September 18, 1952

Dear Senator and Mrs. Lehman:

There is a time when leading citizens unite to pay tribute to an institution which over the years has made great contributions to the cultural life of a community. That time has come with the 20th Anniversary of the Musicians Emergency Fund, which will be celebrated by all those in our city whose lives have been enriched by music.

Our celebration takes place at dinner in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on the evening of October 31. It will be both a unique and distinguished evening of music and one of the most enjoyable programs ever presented. Among the many highlights will be a scene from the exciting LADY MACBETH OF MZENSK by Shostakovich, previously performed only once in New York; gay interludes from ROSALINDA (DIE FLEDERMAUS), THE MERRY WIDOW, and scenes from other outstanding productions. Many noted artists will appear, among them Cesare Siepi of the Metropolitan Opera, the Westminster Choir and Leon Barzin conducting the Ballet Orchestra. The continuity of the show will be written by Bella Spewack, well-known Broadway playwright, and Eddie Albert of stage and screen will be narrator.

I have gladly accepted the honor of serving as Chairman of the 20th Anniversary Celebration. It is my hope that you will join me in paying tribute to the work of the MEF during the past 20 years in helping the careers of many artists. It will also afford an opportunity of re-dedication to its current service for wounded veterans through the Hospitalized Veterans Music Service.

I hope to receive the enclosed return card informing me that you wish your name to be listed among those on the Committee of Sponsors joining in the celebration of our 20th Anniversary. You may also make advance reservations for our Celebration on this card. I look forward to receiving your word of acknowledgement in the near future.

Faithfully yours,

Fritz Kreisler