“The performance is so good that the applause lasted longer and louder. From time to time, I closed my eyes to appreciate the beautiful music. To be honest with you, BYU Orchestra is the world class orchestra.”

Peter He, China

“The BYU Chamber Orchestra demonstrates what the Hawkshaw Foundation is all about. It proves there is exceptional talent in our young people when they are given a chance, both in the UK and the USA. The future of our orchestras need not diminish when we have the talent out there.”

Alan Hawkshaw, Radlett, England

“The concert was wonderful. The students were all so nice...and everyone that came were absolutely delighted. All of my students that attended were inspired and highly motivated by the experience because it gave them a glimpse of what they can work toward.”

Cybele D’Ambrosio, guest musician, Taranto, Italy

“I don’t know how we will ever be able to thank you and BYU for sending us such a great group of young men and women. Everyone has been raving about them ever since they performed at the Barclay Theatre. I have heard comments on what great musicians they are and how “clean and wholesome” they looked. The president of the Orange Symphony Orchestra said they perform equal to most mid-sized city philharmonic orchestras, and, in fact, are better than most. He went on to say he thinks ‘they are the finest university orchestra he had ever heard’.”

Ed Griffith, Irvine, California

“The orchestra members were gracious, extremely talented, and were orderly, respectful and followed the suggestions of the house manager….Kory Katseanes is a superb conductor. His cues were explicit, and the orchestra followed them to a ‘t’.”

Harold Knight, CEO of Live From the Plaza, Thousand Oaks, California

“The concert of BYU Chamber Orchestra in the Big Hall of the [Moscow] Conservatory was wonderful and successful. The program was very original and Symphony No. 2, by BYU faculty member Murray Boren, was of great interest to the Russian public. I like very much conductor Kory Katseanes—he is a professional of high level.”

Gennady Dziubenko, pianist husband of Moscow Conservatory faculty member, Moscow, Russia

“The Orchestra played wonderfully, and the audience was most lavish in applause, standing and clapping with the rhythmic clapping so common here as a sign of approval.”

President Wilfried M. Voge, Kiev, Ukraine