

**Greeting by Mayor Thies Puttnins-von Trotha, City of Ginsheim-Gustavsburg, to the 1st and 2nd Transatlantic Concert of the Maier School of Music on March 27 and 28, 2021.**

Dear Maier Family, Ladies and Gentlemen,

"The future is not how we imagine it, but how we create it!" This saying, which can be found on your homepage, obviously describes the self-image of your music school.

At a time when cultural and economic life is severely restricted, you do not bury your head in the sand, but take the initiative, forge ideas and manage to put on concerts from which your students benefit in a special way.

With the announced transatlantic concerts, in the middle of the Corona pandemic, you are giving music-loving members of your school the opportunity to present the skills and abilities acquired in distance learning to an audience in a digital setting.

And on this occasion, too, the focus is on the values that distinguish your institution and for which you were already honored with a German Citizen Award in 2012: Supporting young, talented people, social commitment and working together far beyond borders.

Through your contacts with the Piano Adventures Institute in Michigan, it is possible to organize an international concert event in which not only individual students will perform pieces of music, but even transnational duos will perform, with two piano students from your school and two piano students from the class of your colleague, Ms. Veena Kulkarni-Rankin from the Faber Piano Institute. I am particularly excited about this.

I am very pleased that you are once again acting as an advertising medium for our town of Ginsheim-Gustavsburg with this extraordinary event and are contributing to international understanding, as you aptly put it in your invitation to the concerts: "A contribution to the reduction of fears and reservations as well as a cross-continental linking of young people through friendships." I don't think it could be expressed more beautifully.

I wish the young musicians good luck with their performance, the listeners from all over the world much joy in the music and you, dear family Maier, dear Mrs. Kulkarni-Rankin, much success with your project and many thanks for your great commitment.

Your mayor

Thies Puttnins-von Trotha

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