

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Cappelluti,

My name is Fiona Burdette and I am about to begin my third year at Wake Forest University. I was recently informed that I received the Christian Cappelluti Memorial Scholarship, the music department's highest honor, for 2019-2020. Thank you so much for this honor, and first of all let me say that I am so sorry about your son — it sounds like he was an amazing person.

The music department at Wake Forest asked me to tell you a little bit about myself. I am at WFU with a Presidential Scholarship in music (cello performance). I played Dvorak's Cello Concerto last year and Shostakovich's Cello Concerto this year as soloist with WFU's orchestra, but in addition to classical music, I also sing and play mandolin and cello in two professional bands, in which I perform many other styles of music, including bluegrass, Celtic, jazz, and pop. I also take music composition classes, and I have composed some short pieces as well as a Cello Suite and a three-movement String Quartet, whose World Premiere occurred this past April.

I have additional academic interests other than music. I am majoring in math and German and minoring in Art History. I currently plan to go to graduate school in architecture, and I actually just returned from studying architecture in different cities throughout Italy this summer. No matter what I do as a profession, music will always be an important part of my life in some way.

Once again, I am deeply honored and grateful to receive this award.

Sincerely,

Fiona Burdette