



November 22, 2024

VIA EMAIL AND USPS

Haley Gluhanich
Senior Program Officer, Campus Rights Advocacy
Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE)
510 Walnut Street, Suite 900
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Dear Ms. Gluhanich,

Thank you so much for your letter dated November 1, 2024. This office represents Berklee College of Music and we ask that any future correspondence be directed here. We have reviewed your letter and appreciate the opportunity to respond to the concerns you raise relating to the postponement of a student-led event earlier this fall.

As you note, Berklee is dedicated to cultivating an environment where mutual respect, understanding, and open dialogue are core values.

As background, the genesis of this event stemmed from a class assignment wherein students were asked to “find the courage to go into the community and share their stories and a cause they care deeply about.” As the event in question had grown beyond the scope of what the class project envisioned and what was initially proposed by the student, it was ultimately postponed due to safety and other logistical concerns shared by both the student and the institution. Instead, the student worked with academic leadership, presented his assignment in class, and received full credit for the assignment. We understand that the student has since chosen to proceed with the event at a different venue.

Again, we very much appreciate FIRE’s input and thoughts on this matter. Our highest priority remains the safety of all of our students, supporting our community members, and continuing the important work of cultivating a learning environment that fosters open dialogue and exchange.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Mitropoulos'.

Alexandra A. Mitropoulos
Deputy General Counsel
Berklee College of Music