



Academy of Country Music
American Academy of Teachers of Singing
American Composers Forum
American Federation of Musicians
American Guild of Musical Artists
American Guild of Organists
American Harp Society
American Music Center
American Orff-Schulwerk Association
Artists Against Hunger & Poverty
ASCAP
BMI
Chopin Foundation of the United States
Conductors' Guild
Country Music Association
Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity
Early Music America
Interlochen Center for the Arts
International Alliance for Women in Music
International Federation of Festival
Organizations
International Music Products Association
(NAMM)
Mu Phi Epsilon International Music Fraternity
Music Critics Association of North America
Music Performance Fund
Music Publishers Association of the United
States
Music Teachers' Association of California
Music Teachers National Association
National Academy of Popular Music
National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences
National Association for Music Education
National Association of Negro Musicians
National Association of Recording
Merchandisers
National Association of Teachers of Singing
National Federation of Music Clubs
National Flute Association
National Guild for Community Arts Education
National Guild of Piano Teachers/
American College of Musicians
National Music Publishers' Association
National Opera Association
Recording Industry Association of America
SESAC
Sigma Alpha Iota
The Songwriters Guild of America

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March 28, 2016

Dr. Steve Crocker
Chairman of the Board, ICANN
(steve.crocker@icann.org)

Mr Fadi Chehadé
CEO, ICANN
(fadi.chehadé@icann.org)

Mr Chris Disspain
Chair of the Board Governance Committee, ICANN
(chris.disspain@icann.org)

Dear Messrs Chehadé, Crocker and Disspain,

I am writing on behalf of the board of directors of the National Music Council and the almost one million individual constituents of our member organizations. We would like to express our concern for the decision by ICANN to reject the DotMusic application ID. 1-1115-14110, on the basis that it failed to represent the music community for the purposes of ICANN's CPE evaluation. The international music community has come together across the globe to support the DotMusic application, and we cannot comprehend how the application could have failed on the community criteria.

The National Music Council of the United States was founded in 1940 and chartered by the 84th Congress in 1956 to act as a clearinghouse for the joint opinion and decision of its members and to work to strengthen the importance of music in the nation's life and culture. The Music Council represents the United States to the International Music Council. The Council's initial membership of 13 has grown to almost 50 national music organizations, encompassing every important form of professional and commercial musical activity and education.

The protection of intellectual property rights is vitally important to our members. For that reason, we want to do our part to ensure that any

music-themed, generic top-level domains are operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community. Any alternative is likely to encourage and support damaging and debilitating piracy that negatively impacts every fan, musician and music professional.

We therefore object to the decision noted above, the basis of which is an apparent inconsistency in the application of the governing rules. The global music community supports the DotMusic application, and we urge you to reconsider this decision, as we fear the alternatives will have far-reaching and damaging consequences to the public and to the music industry.

We would be happy to discuss this situation further with you at your convenience.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. David Sanders
Director