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To Whom It May Concern,

For months seniors have been feeling lonely, isolated, and depressed from COVID-19. Many are used to getting together with each other in groups for different activities, including regular musical shows, all suddenly taken away from them on their final days by COVID-19. Our May semiannual You & Broadway! show at the Brookline Senior Center was canceled due to the pandemic, and no additional shows were possible, reducing our 2020 season to one show (Feb. 24), in comparison to our long standing average of nine shows per year. As such, the Brookline/Cambridge Community Center for the Arts (BCCA / CCCA) is applying for financial grants to resume providing critical entertainment to seniors, primarily in these extraordinary challenging times.

Our plan is to bring some pleasure to these folks, includes the type of musical entertainment they enjoy, directly to their phones, tablets, laptops, computers, TVs, and the monitors at their facilities. Our group is experienced and up to the challenge. We are well known in the Brookline, Newton, Waltham, Watertown, and Cambridge Massachusetts communities. Our following is loyal and they miss us, and we would like to provide opportunities for more people to enjoy these shows as well.

Our all-volunteer produced group (with small stipends for musicians) has evolved over the years and has seen many great musicians, singers, and dancers participate. My father and the show's founder, Paul Jordan (Saul Snyder), spent nights singing at piano bars for years. He knew all the local musicians and singers, and got many together to form shows, at such venues as the former 1550 Beacon Street in Brookline. After many years, most of the classic venues closed, and other venues no longer provided opportunities for seniors to regular perform. My father needed a location and went to BCCA in Brookline's Coolidge Corner, shortly after they opened in 2003. There he met Dan Marshall, the President and Executive Artistic Director, who graciously allowed the music group to hold shows at his non-profit center. Paul's close friend Leon Alperin, became our longtime drummer for the group, after working in the Winiker Band, and played with us until the age of 91. And my mother Louise, served as our publicist to seniors and booked shows as well.

Even when the arts center closed in May 2005, Dan Marshall and his family continued to produce open mics and shows with my family, in Brookline and surrounding towns, to form a creative, caring, musical family. With our all-senior "Happy Time" band, for 16 years, our monthly/bi-weekly show regularly featured retired local senior musicians and singers as young as 98, who would travel as far as 90 minutes to perform along with along with music loving community members. And for many years our Classics Open Mic, later renamed You & Broadway!, was a popular broadcast on Brookline Access Television (now called Brookline Interactive Group), and brought happiness and countless memories, performance opportunities, and friendships to seniors, their families, and members of all ages.

My father hosted the show and sang in it for years with an open mike format. As his health declined, I became more involved and eventually took on the host of the show role. Over time, we branched out to perform at a wide variety of senior venues and community establishments, forming bonds with senior organizations, and tailoring our show to them. We have many quality entertainers in our group and with funding and technology, could bring some joy to many more seniors. We hope you will consider our application, and invite you to watch some of our interactive shows and open mics at [www.YouandBroadway.com](http://www.YouandBroadway.com).

Please feel free to call or E-Mail me for further information on the Brookline/Cambridge Community Center for the Arts and Dan Marshall.

Thank you and regards,

Howie Jordan