

4640 - 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vero Beach, FL 32967  
September 21, 2020

REFERENCE: Letter of Support For  
Gifford Youth Orchestra, Inc.  
8 Vista Garden Trail, #102  
Vero Beach, FL 32962

As a native, a retired educator and a community activist of Gifford, Florida, I am acutely aware of the problem of too many aimless youth in our community. Volunteers and other groups that work toward directing these youth's energies in positive directions are a tremendous benefit to our community.

I am writing to express my support for the Gifford Youth Orchestra, Inc., a non-profit organization, that has made a huge impact on the lives of children from the cyclic path of multi-generational poverty to obtaining confidence and motivation to succeed not only as musicians, but to succeed in the classroom and life as well. The Gifford Youth Orchestra, Inc. accepts children from diverse backgrounds, many whom for the first time are introduced to the violin. They acquire the skills for mastery and appreciation for music. They are instilled with the core values that promote faith, integrity, respect, service and a thirst for knowledge. For more than two decades, the Gifford Youth Orchestra has conducted concerts locally and throughout the State of Florida. A majority of the Gifford Youth Orchestra participants graduate high school and go on to college or the military. This non-profit organization has been an oasis in developing academic, social and interpersonal skills, especially for many of the youth who live in the Gifford Community.


I have every confident that Gifford Youth Orchestra, Inc. will continue its mission in enhancing the quality of life for the youth and their families in our community.

Please accept this letter of support for Gifford Youth Orchestra, Inc. in its effort to continue implement and achieve its goals.


If you require more information about Gifford Youth Orchestra, Inc. please contact me at [rhud@bellsouth.net](mailto:rhud@bellsouth.net) or at (772) 567-7290.

Thank you for your usual support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

  
A. Ronald Hudson, Ph.D.  
Retired Assistant Superintendent  
Indian River County School District

Gifford Youth Achievement Center  
Chairman Emeritus

  
Jackye P. Hudson, MS  
Retired Educator  
Indian River County School District

# GIFFORD FRONT PORCH REVITALIZATION COUNCIL, INC.

September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Re: Letter of endorsement for the  
Gifford Youth Orchestra (GYO)

To whom it may concern:

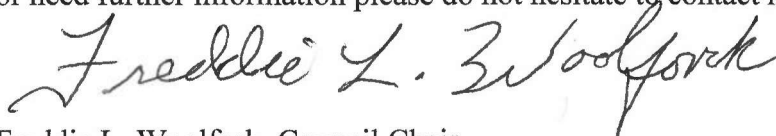
Please accept this letter as a formal notification of support from the Gifford Front Porch Revitalization Council (GFPRC) on behalf of the Gifford Youth Orchestra (GYO) in their submission of a grant request for information as it pertains to the operation and services provided by the Gifford Youth Orchestra to our community.

The Gifford Youth Orchestra for many years has been recognized as a vital component in providing essential nurturing for our area youth through a musical social development approach. The Gifford Front Porch Revitalization Council has supported the work that the Gifford Youth Orchestra has successfully accomplished over the past seventeen years.

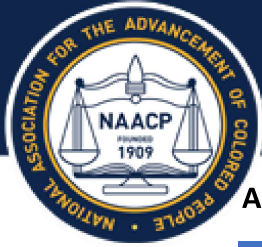
The two organizations have for a longtime understand quite clearly that "it takes teamwork to make the dream work". The dream is vividly seen and witnessed by the presence of youth now and in past years attending colleges and universities. Some are first generation college bound students in their families.

It was not by happenstance that these successes occurred, but through a thorough approach and the development of the Gifford Master plan, were we able to see the need and direct positive effect the Gifford Youth Orchestra could have on the youth who were a part of the Gifford Youth Orchestra. Through our partnership we have a well-established history of implementing collaborative efforts to further these types of positive results. Your continued support of the Gifford Youth Orchestra (GYO) will ensure the expansion of their continued progress to address social disparities in a predominantly African American community of Gifford.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our voice in supporting the Gifford Youth Orchestra (GYO) on their submission of the request for information to you. Should you have any questions or need further information please do not hesitate to contact me.



Freddie L. Woolfork, Council Chair  
Gifford Front Porch Revitalization Council



## NAACP Indian River County Branch

[www.indianrivernaacp.org](http://www.indianrivernaacp.org)

Anthony J. Brown, President - Victor Hart Sr., President Emeritus

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October 2,2020

Dear Sir/Madam:

I write to affirm my support for and endorsement of the Gifford Youth Orchestra. As President of the Indian River County NAACP, I am impressed with the positive impact made by the GYO on Gifford and its children and on the surrounding communities.

In 2002, in response to the Gifford Neighborhood Action Plan, the GYO formally requested a grant from the State-funded Gifford Front Porch Revitalization Council. The GYO requested funds to provide violin lessons (music education) to the children of Gifford.

The successful request was supported by the leadership of Gifford at the time, including the Presidents of the Progressive Civic League, the NAACP, Dr. Hudson (full name), Sylvia Person, and the Front Porch Education Committee.

Through the years the GYO has worked with and inspired 214 children to add music education to their lives. The GYO is now the oldest active Front Porch- sponsored program in our county. It grows stronger with each succeeding year and is currently making plans to move into its own space.

The Indian River County NAACP is zealous in it's commitment to this outstanding youth program. We are strong supporters of their efforts to make a positive difference with our children and, as their motto states, "keep them off the streets and on the stage."

Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any additional information in support of their work. They are inspirational change agents to our community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anthony J. Brown FSC - NAACP Area Director #5B

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Committee of Indian River County

**LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT**

To The Gifford Youth Orchestra

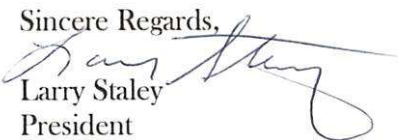
October 12, 2020

***"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"  
– Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.***

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Committee, Inc., in support of the Gifford Youth Orchestra (GYO). The Committee and GYO are 2 very active organizations within the Gifford community located in Indian River County, Florida. We developed a solid partnership through fund raising and community events that help the under-served youth in Gifford and neighboring areas within the county. Annually the Committee selects students based on character, grades, and community service to receive the scholarship which helps them further their education. We could not do this without the support from the Gifford Youth Orchestra.

The Committee has partnered with the GYO in support of sponsoring youth for violin lessons and more. The Orchestra has also performed at the annual MLK banquet. The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Committee appreciates the continued partnership with the Gifford Youth Orchestra. For we believe, We Are Better Together!

Sincere Regards,



Larry Staley  
President



We send you our love and our blessings

“Do not be dismayed by the brokenness of the word.

All things break, and all things can be mended.

Not with time, as they say, but with intention.

So go. Love intentionally, extravagantly, unconditionally.

This broken world waits in darkness for the light that is you.”

Written by L. R. Knost

Founder and Director of the Children’s Rights Advocacy

Author, Little Hearts Books