

**Mayor JoAnn B. Seghini**  
Mayor of the City of Midvale



Dear Competition Participants,

Welcome to an event that will showcase the exceptional talents of each of you. The event was conceived and planned by a Midvale Businessman, Charles Liu. While it will be held in Salt Lake City, its genesis began in Midvale where Mr. Liu makes and repairs violins. Mr. Liu brings the influence of the renaissance music of Italy to our community. He exemplifies the reality that only music is the universal language. The language of music is understood by all people across all national borders. The only interpreter that is needed is the human mind, heart, and soul.

The city of Midvale is one hundred years old and has always been represented by a diverse population and diverse cultural groups. It seems natural to me that the ideas behind this competition were born in this community, conceived by a musician that is both an immigrant and an artist.

An event such as this underscores the need to provide a rich musical experience for our young musicians and for the children of our state. As an educator, I know that music and the arts are as important as the academic skills if children are to have a well rounded educational experience. You, as participants, will reach out to children and to their families, and you will give them an opportunity to experience excellence, dedication, and music that represents our world culture and bridges conflicts with beauty.

As participants you will empower others to work, to practice, and to participate. You will give all who attend an opportunity to see what you have accomplished and to share in the pride of your accomplishments.

Music is best when shared. It is a group experience. It is a symbol of peace and understanding. It is the universal language. You bring a wonderful gift to the people of Utah and realize a dream of Mr. Liu, a Midvale businessman.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JoAnn B. Seghini". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JoAnn B. Seghini  
Mayor