

March 17, 1976



## AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY HOUSE

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Maestro Artur Rubinstein 440 Park Avenue New York, New York

Dear Maestro:

You have graced the Hebrew University with your presence at one of our major meetings in Boston and again in Los Angeles. Your identity with the Hebrew University has enhanced our image throughout the United States. Our people in Chicago have asked us to extend to you an invitation to honor them with your presence at a major dinner which they are planning on Tuesday evening, June 8th.

The dinner will be held in the Palmer House Ballroom in Chicago. We anticipate that all of the 1,000 seats will be filled by leaders of the Jewish community as well as a very substantial number of non-Jews. Mr. William Johnson, President of Illinois Central Industries, one of the major corporations headquartered in Chicago, is the Chairman of the dinner. Mr. Newton Minow, former National Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission under President John F. Kennedy, and Mrs. Ann Landers, noted columnist, are the co-chairmen.

On the same evening, we will also express the appreciation of the American Friends of the Hebrew University to Mr. J. Ira Harris, a dedicated young

Maestro Arthur Rubinstein

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leader of the community who has rendered extraordinary service to the University, to Israel and to the Jewish community of Chicago.

The dinner itself is not a fund-raising occasion. Each of the persons present will contribute \$250, in advance, towards a scholarship grant for an academically worthy and financially needy student attending the Hebrew University -- a need which is greater today than ever before in view of the increasingly severe economic circumstances of the students, together with the time many of them must take from their studies to perform reserve defense duties. It is these students who are the main reservoir of Israel's future leaders without which Israel's commitment to democratic growth and progress cannot be realized.

It is only because of the critical need which faces the University that I have the "chutzpah" to once again ask you to join us. You are revered by all Americans who wish to give expression to the joy which your musical artistry gives to millions of people throughout this country and the world. As a living symbol of our highest artistic aspirations, we are indeed so very proud that your name is linked to the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the institution which symbolizes excellence in human society.

We appreciate the great pressures on your time. However, if your program allows you to accept this invitation, it would be our great privilege once again and it would redound immensely to the benefit of the Hebrew University's students.

With highest esteem, I am

Sincerely,

Seamour Fighman

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