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To whom it may concern,

I am delighted to have this opportunity to show my gratitude and support to SIMA.

My name is Chloe Kim (Yeajee Kim), and I am a Korean-born, Sydney-based drummer and improviser. Since moving to Australia in 2012, SIMA has had a few special characteristics for me. It has been like a mother figure when I started to put my foot into the Sydney community. It has been a best friend figure, introducing me to great musicians. And it has been an uncle figure, willingly supporting at any opportunity.

With SIMA I have done lots of performances at the Sydney International Women's Festival, in Winter and Summer Series. I was a Sonic Futures artist, and it helped me get the confidence to get a band together, rehearse, develop and present music outside of the conservatorium. I did mentorships, Young Women's Jazz Workshops, and in Covid a composition mentorship Jonathan Zwartz. Three gigs at Orange Jazz Festival connected me to new audiences.

All of these have encouraged me to gradually become a good musician, a good composer, but also a good listener. That's important because in 2016 I was still one of the only female students when I started working with SIMA and did my first gig. I was not as confident as I am now speaking English. I was at the lowest hierarchy in the community. But SIMA was always a safe place. Everyone made me feel comfortable and made me sound good. Those individuals have always been the most kind and welcoming people.

Now I am on a SIMA Regional Tour with Bungaribee. This tour is an amazing opportunity played music that has been rehearsed for a significant amount time to achieve details. And we get to play it in interesting places. We played to children in Launceston. They were very serious listeners, because they have been trained by LIMA on how to attend the performances. They were tapping along on their toys. SIMA keeps showing me these potentials. I realised that I am now the role model to these girls.

Now SIMA feels more like a cousin figure that I see few times a year, because I'm busy with lots of opportunities. I recently performed 100 hours of solo drumming across Tasmania as part of MONA FOMA, recorded my first major composition with six double bassists, did my first international release, and have new bands like 'Emanation' with Sandy Evans, Zela Margossian, Jonathan Zwartz and Hilary Geddes.

But when I am with SIMA, it is the best time. There is a promise of audience, promise of quality, promise of inspiring platform that it creates for musicians to bring out the best of themselves.

SIMA helped me become a musician for life, and thanks to SIMA, I am looking forward to be drumming at the age of 85. I'm fortunate to be a musician because I am living a full-quality life. It's a daily reminder to be curious. There is always something beautiful.

Should you require further information, please contact me by phone or email.

Sincerely,



Chloe Kim 김예지
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