June 2018

Dear ASCAP member,

Happy summer! Enclosed is your second domestic ASCAP publisher statement of 2018, reflecting performances of your music from October through December of last year.

The last few months brought a bounty of career milestones for your fellow ASCAP members. Kendrick Lamar became the first hip-hop artist to win a Pulitzer Prize in Music, and topped the Billboard Music Awards winners’ list with six trophies. Chris Stapleton and the Brothers Osborne won two awards a piece at the Academy of Country Music Awards. Last week, Ronald Bell (of Kool & The Gang), Jermaine Dupri, Alan Jackson and John Mellencamp were inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame, and Sara Bareilles earned the SHOF’s Hal David Starlight Award.

It is my sincere hope that every single ASCAP songwriter, composer and publisher can prosper from all the heart and soul, time and money you put into your music, just like all of these music heroes. I have good news to report about the progress that ASCAP has made on that front. Last month, at our Annual Membership Meeting, we announced that ASCAP collected $1.144 billion in revenues in 2017, our fourth straight year of record-breaking revenue and 8% more than the previous year. Even more importantly, for the first time in ASCAP history, we distributed over $1 billion in royalties to you, our members - a 10% growth year-over-year.

We are also making great strides in the evolving fight for fair compensation for your music. In mid-May, I joined the ASCAP Board and several of your fellow ASCAP members on a trip to Washington, DC, to urge the Senate to pass the Music Modernization Act - a bill that would go a long way in fixing our broken music licensing system. In April the MMA sailed through the House in a unanimous vote of 415 to 0, a clear sign that that lawmakers on all points of the political spectrum understand the importance of this bill in preserving the future of music.

There is still work to be done to get the MMA passed, but we know that our efforts in Washington are resonating with our elected officials. You can still help by texting the word SONGS to 52886. Tell your senators how important this is to your livelihood, and the future of music. In the meantime, we will keep you updated at www.ascap.com/advocacy.

Have a wonderful summer,

Paul Williams