

Embassy of the Czech Republic
3900 Spring of Freedom St., N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20008

October 10, 1997

Steven Richman
820 West End Avenue, Suite 13B
New York, NY 10025

Dear Mr. Richman,

Allow me to express my deep gratitude for all you have done in the past several years for the cause of Antonin Dvorak, and thus for the cause of the Czech Republic.

We all were concerned when the row-house on East 17th Street, in which the famous Czech composer lived for three very productive years, was torn down regardless of the fierce struggle to prevent it from happening. The righteous rage on the part of many brave men and women of culture was eventually transformed into a very positive endeavor which culminated in the Dvorak celebration and the installing of Ivan Mestrovic's statue in the corner of Stuyvesant Square Park: with new Dvorak's presence, his dignity has also returned to the Lower East side.

As you know I had an opportunity to take part in the joint effort to celebrate Dvorak, his great music, and the presence of Czech culture in New York. I also had an opportunity to personally thank many of those who made that glorious event possible. I believe, however, that some deserve to be addressed separately.

Your hard work, enthusiasm, and personal involvement contributed tremendously to the final success of the project. The musical part of the celebrations was obviously the most appropriate tribute to the genius of Antonin Dvorak, and due to your relentless effort, it became the highlight of the events.

Thank you again for your tremendous contribution. Rest assured that the Czech Embassy, and I personally, appreciate your achievement.

Sincerely,



Alexandr Vondra
Ambassador

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