During the intensive summer four weeks courses we have had students from all over the United States and a few from Europe.

The State Department frequently sends cultural visitors from abroad to see the school in operation. To date we have had visitors from Austria, Germany, France, The Netherlands, Japan, India, Liberia, Nigeria, Argentina, Brazil, and Bolivia.

When we opened our doors on December 1, 1967, we described ourselves, in what now seems a burst of over-confidence, as "America's first permanent school for the study of folk music and folk instruments." Well, here we are, ten years later and the school is going strong. Somehow, we seem to have tapped the strength, the beauty, and the longevity of the songs we sing and channelled these qualities into our gathering place called the Old Town School of Folk Music. We have built an institution which commands nation-wide respect. We have done this without subsidies or foundation grants, thereby demonstrating the vitality of the school concept. We think Chicago can be proud. The hunch was right. On this occasion of our tenth birthday, I say to our leaders, our teachers, our staff, our thousands of students, our tens of thousands of friends who have attended our concerts—past and present—: Thanks, for making the hunch come true!

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