classes at reasonable prices.

It benefits the wider community with its free Sing! program to introduce local elementary students to the joys of vocal music.

It benefits the Music Academy supporters (Compeers) and Fellows in matching them to provide a one-on-one relationship and "local cheering section."

The Academy has enriched my life for over 25 years, as it has many members of our community. We are fortunate to have it located here.

Please approve their Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

Thank you,  
Robin Rickershauser  
3515 Chuparosa Drive  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** David Moss <djmoss@btinternet.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 15, 2024 12:09 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West. Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21-CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors

I am writing to endorse the approval of the updated Conditional Use Permit for the Music Academy of the West.

I am a keen pianist and have attended events at the Academy's summer programme for about 20 years. I live in the UK and my wife and I plan our travels so as to attend as many events as we are able. The masterclasses for solo and collaborative piano are of particular interest – from which anyone attending can learn a great deal.

The Academy's summer programme is among the best that I have seen. The Academy has placed Santa Barbara firmly on the map for developing musical education and enlarging the scope of performances that members of the public may attend. Anything which allows the Academy to continue this work should be encouraged.

Kind regards

**David Moss**  
**73 Hereford Road**  
**London W2 5BB**  
**UK**

**Mobile: + 44 7710 620431**  
**E-mail: djmoss@btinternet.com**

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** dorian hirth <dorianhirth@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 15, 2024 12:43 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Peter Hirth  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

We have been members of the Music Academy for the last 10 years. Having moved to Santa Barbara from San Francisco we were delighted with the philanthropy and cultural opportunities here. We have become compeers to fellows the last couple of years and marvel at what Music Academy brings to the students and to the community. Please support this vital land use permit so Santa Barbara and Montecito can continue to thrive.

Sincerely

Dorian and Peter Hirth  
Dorian Hirth

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Pauline Paulin <ppaulin196@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 15, 2024 2:34 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Shauna Quill  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West, Case numbers 21-RVP-109, 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

I have been an attendee and supporter of the Music Academy of the West for over ten years, including membership in MAW Auxiliary. I was first introduced by a friend, who, noting my interest in classical music, thought I would enjoy joining this world renowned organization in our midst. As a former teacher, I was also impressed by the idea of music students coming from all over the world to participate in the summer programs, to study music with professional musicians and share their talents in concerts for the community to enjoy. The Master Classes are open to the public and we can learn what it takes to become musicians. What a treasure our community enjoys with this musical facility in our very own city.

Our Music Academy of the West is an asset to the community. Please approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal, and so allow them to continue providing music for all the people of Santa Barbara to enjoy.

Let the music continue!

Pauline Paulin

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** sgreengreen@icloud.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 16, 2024 3:23 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

I write this message in support of the Music Academy of the West. I speak from the perspective of an enthusiastic listener. I've attended performances and masterclasses there at times for nearly 50 years. There may be a handful of comparable programs, elsewhere in the US and in other countries, but MAW brings to this region an extraordinarily high level of performance and opportunities for engaged listening. Although the program seeks out the most gifted soloists, based on extensive and competitive auditions, one key emphasis is on every form of ensemble, including orchestral and chamber music. More than any concerts or programs I've attended elsewhere, it provides the opportunity to experience music from the inside: how instrumentalists work together in orchestras; how soloists collaborate in performing chamber music; how young but very accomplished performers work to sharpen their interpretations beyond great technical mastery. The Music Academy programs, as impactful as the events and master classes are on the spot, has transformed the way I experience music everywhere.

Susan Green  
sgreengreen@icloud.com  
2003 Beverly Drive, Pasadena, CA 91104



**Katherine Douglas**

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**From:** Robert Badal <rgbadal@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 17, 2024 4:16 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Shauna Quill  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

We write in support of the updated Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the Music Academy of the West (MAW), approved by the Montecito Planning Commission in April 2023. As the Planning Commission already recognized, the amended and updated CUP strikes a fair and equitable balance between the programming needs of the MAW and the needs of the MAW's neighbors. The appeal lodged against the amended CUP itself does not genuinely dispute that fact but rests upon other considerations.

The MAW is a unique asset to our community and offers educational and instructional opportunities to a diverse group of young musicians. The amended and updated CUP will help ensure that the MAW's mission is ready to meet future opportunities and challenges.

We urge you to approve the updated CUP and reject the appeal lodged against it.

Robert G. Badal  
[rgbadal@gmail.com](mailto:rgbadal@gmail.com)  
323 933 8450 (c)  
805 845 1156 (o)

Robert Badal Arbitration and Mediation Services  
3044 Samarkand Drive  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** mhenrikse@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 20, 2024 8:34 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Mark Henriksen  
7788 Rockburn Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043  
(410) 599-5667

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

My daughter and I both attended the Music Academy of the West. I first became aware of the Music Academy growing up in Los Angeles in the late 60's and early 70's because the very best music students were spending summers there. Much more recently I've experienced what the Music Academy is today to students because my daughter attended last summer. The level of musical accomplishment of the students at MAW is just phenomenal. The faculty really make the effort to mentor and affirm. For my daughter, being part of the String Quartet Seminar and performing with faculty pushed her to a new level. I am truly thankful to the Music Academy because I believe my daughter did have a life-changing experience there!

I've also experienced the Music Academy as a concert attendee while visiting Santa Barbara this past summer. Family came up from San Diego and we spent a very nice weekend hearing an orchestra concert (the Rite of Spring) and enjoying the shops and restaurants of downtown Santa Barbara while staying at the Santa Barbara Inn. When I've visited Paris, Milan, or Granada (or Philadelphia and New York), attending concerts is an important part of my choice of destination. I now feel that way about Santa Barbara. The Music Academy of the West makes Santa Barbara a vacation destination for me.

*The Music Academy of the West has been important to my family and I hope it will continue to grow and flourish with the support of the community.*

*Thank you for reading my letter.*

Best Regards,



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Meg DiNapoli <mdinapoli3@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 20, 2024 5:12 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I support the Music Academy of the West. Please approve their updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

I joined the Auxiliary in 2007 and served as Chair from 2009-2011 and from 2019-2021. The women with whom I worked helped raise money and were community outreach volunteers for the Academy. Not only is the Music Academy a major venue for classical music, it is also an integral part of the cultural life of Santa Barbara. I have taken my children, grandchildren, and friends to tour the campus and to performances over the years, and they developed a deeper appreciation of music and art from their experience. The carefully planned updates which were approved by the Montecito Planning Commission will continue to make this institution viable and a treasure for years to come.

Sincerely,  
Meg DiNapoli  
3971 Laguna Blanca Drive  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

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**Meg**

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Villalobos, David  
**Sent:** Monday, October 21, 2024 8:42 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** FW: Appeal of Music Academy's 2023 CUP approval from MPC

Comment letter for the 11/5 BOS hearing for the Music Academy appeal item.

**From:** Madison Lytle <madison@graymalin.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 4, 2023 2:43 PM  
**To:** Supervisor Das Williams <SupervisorWilliams@countyofsb.org>; Laura Capps <lcapps@countyofsb.org>; Joan Hartmann <jHartmann@countyofsb.org>; Supervisor Nelson <Nelson@bos.countyofsb.org>; Steve Lavagnino <slavagnino@countyofsb.org>; Vosburg, Alia <avosburg@countyofsb.org>; Villalobos, David <dvillalo@countyofsb.org>; jls3finance@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Appeal of Music Academy's 2023 CUP approval from MPC

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Williams and Supervisors -

This email is in **opposition** to the Montecito Planning Commission's approval of the Music Academy's requested 2023 CUP.

We are **Peter G. Malin & Jeffrey Richardson** and our address is **940 Channel Dr.**

The Butterfly Beach neighborhood is already inundated with traffic. The supervisors in 2004 seem to recognize this. Here an excerpt from the very first paragraph of the 2004 CUP. The supervisors at that time recognized that the Music Academy had reached its capacity.

"In granting this permit, the Board of Supervisors advises future decision-makers that based on the evidence in the record at this time, the operation and site development at the Music Academy have reached a maximum level able to be found consistent with the health, welfare, safety, and convenience of the neighborhood and the Board of Supervisors recommends that no further increase in use, density, or development be allowed. "

MAW has not acknowledged that there is a problem. In fact, just the opposite. The last CUP in 2004 mentioned Traffic Control 52 times and had multiple responsibilities of the MAW; including having manned gates at front and rear, ticket splitters with a charge for cut-throughs and driveway counts. Not one of the recommendations was implemented. MAW said they are controlling traffic with the front gate. That can't possibly work. Since the MAW has ignored the CTRP requirements in the 2004 CUP, and no driveway counts are taken, they have no clue how much traffic comes through their gates. They self report and only need to include event participants. They do not count cut-throughs of which there could be as many as 200 per day/73,000 per year (according to the 2004 ATE study; probably higher now). They also don't count staff, faculty, other employees, summer music students, other performers, or people attending or performing administrative functions (e.g., volunteers). So there could easily be over 150,000 cars driving through the music academy each year.

The Butterfly Beach Association had to petition to install traffic humps on Hill Road to slow the speeding cars leaving events or cutting through MAW. Every vehicle that leaves the Music Academy passes approximately 50 homes to get out of the neighborhood.

We appreciate the Board of Supervisors thoughtfulness in 2004 to include the traffic considerations. It is too bad that there wasn't monitoring and that the traffic mitigation requirements were ignored. We suggest they get another look for the new CUP, which doesn't address traffic control.

Allowing commercial usage of the music academy for no other reason than to make money is at the expense of our neighborhood. The noise, traffic, congestion, trash, pollution and oversized set-up trucks is not conducive to this neighborhood.

We encourage the Board of Supervisors to do what is right to keep our neighborhoods healthy and safe. Adding more traffic to such a small neighborhood makes no sense and goes against the Montecito Community Plan.

Please acknowledge receipt and advise how we can have our community voices heard. Thank you.

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Laura Nary <ljnary@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 22, 2024 5:22 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Santa Barbara County,

My husband and I live next door to the Music Academy at 85 and 87 Butterfly Lane.

We have enjoyed being their neighbors and knowing that gifted musicians are training and performing in programs which benefit the community.

It has been great to know that they maintain a secure facility, but also allow neighbors to walk through the grounds during daytime hours.

The recent tree work, fencing, and overall maintenance show that the Academy is well run.

The exit route for buses and cars is near our homes, and they make every effort to be considerate and keep noise low and cars are considerate as they exit.

We do support the Conditional Use Permit revisions listed for case #s 21RVP-00000-00109, and 21CDP-00000-00129. We understand that the new CUP will not include an increase in attendance, and operating hours will remain the same. The Music Academy reached out to explain the changes last year and provided a good general overview.

Please approve these revisions.

Sincerely,

Laura and Kevin Nary

805-479-0324

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Carol Aber <c.aber@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 23, 2024 10:19 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

I am writing this in support of the Music Academy of the West, a true and rare gem in our Santa Barbara Community. I have attended events and volunteered as well at this venerable Academy, for decades, and am constantly impressed with the level of excellence provided by the staff, faculty, performers, and fellows. It is a resource and inspiration for all things musical and related, early to contemporary, and should not be taken for granted, but recognized gratefully for its contribution to our better natures.

Please approve the Music Academy's updated Conditional Use Permit and deny the appeal.

Sincerely,

Carol Aber  
P O Box 124  
Summerland CA 93067

## Katherine Douglas

---

**From:** Marilyn Mazess <gymmommy@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 23, 2024 4:49 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Das Williams; Joan Hartman  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Lavagnino and County Supervisors

I am writing to you in order to support the Music Academy of the West and in its endeavor to continue its presence as a very invaluable leader in providing an excellent educational experience for young aspiring musicians. My husband Richard and I have been supportive partners of the programs the Academy offers. We have witnessed the continued success of its alumni especially in the Percussion program which we've underwritten for years. We've seen a number of the students go on to attain their goals as musicians of the highest caliber largely due to the training that they have received by attending the summer programs. There is no greater gift to these fellows than being able to pursue their dreams and supply our world with the music that truly heals the soul and provides much needed respite and beauty in our lives. I urge you as the county supervisors to to update the 2004 Conditional Use Permit for the Music Academy of the West. It has provide so much to so many and is an invaluable part of our vibrant community.

Very sincerely,

Marilyn Mazess



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** susan johnson <susanclearyjohnson@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 24, 2024 12:20 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The Music Academy of the West is one of our most wonderful and valuable resources in our Community. They are good citizens and neighbors in Montecito and in our community. They enrich our lives and should be supported in every way possible.

The changes to the CUP they are requesting are reasonable, and will help the Academy continue to thrive. Please support them.

Sincerely,

Music Academy Supporter  
*Susan Cleary Johnson*  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
805-636-4101

## Katherine Douglas

---

**From:** Sarah Boyajian <sarahpesha5588@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 24, 2024 12:43 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

AS A LONG TIME ATTENDEE, SUPPORTER, AND USHER FOR A FEW YEARS, THE MAW IS THE GREATEST MUSIC ACADEMY IN CALIFORNIA WHICH MUST BE GIVEN THE ABILITY TO IT'S BEST USE THE PROPERTY HOWEVER THE NEEDS DICTATE IN ORDER TO REMAIN THE TOP VENUE FOR THE COMMUNITY THE FELLOWS, STAFF AND VISITORS. IF NOW IT REQUIRES SOME HOUSING AND WEDDINGS WHICH RAISE FUNDS AND ARE BEAUTUFUL, THEN MONTECITO CAN STAY PROUD AND GRATEFUL FOR THE HONOR!

Sincerely yours,  
Sarah Boyajian

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Susan Berger <susanjbb@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 24, 2024 2:28 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am writing on behalf of the Music Academy of the West (MAW) and its request for changes to its 20 year old, somewhat outdated and restrictive, Conditional Use Permit (CUP). I have read and reviewed the MAW request, which was approved, and the appeals filed shortly after approval. I ask the Board to reject the appeals and allow the MAW to move forward with the updated CUP.

I have recently relocated to Santa Barbara and continue to find more things about the community to love. Among them is the MAW. It is a treasure too often hidden among the riches of Santa Barbara and Montecito. In its primary function, the MAW provides an outstanding education program, free of charge, to musicians who will go on to enrich the lives of others throughout the world. Each accepted fellow has earned his or her place to improve his or her life and the lives of those around them from the hundreds who have applied. While in Santa Barbara, each fellow, instructor and guest artist has the unequal opportunity to experience the beauty and magic of our area and the magnificent setting of the MAW campus.

All of this could not happen without the contributions to and from central coast residents. Our community benefits in so many ways by welcoming the students, teachers and other talent, participating in the many facets of the summer program and, of course, listening to the one hundred plus performance events during the eight weeks. I know it has enhanced my life considerably as a compeer, a faculty host, and concert attendee.

The Sing! program as well as teaching and rehearsal studios provide musical opportunities for young local residents that are not available through the schools. What better way to improve life in our cities than enhance the lives of our students and their families. The ripple effects are huge.

Last, we cannot deny the positive impact tourism has on Santa Barbara and Montecito. I have spoken with many MAW performance attendees who have planned trips here with the highlight of their stay being the MAW experience.

Given the limited few weeks of the season and the many facilities available on the MAW campus it is unfortunate the beautiful spaces, both inside and out, are so severely restricted by the CUP. However, with minor changes to the 2004 CUP, the MAW, rightfully and reasonably, would like to make the campus available to more local residents for entertainment, education, and relaxation throughout the year. I am in full support of the MAW's desire to be a bigger part of the community and make its services and facilities available to those who will benefit. My participation in the MAW program and concert attendances have made my life

better. It would be sad if the wishes of a few appellants would have a negative impacts of the lives of so many who, like myself, would like to see the MAW be able to reach its full potential within reasonable guidelines.

Sincerely,

Susan Berger

**Katherine Douglas**

---

**From:** jack friedlander <jackfriedlander@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 24, 2024 5:26 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in support of your approving the Music Academy of the West's Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109;21 CDP-129. The facilities enhancements requested would enable the MAW to more fully serve the needs of its students, staff, and the community. It would also provide the MAW new sources of income it can use to perform its mission by providing community member access to its beautiful campus for special events. These include weddings and outdoor concerts with an appropriate sound system.

Sincerely,

Jack Friedlander

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Victoria Cooper <vcooper@victoriacooperphd.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 24, 2024 8:59 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

We support MAW in its effort to upgrade its permit. It is a cherished opportunity for listening to the best live music in Santa Barbara! Please, please, please keep it opened as requested.

—Victoria Cooper

[Sent by Victoria-the-Explorer](#)

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** "Jose Martínez (josetubachelva)" <josetubachelva@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 24, 2024 11:23 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

My name is Jose Martinez, I play principal tuba for the National Orchestra of Spain. I am also cofounder of Duo2Arts, a multidisciplinary arts company. I am ambassador of the Luminarts Cultural Foundation, based in Chicago (USA).

Music Academy of the West was crucial in my development. It has so much impact in the development of hundreds of young professionals yearly.

They should get whatever they need as a wonderful educational organization.

Please, do as they say.

All good wishes to you all,

Jose

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Peter Ziegler <p.ziegler@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 25, 2024 12:00 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Cc:** Shauna Quill; Mimi Do  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

First, let me thank you for the hard work you expend in running our county. It is a difficult job with endless conflicting priorities and points of view. However, the appeal of the Music Academy of the West's revision to its CUP is a relatively easy issue to resolve.

I recently completed a nine year term on the Board of MAW and was personally involved in putting together its request to amend and update its 2004 CUP. The Board and the Staff went out of its way to be very judicious in the changes that were requested, including maintaining the same daily, any-given-time and annual attendance caps. We did not want to significantly increase the burden placed on our neighbors. We also had several meetings with the neighbors and listened to their concerns and adjusted our request along the way.

As I am sure you are aware, MAW is a unique institution in our community providing not only its summer music festival for the community (more than 130 performances) and educational opportunities for the next generation of classical musicians but it also has an extensive music educational program for children in county schools through its Sing! Program.

The Montecito Planning Commission (MPC) approved the modifications to the CUP and a neighbor has appealed that decision to you on various technical grounds which the MPC has found are without merit.

I urge you to support the decision of the MPC and the outstanding work that MAW does in Santa Barbara County and reject the appeal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Peter F. Ziegler

Peter F. Ziegler  
607 San Ysidro Road  
Santa Barbara, CA 93108  
(805) 969-7646 (home)  
(213) 713-2196 (cell)



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Peter and Linda <beuretpeterlinda@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 25, 2024 12:53 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case: 21-RVP-109, 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

My husband and I want to express support for the Music Academy of the West's case as the summer Music Academy is one of the most important things in our year.

We moved to Santa Barbara to retire because of the availability of Classical Music in many forms. We attend the 8 weeks of the summer Music Academy daily--last year we went to 51 masterclasses, concerts, recitals, picnic concerts & events put on during the 8 weeks. We regard it as an 8 week trip to a great Music Festival where one can sleep in one's own bed! Quality of everything is excellent and we have loyally attended every summer since we moved to Santa Barbara in 1998.

I volunteered there as well for many years.

Linda & Peter Beuret  
300 Hot Springs Rd  
Santa Barbara, CA, 93108

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Villalobos, David  
**Sent:** Friday, October 25, 2024 4:12 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** FW: Pls Confirm receipt- Music Academy  
**Attachments:** Letter re\_ CUP Revision MAW by Chakola 10.25.2024.pdf

For hearing of 11/05

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**From:** Mally Chakola <mally.chakola@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 25, 2024 2:28 PM  
**To:** Villalobos, David <dvillalo@countyofsb.org>  
**Cc:** Shauna Quill <squill@musicacademy.org>  
**Subject:** Pls Confirm receipt- Music Academy

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Mally Chakola  
600 El Bosque Road  
Montecito, CA 93108

October 25, 2024

**Via Email:** [dvillalo@countyofsb.org](mailto:dvillalo@countyofsb.org)  
David Villalobos  
Montecito Planning Commission  
Board Assistant Supervisor

Re: In Support of Music Academy of the West in connection with Sanford Appeal, Case No. 23APL-00021, of the Montecito Planning Commission Approval of the Music Academy of the West Revised Conditional Use Permit, Case No. 21RVP-00000-00109, First Supervisorial District

Dear David,

I would like to share my personal experience of how the Music Academy of the West ("Music Academy") provides extraordinary value to our local community and beyond.

I became involved with the Music Academy about almost four years ago shortly after moving to Montecito. First getting involved through its Auxiliary, its social, philanthropic membership. Today, I am a member of the Executive and Governance Committees of the Board of the Music Academy. The Music Academy is treasured by my husband, our 8-year-old daughter, and me.

Having lived in first cities like New York and Los Angeles, and San Francisco Bay Area, the Music Academy immediately became a place that I wanted to invest my time in because of the world class performances it hosts, its magical campus, and the tremendous impact it has on local young students and the world's classically trained musicians.

By far, the most rewarding experience my family and I have had, because of the Music Academy's fulfillment of its mission, is becoming Compeers (local family connections) to the Summer School & Festival fellows. Through this role, we have hosted three fellows each of the last three summers for dinners, hikes,

beach visits, etc. Getting to know young adults who are dedicated to, and passionate about, their music and general excellence proves to be a rich, fulfilling experience for our family. For the fellows, the Music Academy is a "life changing" program- words used by almost every former fellow I have spoken with about their experiences at the Music Academy and time spent in Montecito.

By approving the revisions to the CUP for the residential use relating to the additional structures that were formerly retail, significant life events on campus, and outdoor amplified spoken word, to name a few, Music Academy can diversify the ways in which it generates revenue. Currently, the Music Academy is operating in an inflationary economy at a deficit and this income will put it on a path to ensure it can continue its tradition of life changing music education, without additional disruption to the local neighborhood.

Additionally, I believe that the Music Academy will be able to engage with its local community in greater ways with the revisions that increase Hahn Hall's capacity to 350 (while staying within the same annual attendance numbers). An increased student population will allow us to serve more students and to add specialties, like potentially composing or conducting fellows for example, in support of our mission.

Since joining the Music Academy board and through my work with the Auxiliary, I have personally been involved in expanding connections between the local community and the Music Academy. Last year, for example, I hosted a Bridgerton style ball attended by about 125 members of the Santa Barbara and Los Angeles County communities and participated in by numerous local businesses. And, I look forward to the new Strategic Plan implementation, which has planned specific community connection initiatives within our perimeters.

I have witnessed our new President and CEO, Shauna Quill, listen to and take neighbor feedback seriously. She has thoughtfully incorporated revisions to the original CUP revision request as a result. She knows that being a good neighbor is essential and I believe the proposed plan will allow her to lead us all forward with strengthened community ties.

As a result, I offer my complete support of the Music Academy's most recent CUP revisions so that Music Academy can continue to be a preeminent summer school and festival and source of music in the lives of our community. Montecito is a better place as a result of the Music Academy's impact, as is the world.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mally Chakola

cc: Shauna Quill, President & CEO

Mally Chakola  
600 El Bosque Road  
Montecito, CA 93108

October 25, 2024

**Via Email**

David Villalobos  
Montecito Planning Commission  
Board Assistant Supervisor

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Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mally Chakola', written in a cursive style.

Mally Chakola

cc: Shauna Quill, President & CEO

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Jean Merkelo <jeangirl66@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 26, 2024 9:37 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** NO Support for Music Academy of the West (COVER UP!) Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

It is stunning to MANY of us, who are fully aware of MAW's GREED and cover-up of their support of and funding of extreme, horrific, elder abuse by faculty member Paul Merkelo, that THEY want something from others; "support."

Had we seen this "need" sooner, we'd have had petitions of outrage, more media involved, and statements to the CA Att Gen's office regarding this huge media story and cover up of GREED and hiding from DONORS and parents of horrific elder abuse.

Contracting an elder abuser, despite knowledge of horrific cruelty and evils, shows MAW's GREED and disregard for anyone else. False words of "social justice" are empty and meaningless.

We are speaking with attorneys and media and will submit another letter re MAW's unethical and fraudulent actions in securing funds and students by hiding their knowledge of longtime elder abuse by a faculty member.

Media wants to expose this story, and the CA Attorney. General's office will be receiving more information in this horrific story.

Horrific elder cruelty is an evil, and MAW completely support and applauds, as well as funds it!

In HORROR,

100s of 55+ human beings, outraged and disgusted at MAW's elitist arrogance

In God We Trust

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Sally H <sbhearon@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 26, 2024 5:51 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am not entirely clear about the issues which are being discussed, but I am very clear that the Music Academy has a history and a future that is exceptional. It is known and revered around the world. Without exaggeration, I can write that the very best Conductors, Musicians, and Fellows come to Santa Barbara and provide world class music in a program that offers an amazing variety of Concerts, Master Classes, Solo performances by world renowned artists, and music education to young people throughout the year.

The Music Academy is a local treasure, and I know that other residents will say the same thing. We consider it a blessing that is unique in a town our size.

I believe that any action which threatens the future of the Academy will be a travesty and a humiliation that will be viewed with shock around the world.

Thank you for accepting our comments,

Sarah (Sally) Hearon

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Todd Yancey <todd@hartfordstreet.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 27, 2024 3:15 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129  
**Attachments:** Music Academy of the West 10272024.docx

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

My name is Todd Yancey and I am the immediate past President of the Santa Barbara Newcomers Club and the co-Chair of the Santa Barbara University of Virginia Alumni Chapter. While only residing in Santa Barbara for four years, we have had numerous personal connections to the Music Academy of the West for over 35 years, in both New York and San Francisco classical music, including numerous long standing personal friendships with former Academy fellows. Over these many years, I have observed the transformative impact the Academy has on individuals and upon the evolution of Classical Music and Song.

Since moving to Santa Barbara, we have been very closely involved in supporting its mission through personal donations; performance and event participation; leadership thought partnership; and by serving as Compeers to summer Fellows. Our experience has been transformative and we have attempted to pass that opportunity onto other Community members through my volunteer roles. This includes benefitting from the opportunity to host the Santa Barbara Newcomers Presidential Party there and to extend opportunities to that membership to attend events and serve as Compeers – both exposures were incredibly fruitful with dozens of incremental participants. The Music Academy needs to be enabled to engage the Community more fully through the requested modest capacity increases. Please accept the following letter of support for the submitted request to update the Music Academy's 2004 Conditional Use Permit (CUP)

Respectfully submitted,

**Todd J. Yancey**  
[todd@hartfordstreet.com](mailto:todd@hartfordstreet.com)  
**+1.415.298.4808**



**Todd J. Yancey, MD**  
**1930 Mission Ridge Road**  
**Santa Barbara, California 93103**

[todd@hartfordstreet.com](mailto:todd@hartfordstreet.com)/ 415. 298.4808

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October 27, 2024

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
105 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

My name is Todd Yancey and I am the immediate past President of the Santa Barbara Newcomers Club and the co-Chair of the Santa Barbara University of Virginia Alumni Chapter. While only residing in Santa Barbara for four years, we have had numerous personal connections to the Music Academy of the West for over 35 years, in both New York and San Francisco classical music, including numerous long standing personal friendships with former Academy fellows. Over these many years, I have observed the transformative impact the Academy has on individuals and upon the evolution of Classical Music and Song.

Since moving to Santa Barbara, we have been very closely involved in supporting its mission through personal donations; performance and event participation; leadership thought partnership; and by serving as Compeers to summer Fellows. Our experience has been transformative and we have attempted to pass that opportunity onto other Community members through my volunteer roles. This includes benefitting from the opportunity to host the Santa Barbara Newcomers Presidential Party there and to extend opportunities to that membership to attend events and serve as Compeers – both exposures were incredibly fruitful with dozens of incremental participants. The Music Academy needs to be enabled to engage the Community more fully through the requested modest capacity increases. Please accept the following letter of support for the submitted request to update the Music Academy's 2004 Conditional Use Permit (CUP)

Respectfully submitted,

**Todd J. Yancey**

## Katherine Douglas

---

**From:** Stephanie Burris Perez <eyedocsteph47@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 27, 2024 4:39 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

My family has experienced the Music Academy of the West in numerous ways that have truly shaped our lives.

Both of my children participated in the stellar Santa Barbara Strings youth program, my violinist daughter for 8 years and my cellist son for 9 years. Many of their bi-annual concerts were held at Hahn Hall, such an impressive venue which inspired all the young musicians. SB Stings also holds an annual fundraising event in the impressive Marilyn Horne Main House.

My son's cello teacher holds private lessons and studio class in Claeysens Hall which is much more professional than in a private home and allows for the larger studio group to meet.

For the past 13 years our entire family has enjoyed attending MAW summer programs, such as the Quartet Competition and violin/ cello Masterclasses. And lastly, we have attended concerts in the Mariposa Series, attracted by both the artist and the gorgeous, familiar venue.

Our family appeals to you to continue to support the Music Academy in sustainable growth and continued success. It is an institution that embodies the spirit of young musicianship and provides our community with essential and nurturing human needs, music and tradition.

Thank you,  
Stephanie Burris Perez

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Larry Enrigue <larryenrigue@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 25, 2024 11:24 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear County of Santa Barbara,

My name is Lawrence Enrigue. I spent my childhood and over 50 years of my father's life working in Montecito. I am happy to be a parent of the Music Academy of the West. I support the wonderful people who make this place unique; it means a lot to my family and me.

Many people come to the academy to gather, and it draws the best talent locally and worldwide. We should allow the Music Academy to shine to its fullest potential. Please stop with these restrictions and comply with the community and the future of Santa Barbara. These are 300 children who are being educated in the best fashion in music and will be community leaders. I do not feel comfortable sending my child to a faraway place like the P-Ditty's flavor camp for kids or the Church of Scientology where terrible this may happen. We want our Music Academy and the staff to work freely, so please stand down on your regulations. I would love to live next to the Music Academy of the West; tell the neighborhood we can trade houses if they like; I have several to choose from.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you soon at the next meeting so you can meet my family and all my friends.

-Larry Enrigue

## Katherine Douglas

---

**From:** Gail Humphreys <gailshumphreys@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 28, 2024 9:08 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers:21-RVP-109; 21CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I write in **support** of the Music Academy of the West's CUP request. (Case Nos. 21-RVP109; 21CDP-129).

The Music Academy is a unique institution in our community, and really in the nation. Approval of the CUP is essential to insure its artistic and financial future so it can continue to provide extraordinary musical experiences for all Santa Barbara County residents from little children (Sing!) to its most senior citizens.

By bullet point (which cannot capture the color of each of these gifts), let me list a few of the things that make the Music Academy so special.

- Santa Barbara County residents can meet in close proximity America's next generation music stars, the Academy Fellows, and be treated to their amazing talent, not once, but throughout the summer.
- Santa Barbara County residents can explore what is behind the music they hear. The Academy provides Santa Barbara residents the epitome of continuing education by sharing its master classes with the public.
- Santa Barbara County residents can hear, in an intimate setting, music performances of the highest calibre from visiting Academy Artists.
- Santa Barbara County residents can themselves participate in the education and social growth of Academy Fellows by hosting a Fellow through the Academy's Compeer program.
- Santa Barbara County residents of all economic strata have unique access to superb music from opera to symphony to chamber to solo performances through the Academy's "Community Access" program that makes a significant number of tickets available to the public throughout the summer for only \$10.00 each.
- Santa Barbara County residents can enjoy the Music Academy setting pairing their enjoyment of music with picnics, informal contact with musicians, mixing with residents from all corners of Santa Barbara County, and soaking up the incomparable blend of music and nature.

The Music Academy of the West is truly a unique institution, and I congratulate it on being forward looking, finding ways to insure its economic future and its musical excellence while not unduly imposing on local neighbors. The Academy is a gift to Santa Barbara County, one we should treasure and not stifle.

Sincerely,  
Gail S. Humphreys (and R. Stephen Humphreys)  
902 West Campus Lane  
Goleta, CA 93117

805-685-8610  
[gailshumphreys@gmail.com](mailto:gailshumphreys@gmail.com)

## Katherine Douglas

---

**From:** Dot Nelson <dotdat@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 28, 2024 11:12 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RV-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Chair Lavagnino and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

My husband and I are staunch supporters of the Music Academy of the West (MAW) and have been for almost 20 years. We live and work in Irvine but spend the 8 weeks of the Summer Festival in Santa Barbara in a rental cottage on Laguna Street. We have supported the renovation of the campus monetarily over many years and have benefitted greatly from the new performance venues, renovated grounds and parking, and studios and practice spaces, as have all the hundreds of musicians who have been chosen to attend the festival as fellows.

The Music Academy is our summer home for classical music, as well as for other music opportunities throughout the year. The leadership – in previous years and current – are totally dedicated to the experience of all who are on campus and in the neighborhood during the year. We often walk in the neighborhood (as well as on Coast Village Road) between masterclasses and between afternoon and evening concerts. We notice little traffic or noise except for the general public parking for access to the beach or around the Biltmore or along Coast Village Road. The Music Academy leadership, staff, musicians, and patrons (including us) appreciate the beautiful campus, as well as the surrounding community.

We hope you will approve the Conditional Use Permit revisions and find the MAW request for CUP revisions consistent with the policies and goals of the community.

Dot and Rick Nelson  
4 Sweetwater  
Irvine, CA 92603  
949-854-3522

## Katherine Douglas

---

**From:** Paul Guido <guipa@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 28, 2024 12:08 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

As a Montecito resident, I am writing in support of the updated Music Academy 2004 Conditional Use Permit. I think the organization provides a great deal to our community, and the updated CUP allows the organization to continue its work with little or no negative impact on the community.

Thank you, Paul Guido, PhD

## Katherine Douglas

---

**From:** Dennis Michel <denmic25@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 28, 2024 1:57 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am writing in support of the Music Academy of the West's CUP application. I have been a faculty member of the Academy for the past 37 Summers, and during that time have seen the Academy evolve into one of the leading educational and cultural institutions of its kind in the United States, and indeed in the world.

As a long-time member of The Chicago Symphony Orchestra, I regularly see recent graduates of the Academy win auditions with major orchestras around the country, and can report with pride that the current Principal player of my section was my Academy student only a few short years ago! Certainly the extremely high level of students we attract and the growth we can foster over a Summer of study here in Santa Barbara helps propel them forward in their careers, and serves the art of music in a significant way.

The Academy's revised CUP will allow the school and festival to function better in serving the needs of our students, while respecting our immediate neighbors in Montecito. We have always been careful to impress upon our students and patrons as well that we operate in a residential neighborhood and one of our core values is to act respectfully in the environment in which we exist.

I have no doubt that this tradition will continue in the future, and that the new CUP will help the Academy retain its vibrancy and relevance well into the future. It is a cultural treasure, and certainly a mainstay of the arts in Santa Barbara.

Thank you for reading my heartfelt letter of support, and please approve the up-dated CUP.

Very sincerely,

Dennis Michel  
107 Wesley Avenue  
Oak Park, IL 60302

**Katherine Douglas**

---

**From:** Thomas Craveiro <tdcraveiro@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 28, 2024 2:44 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in support of the Music Academy of the West, which is requesting a CUP Revision and CDP to allow changes to the 2004 Revised CUP. **The primary objectives of the project are to update and simplify the CUP document, revise several of the CUP conditions to better serve the MAW's current and foreseeable needs, and create operational flexibility while also maintaining the maximum restrictions set forth in the 2004 CUP. Further, the proposed CUP changes result in no new environmental impacts.**

I believe the proposed revised CUP will be positive for both the MAW and the broader community and ask for your support.

Sincerely,  
Thomas Craveiro  
Santa Barbara, Ca



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** C A <christoartusio@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 28, 2024 4:32 PM  
**To:** Conner, Steve  
**Subject:** Music Academy hearing

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hi Steve,

I won't be able to attend the Nov 5 hearing due to Jury Duty service, but wanted to lend my voice in support of most of the Music Academy's proposed changes. I live immediately adjacent to the music academy (in el Montecito Verde, in the building close to the property). I don't have concerns about the first, second, or third requested key changes--in fact I support them.

I don't know what the sound level requirements are at the property lines, but my only request is that any amplified spoken word not be loud (let's say, above 65 dB or so) at the property line, although I can't imagine that would be the case given where the event spaces are. I have no concerns about acoustic music.

I have several neighbors who have expressed concerns, which they are of course entitled to. I only wanted to be sure that it was clear that others who live in the same building support the Music Academy and its proposed changes. They have been lovely and inviting neighbors, and I want them to be successful.

Many thanks,

Christo Artusio

**Sarah Mayer**

---

**From:** d <izac13@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 29, 2024 6:54 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

to whom. the music academy is a boon to our community, supporting the arts and allowing musicians from around the world to come and improve their skills and share them with the rest of us. please allow the music academy to continue its good work, and the ability to utilize the facilities to raise money to support the programs that they provide.

**Sarah Mayer**

---

**From:** Laurie Deans <laurieinsb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 29, 2024 11:59 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

I support the Music Academy of the West's request to update their Conditional Use Permit and want the SB County Board of Supervisors to approve this request.

Thank you!

—Laurie Deans

Santa Barbara County

## Sarah Mayer

---

**From:** Larry Enrigue <larryenrigue@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 29, 2024 3:24 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Re: Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

COSB,

Maybe you can help us with a government grant? That would be really nice.

-Larry

On Fri, Oct 25, 2024, 11:24 PM Larry Enrigue <[larryenrigue@gmail.com](mailto:larryenrigue@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear County of Santa Barbara,

My name is Lawrence Enrigue. I spent my childhood and over 50 years of my father's life working in Montecito. I am happy to be a parent of the Music Academy of the West. I support the wonderful people who make this place unique; it means a lot to my family and me.

Many people come to the academy to gather, and it draws the best talent locally and worldwide. We should allow the Music Academy to shine to its fullest potential. Please stop with these restrictions and comply with the community and the future of Santa Barbara. These are 300 children who are being educated in the best fashion in music and will be community leaders. I do not feel comfortable sending my child to a faraway place like the P-Ditty's flavor camp for kids or the Church of Scientology where terrible this may happen. We want our Music Academy and the staff to work freely, so please stand down on your regulations. I would love to live next to the Music Academy of the West; tell the neighborhood we can trade houses if they like; I have several to choose from.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you soon at the next meeting so you can meet my family and all my friends.

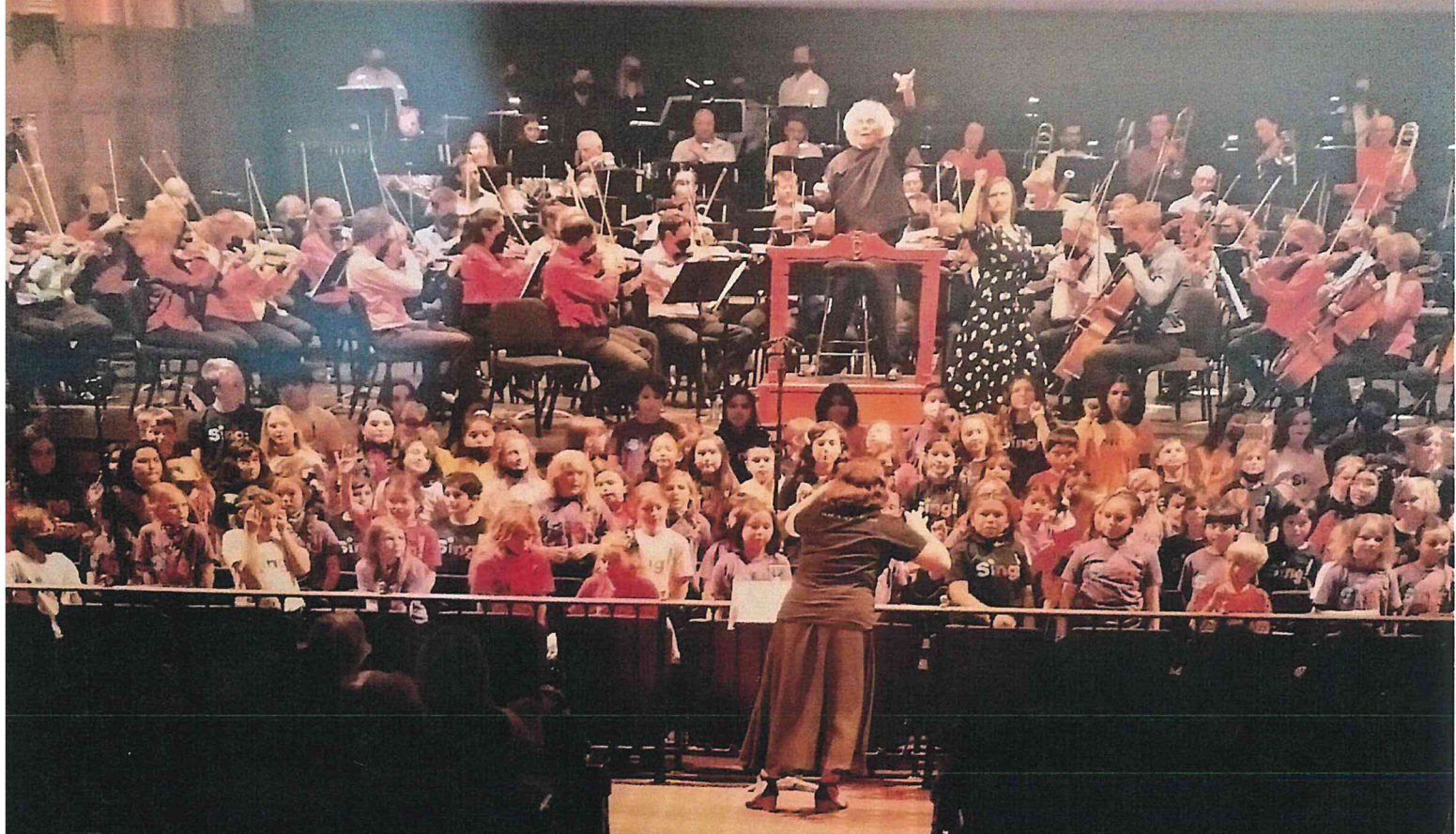
-Larry Enrigue

TEAM 1

Ting, Whistle, Ting, Tang!

TEAM 2

Plink, Plank, Plunk



Sing!

**Sarah Mayer**

---

**From:** bob nourse.org <bob@nourse.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 29, 2024 3:31 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

I strongly encourage your approval of the request for a CUP revision and CDP to allow for changes in the 2004 revised CUP.

The Music Academy is an institution that achieves national and international standards of excellence and, as a community, we should be proud to have it situated here in Santa Barbara. To the extent possible, we should support the activities that allow it to maintain its high standards. The proposed CUP changes are modest in nature and, to my understanding, impose no material problems for those living in the immediate neighborhood.

Cordially,

Robert Nourse

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** mjhartle <mjhartle@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024 11:12 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in support of the Music Academy's revised CUP.

As a Montecitan and member of the Santa /Barbara music loving community, I have appreciated the Music Academy for years as a place to hear fine music in the summers from the outstanding young musicians and their instructors. During the off-season for the students, my husband and I attended concerts by fine musical ensembles such as Camarata Pacifica which we attended since its beginning. The Music Academy is the jewel of Montecito arts offerings and one of the most outstanding in the whole of the Santa Barbara area.

In recent years an organization of which I am the president, The Chamber Music Society of Santa Barbara, has been allowed to hold our twice-yearly weekend workshops at the Music Academy. The approximately 40 amateur attendees who come from all over central and Southern California have benefited from the fine facilities for making music there and improving their playing in coached groups. We are so grateful to the Music Academy for its generosity in allowing these outreach events.

The Music Academy has been very thoughtful in directing our group how to abide by their CUP, such as not arriving early and waiting in the road or parking outside.

I strongly support the Music Academy of the West in their request for revisions to their CUP which are before you.

Sincerely,  
Mary Jo Hartle,  
President, The Chamber Music Society of Santa Barbara  
[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Carol Roe <orin\_h@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024 12:35 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

As a long time member of the Santa Barbara community, a musician and a lover of music, I urge you to continue supporting the Music Academy and all its efforts. For the past 20 years my husband and I have attended hundreds of concerts (Camerata Pacifica to name one series), recitals, etc. I take lessons at the MA. All of these endeavors contribute to inflow of taxes. I know that people come from out of town to attend these concerts, staying in hotels, motels and dining at our SB restaurants, which again feed our economy. In each case the music is inside, and folks park on the MA lots, NOT ON THE STREETS.

I am also on the Board of the Chamber Music Society of SB. We have 2 workshops each year, held at the Music Academy. More than half of our attendees come from LA and beyond, again adding to our economy from hotel and restaurant visits.

The resounding fact is that the Music Academy is THE JEWEL in the Crown of Santa Barbara: An attraction that cannot be duplicated anywhere else, is known world-wide as a big and respected draw, is always respectful of its neighbors and strongly supports inclusion with many other community-based organizations. .

Please let the Music Academy continue being the GOOD NEIGHBOR that is part of its mission.  
Thank you.

Carol Roe  
805-729-4871



## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Sara Patchen <slpatchen@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024 1:21 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I urge you to support the Music Academy of the West's request to make needed changes to the 2004 CUP revision.

The Music Academy of the West is an invaluable gem that enriches our community and deserves our full support.

Thank you,  
Sara Patchen  
Santa Barbara resident

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Dino Bull <dinobull1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024 2:37 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Music Academy of the West Support

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

October 30, 2024

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
105 E Anapamu St  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Support for the Music Academy of the West

I am writing to support the Music Academy of the West's update to the 2004 conditional use permit.

The Music Academy of the West is a local treasure. Increasing their student enrollment from 150 to 175, reintroducing gatherings (subject to local existing permits) and allowing non-amplified music and amplified spoken word activities at sound level requirements for the property are reasonable and beneficial.

All requests fall under the mission of this wonderful, local nonprofit organization to provide classically trained musicians and diverse audiences with transformative educational and performance experiences.

Sincerely,

Dean Noble  
3718 Osito Court  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

## Katherine Douglas

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**From:** Jane Hahn <janemhahn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 30, 2024 3:52 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Support for Music Academy of the West Case Numbers: 21-RVP-109; 21 CDP-129

**Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Lavagnino and members of the Board of Supervisors,

I want to express my strong support for the Music Academy of the West (MAW). For all of my adult life, I have been enriched by many activities there, including receiving private voice lessons, a summer as a fellow at the MAW, the opportunity to present my own solo voice recital in Lehman Hall, my sister's wedding, and more. Please approve MAW's request to update its 2004 Conditional Use Permit, and keep the door open for continued and expanding enrichment for the local community through use of the beautiful grounds, and public participation in artistic events!

Thank you!  
Jane Hahn  
MAW Fellow 1979