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January 2018

Dear Friends of Mabel,

What better way to begin 2018 and celebrate Mabel Mercer's 118th birthday on February 3rd than to "All Together Shout It Now, Let's Tell The World About It Now": We're announcing a challenging annual competition and scholarship awards for teenagers culled from New York City performing arts high schools singing songs from the **Great American Songbook** and interpreting these standards with their lovely melodies and thoughtful lyrics for newer generations. We're calling these young singers "**Mabel's Babies**" -- all made possible through the inspired endowment of Mabel Mercer Board Trustees Adela & Larry Elow. Their "baby" hopefuls (with more to come yearly) may be "**The Future of Cabaret**" and to quote one of Mabel's favorites, "Songs Were Made to Sing While We're Young."

Also in February, the Mabel Mercer Foundation will be represented at the **Cayman Arts Festival** by international Cabaret stars Carole J. Bufford, Eric Yves Garcia and Natalie Douglas (who will be teaching master classes to Cayman Islands high school students). And, of course, our successful Cabaret series with Florida's **Lynn University** enters its fourth straight year of sold-out shows featuring MMF-nominated artists. After presenting "**Jimmy Van Heusen and Friends**," our fifth Concert at Carnegie Recital Hall, on May 18th, we'll be embarking from Rome with our springtime **Cabaret at Sea** "friendraising" cruise on May 29th.

A truly unexpected bonus comes to us June 14th when renowned Metropolitan Opera star **Stephanie Blythe** debuts her new Cabaret show at **Feinstein's / 54 Below** in a benefit honoring the Mabel Mercer Foundation and its growing outreach to new audiences and specifically targeting generations next. Come autumn, we're back en masse for the **29th Annual New York Cabaret Convention** at **Jazz at Lincoln Center's Rose Hall**. From **October 9th to 12th**, we'll rejoice to four successive evenings of reuniting friends and fans of timeless tunes, standards old and new, sung by up-and-coming talents, prominent Cabaret performers from New York and nationwide along with major vocalists from concert, nightclub and musical theater stages worldwide.

Now as decades pass, please help us inspire newer generations of singers to seek out ageless quality and invent new stylings that give masterworks fresh interpretation. **We Need Your Support** now as never before! As we move further into the 21st Century, more distant from The Great American Songbook's origins, we must all work together to keep our great songs alive, growing, and sung by all "Forever Young".

Keep the Music Playing,

KT Sullivan
KT Sullivan
Artistic Director

Rick Meadows
Rick Meadows
Manager Director

Charles S. Bullock
Charles S. Bullock
Chairman, Board of Trustees