



JASON S. BERMAN
Chairman
Chief Executive Officer

September 18, 1996

Ivan Bender, Lisa Livingston
Co-Chairs, Educational Multimedia
Fair Use Development Committee
City College/City University of NY
5/220 North Academic Center
138th Street at Convent Avenue
New York, NY 10031

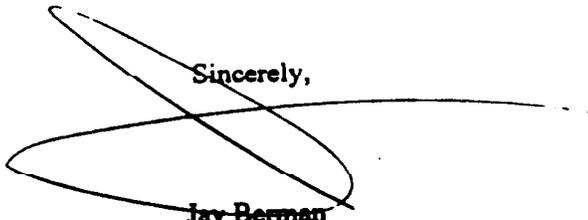
Dear Mr. Bender and Ms. Livingston:

The Recording Industry Association of America represents companies that create, produce, and distribute over 90% of the recorded music in this country. For the past eighteen months, my association has met with you and other associations representing educators and copyright owners for the purpose of creating fair use guidelines for educational multimedia. These guidelines are designed to be used by educators and students when they create their own multimedia projects.

The creation of fair use guidelines involves the development of a series of compromises insomuch as fair use does not have a precise definition in the copyright law or in the courts themselves. We feel these guidelines are a positive development in that they provide a sense of direction in an area of technology that is just now developing, yet has already become an important part of the learning process. It is clear that without these guidelines educators and students who develop multimedia projects can be inhibited in their efforts and that copyright proprietors may also be negatively impacted.

RIAA appreciates having the opportunity to be part of the negotiating committee and are pleased to be able to add our association's name to the list of the organizations that formally approve of these fair use guidelines for educational multimedia. We understand that you will be seeking Congressional approval of the guidelines and not recommending any amendment to the law itself.

Sincerely,


Jay Berman