



January 15, 2019

Subject: Hydrogen Jukebox, Letter of support

To whom it may concern,

It is with pleasure that I write in support of the upcoming University of Washington School of Music production of the music theatre work *Hydrogen Jukebox*. A presentation of the Vocal Theatre Works program of Vocal Performance, these performances will provide a rare opportunity for students and audiences to experience this iconic work of late 20th century music and literature, and I am very much looking forward to its Seattle premier.

Composed by Phillip Glass and with a libretto by beat poet Allen Ginsberg, *Hydrogen Jukebox* addresses important issues of social equity, government and military accountability, and environmental sustainability, offering an examination of themes that continue to hold relevance for today's society.

Alan Ginsberg's work especially resonates with me as I was present in 1978 when he read his now famous "Ode to Plutonium" at the Colorado nuclear factory, called Rocky Flats, where plutonium triggers for the hydrogen bomb were manufactured. His work, and that protest action, set me on a path in my career devoted to resisting nuclear devastation in all of its forms.

As Executive Director of Hanford Challenge, I look forward to the opportunity for education and dialog that this production can afford, and give my full endorsement for this musically ambitious and exciting project.

Sincerely,

Tom Carpenter,
Executive Director,
Hanford Challenge