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Дорогой Эдуард Борисович!
Почти 40 лет Вы были рядом!
Спасибо, что Вы были в моей жизни!
Спасибо за всё: за свет души, мудрость, профессионализм!
«Как трудно подобрать слова... и благодарность вслед измерить...»

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Tribute to Dr. Eduard Borisovich Abdullin

Suffering the deep loss of our dear friend and colleague, our grief is cradled by the inspiration of an exceptional life calling us to carry the torch forward. Dr. Eduard Borisovich Abdullin was a gentle giant in the international world of music education. The tenderness of his heart throbbed with a deep love for the children and youth of Russia. Combining a roaring passion for music and life itself, this brave soul arose as a giant advancing music education across the vast landscape of Russia and through the extensive reaches of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia). Eduard worked tirelessly in the conviction that music is for all, and devoted his life to the quest of bringing the highest quality music education to every child. We observed how he understood the value of connecting with colleagues across the world through attending and hosting international conferences. We saw him supporting the professional development of Russian music educators through establishing professional association activities that included publications. My love for Yakutian traditional music was born in Kuala Lumpur at the 2006 ISME World Conference performance by exceptional musicians who had followed in Eduard's footsteps.

Eduard founded the 2014 International Festival Music Teacher of the 21st Century at which I had the honor of speaking in my role as President of ISME. Together, we laid a wreath on Kabalevsky's grave to commemorate the 110th anniversary. I always remember the warmth of Eduard greeting me at the airport. A more gracious host you could not find. He and his music colleagues showed me exceptionally generous hospitality throughout my time in Moscow, including his kindness of returning me back to the airport for departure.