Dear Grisha

it is with great pleasure that I ~~read~~ learned about your wonderful recognition by the Southern University in giving you the Music Award of the year — being close friends for a long time

Having known you since so many years ~~I can~~ and having made music together on numerous occasions, I can better than anyone appreciate your great talent and the joy you gave to me for so many years to your audiences — and lately the marvelous heritage of your knowledge and artistry that you are transmitting to the many students you teach

With my heartest congratulations and great admiration

Your old friend Arthur Rubinstein

TELEPHONE
746-7936

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS
UNIVERSITY PARK
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90007

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

4 February 1976

Artur Rubinstein
22 Sq. de l'Avenue
Foch, Paris 16e
FRANCE

Dear Mr. Rubinstein:

With a great sense of pride and some personal prejudice, I wish to inform you that Gregor Piatigorsky will receive the 1976 Friends of Music Award of our University. This is the highest recognition we give to one person each year for his extraordinary contributions to our lives through music. As an honored member of our music faculty, as an artist and teacher, he has inspired and helped generations of young people and audiences everywhere. This is our way of thanking him.

The Award will be bestowed on Mr. Piatigorsky on April 18 in Los Angeles at a Tribute Banquet organized by the USC Friends of Music. There will be performances of music by Mr. Piatigorsky and a number of his colleagues and former students. There will also be a showing of a film but very few speeches. The net proceeds of the Banquet will establish an endowed scholarship at USC in Mr. Piatigorsky's name.

A group of Mr. Piatigorsky's friends and I thought it would be marvelous to give him letters written to him by musician friends and colleagues. It is for this purpose that I am honored to invite you to write a few words to Mr. Piatigorsky and send the letter to me for inclusion in a specially bound book. Incidentally, we are trying to keep this project a secret from Mr. Piatigorsky. (April 17 is his birthday.)

If you wish to write the letter, please use your regular stationery and mail it to me at the given address. The bookbinder must have the letters not later than March 10.

I know how busy you must be but I thought you would want to take the time to write a sentence or two. Please accept my gratitude for your willingness to help in our Tribute to Piatigorsky.

Sincerely yours,

Grant Beglarian

Grant Beglarian

Send the letter to:

Dean Grant Beglarian
"Piatigorsky Tribute"
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, California 90007

(Original of this letter sent to 541 Park Avenue, New York 10021)