

November 13, 1969

Mr. Charles R. Eilber
Director, Interlochen Arts Academy
Interlochen, Michigan 49643

Dear Charles:

As per our telephone conversation of last week, I am sending you herewith the publicity information concerning Miss Natalie Hinderas, concert pianist/lecturer on Black composers and their music.

As I said, she performed two concert lectures for the Ann Arbor High Schools (Pioneer and Huron) and gave a lecture on one night and a concert the next night for the University audience. Her performances at the high schools were very enthusiastically received as were her performances on campus. She is a pianist of rare ability and dexterity and projects her musical personality and tastes with strength and clarity in the standard repertoire as well as in the contemporary literature. In addition, her choice of examples of Black composers compositions is of high quality and creativeness, going from the older lyrical writing of Dett (with which you may be familiar) to the avant-garde writing of some extremely talented and deserving young black composers like Chambers.

I am personally excited by the possibility which a potential appearance by her at Interlochen might cause and recommend her to you without reservation. You may want to refer to Roger Jacobi for additional reaction.

Along this same vein, I received a call from Dr. Nathaniel Gatlin, Head, Department of Music, Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia on Tuesday of this week, relative to the tour which their college Symphony Band is making this year. They plan to be in the Detroit, Ann Arbor area during the week April 5-11 and might also prove of some interest to you in your programming at Interlochen. I can say to you that I know this organization first hand, having worked at Virginia State College (an all black institution) for six years. It is an extremely well disciplined group of musicians who perform the concert literature at a very high quality level. I am taking the liberty to include a copy of their literature (publicity) and Dr. Gatlin's letter to me in this letter.

I would appreciate hearing from you on both these possibilities at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Willis Patterson'
Associate Professor of Music

cc: Dr. Haas
Mr. Robert Jones
Dr. Roger Jacobi