

Fellowship  
Comm.

February 27, 1948

Dear Mr. Jones: It is very good of you to agree to audition the candidates in piano for Rosenwald Fellowships. As you may know, we have been giving fellowships to Negroes and to white Southerners for a number of years. While we have no distinguished pianists on our lists, the Fellows in voice are an unusual group, ranging from Marian Anderson to Pauline Phelps. Mr. Bernard Taylor, also of the Juilliard School, is giving auditions to the candidates in voice.

This year there are six or seven candidates from the New York area. We have fairly complete material concerning them on paper, including comments from instructors and critics. What we want is a comparative evaluation among them with a view to seeing if one or two are of sufficient talent and promise to justify investment in their further development.

We would like the auditions to be given on Saturday afternoon, March 20. Would it be convenient for this to take place at your studio? If not, I wonder if you could arrange for a piano and room at the Juilliard School. I make this suggestion only because it is so cumbersome to make detailed arrangements from this distance. If you can confirm all this, including the address to which the candidates should come, we will issue notifications immediately to the persons concerned.

We gladly provide an honorarium of fifty dollars for this service, but the chief payment is the gratitude of the candidates and the opportunity to help one or two talented youngsters up the ladder of attainment.

Very truly yours,

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Mr. Alton Jones  
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New York City

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