DAVID GEBER

Dear Bobby,

Preparing this statement has brought forth a wealth of recollections from the nearly 40 years I have had the privilege to know you. I vividly remember first hearing you play with the Juilliard in Aspen in 1971. I was struck by your charismatic servitude of the music, both on stage and in the teaching studio. I knew instantly that I needed to learn as much from you as I possibly could.

You are one of the greatest and most lasting influences on my life. You awakened my musical mind and a deep love of chamber music. You helped me understand the concept that music and music making are less about producing an always-beautiful sound than about deep personal expression; or, to put it another way, to distinguish between superficial beauty in music and absolute authenticity. You taught me more about the techniques of pizzicato than any cello teacher known to me – and you still have the best pizzicato in the business! Perhaps of the greatest significance to me at this phase of my life, you taught me of the responsibility to pass along my knowledge and my values to those who will succeed me.

You have touched so many lives and inspired so many generations of aspiring artists. There are countless musicians in the world who are forever in your debt, just as I am, for having borne the right influence at the right time.

It is indeed a privilege to know you, to work together at Manhattan School, and to make music together.

With my love, gratitude
and eternal admiration,



