

Berklee college of music

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Office of the President

September 8, 2011

Dear Adjudications Officer:

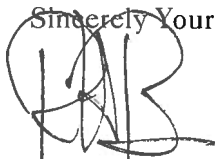
I am Roger H. Brown, president of Berklee College of Music. It is a pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for Farah Siraj to accompany her O-1 (Artist) Visa Application. I can attest that Farah's extensive formal training as a performer and composer will be a priceless asset to the music community of the United States. Farah is an internationally recognized artist with extraordinary ability who uses her music and her voice to promote cultural understanding and bridge the gap between east and west.

I met Farah in 2003 when she first came to Berklee College of Music to pursue a dual major in Film Scoring and Music Business and Management. I quickly noticed how involved Farah was in the music community. She was determined to make valuable contributions to Berklee. Farah was voted Vice President of the Student Government, where she showed outstanding leadership abilities. She was also the leader of the Middle Eastern Music Ensemble, and her style was very popular among the Berklee community. In addition, Farah's original song "Pienso en ti" won the Shure Fantastic Scholastic Competition representing Berklee College of Music in 2007. Farah was also among the 12 students chosen by Berklee for the first semester abroad at Philippos Nakas Conservatory in Greece. It is also worthy to mention that Farah's song "To the Sudanese Women" was chosen by Berklee as part of the "Save Darfur Project" to raise awareness about the genocide in Darfur. This song, produced by Jack Perricone, was included in the CD compilation "We Are All Connected". Farah's song was also played at a United Nations Security Council meeting concerning Darfur. Farah played a key role in Berklee's Darfur Campaign and performed at countless events, including her live performance on New England Cable News Network's "The Morning Show" and her performance in collaboration with a talk of Mayor Thomas Menino of Boston, to spread the message of the need for peace. In addition, her music has sounded in the halls of the Holocaust Museum in Washington.

Farah is one of Berklee College of Music's finest, most well-rounded graduates. Berklee is pleased to have Farah as the youngest member of the Berklee Valencia Advisory Board. Her input to the board is valuable to us and we are happy to have her on board.

I wish to state for the record that Farah Siraj is an alien who possesses outstanding and extraordinary musical abilities and would be a valuable addition to the music community of the United States. Farah has my highest recommendation and I whole heartedly support her petition for an O-1 non-immigrant visa classification.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. H. Brown", written over a circular stamp or seal.

Roger H. Brown, President
Berklee College of Music