

TIBERIUS KLAUSNER

Dear Children of the Future:

My name is Tibor Klausner. I came to the Kansas City area in 1955 because I was at Julliard in New York and I was offered a position by the Kansas City Philharmonic. I thought to myself, I don't even know where Kansas City is and I haven't even graduated yet. I talked to my teacher and he thought it might be a good experience for one year. I have been here ever since.

My proudest accomplishments since coming to Kansas City are contributing to the cultural life of the city through playing in the orchestra, forming a string quartet, performing as part of the Klausner-Cass Duo, and teaching. I especially love to teach and few things give me as much satisfaction as seeing students pursuing music as a career.

The Midwest Center for Holocaust Education is important for Kansas City because you have to educate the children so they don't forget. We can't forget the six million who died. For me, it was practically the whole family on my mother's side. Family is what I live for, to give my children the best possible education.

From studying the Holocaust, you should learn to be proud to be Jewish. Remember the six million who died. Education and memory is what will save us now.

My message for you, our future generation, is to preserve your Jewish heritage and be proud of your Jewishness. When I was studying in Paris, they never let me forget I was a foreigner and a Jew. How do you change that? How do you change antisemitism? You must continue to learn about Judaism, practice it, live by its values, pray, and hope. And you have to support Israel.

Very truly,

Tiberius Klausner
Arad, Romania
August 16, 1925