

Ronald J. Coons
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Dear Committee Members,

I am writing this letter in support of James Rickley's application to the Montana Arts Council. In my experience as a music educator for over 40 years and as a performing musician in a variety of settings, I believe James Rickley to be a worthy recipient of this grant. James has the ability and determination to follow through with this grant, and to fulfill the creative requirements.

I have performed his compositions as a member of the Great Falls Municipal Band and at New Hope Lutheran Church in Great Falls. I find his compositions to be challenging and meaningful. He is well versed in many styles and compositional techniques. His ideas are fresh and thought provoking.

I can recommend James Rickley personally and professionally without reservation. I believe he will meet and exceed the requirements of this grant. Feel free to contact me if further information is needed.

Ronald J. Coons