



Soledad Enrichment Action Charter School

222 N. Virgil Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90004 • Phone: (213) 480-4200 • Fax: (213) 480-4190
rwilliams@seacharter.net

Grants Committee
The Grammy Foundation
3402 Pico Blvd.
Santa Monica, CA 90405

Dear Ms. Madsen:

I am writing to express strong support for Drumming for Your Life Institute. At Soledad Enrichment Action (SEA) Charter School, we have seen impressive quantitative data showing improvement in our students' reading fluency and overall confidence in reading.

Our school sites are in areas of the city where students are struggling academically. Our school targets "high-risk" students who come into our schools far below grade level and lack basic reading skills. The program has had a great impact, not only on their reading performance, but also in their attitudes toward reading and literature.

As an administrator for SEA Charter School, I have seen firsthand how the program facilitators connect at a deep level with students and develop a relationship that allows students to feel comfortable and confident. Our instructors have communicated that students who have lacked the confidence to read in class are now volunteering to read in front of their peers!

The program's unique approach, using rhythm and character development, has been so successful with our students that we have decided to add the program to more of our sites this year. The unique reading instruction used by the Reading and Rhythm Program, has been an invaluable tool for us to use in reaching students who resist and struggle with reading.

The results at our school have provided the kinds of objective, scientific data we need to justify the use of this methodology in our classes. It is without reservation that I support the Drumming for Your Life Institute and I strongly urge the Grammy Foundation to support Drumming for Your Life's proposed research project. Please feel free to contact me for more information at (213) 631-6523.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Williams".

Rick Williams
District Administrator of Programs
S.E.A. Charter School

*"S.E.A. Charter School staff believe that no person fails when given the proper environment and opportunity to succeed."
"...Providing students their first Real chance to succeed"*