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**Bettina A. Norton**  
**Editor Emerita, Boston Musical Intelligencer**  
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FCC Mail Room

March 25, 2014

Media Bureau - Audio Section  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street S.W.  
Room TW-A325  
Washington D.C. 20554

The Trustees,  
WGBH Educational Foundation  
One Guest Street  
Boston, MA 02135

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2014 APR -2 P 2:53  
AUDIO SERVICES DIVISION

RE: License Renewal Applications of  
WGBH-FM (#BRED 20131202BIA)  
WCRB-FM (#BRH 20131202BIR)

To the FCC and the Trustees of the WGBH Educational Foundation,

Some of you on the WGBH board are known to me, and I hope, me (favorably), to you. I respect you, and I trust you respect this cause, which I was asked to join, CCA's questioning the WGBH-FM and WCRB-FM's license renewals on the basis of its not conforming to its original mission.

A prime example of the eroding of cultural life in Boston is the diminution of aired classical music. What a drop from the days when we had a choice of four Boston stations! Yesterday, I sent out a request to friends and musicians whom I know, that they sign the petition to get this back on track. The response has been, credibly, emphatically favorable. The numbers are there, of people frustrated by what has been happening at the WGBH Foundation.

My frustration is not only the lack of variety and amount of good classical music now on the air in Boston, but the practice of playing only one movement of a piece (and not even saying so!), a deliberate truncation of the composers' intents, robbing us of the wholeness of a composition and threatening to bring up an entire generation with no understanding of that wholeness; it is a perversity.

As one of my respondents (a Harvard Professor of Astrophysics) wrote, it reminded him of "the old Bob Conrad spoof, 'Great Square Inches in Art.'" Do you, as guardians of an important segment of Boston's cultural life, honestly and in good conscience, approve this? I hope not.

Sincerely,

Bettina A. Norton