



A world-class music initiative...
In your own backyard



JAZZ
HOUSE



JEN CONFERENCE 2017

The Jazz House Kids Organ
Messengers directed by
Julius Tolentino:

- Claudia Nketia - vocals
- Nathan Farrell - alto sax
- Jonathan Rosen - tenor sax
- Sebastian Posada - bari sax
- Matthew Lee - trumpet
- Nadiyah Lee - trumpet
- David Chodor - trombone
- Matthew Whitaker - organ
- Ben Samuelson - guitar
- Adam Wacks - drums

SATURDAY AUGUST 12

MONTCLAIR
JAZZ FESTIVAL
HEAR
LIVE MUSIC
SEE
LIVE MUSIC
BE
LIVE MUSIC

NISHUANE PARK
MONTCLAIR, NJ

NO
TICKETS
REQUIRED!

Painting by Andres Chaparro


the Bravitas
Group
AND
THE SILVER FAMILY
FOUNDATION


JAZZ
HOUSE
KIDS

MONTCLAIRJAZZFESTIVAL.ORG

ABOUT JAZZ HOUSE KIDS

Jazz House Kids has gained a reputation as one of the nation's preeminent arts education and performance organizations. Now in its 15th year, its mission is to transform young lives and open doors to the future by offering pre-professional, year-round musical training along with community engagement and education programs for K-12 students from diverse backgrounds. Internationally renowned jazz performers teach alongside their professional staff, offering students a wide range of creative programming that develops musical potential, enhances leadership and life skills, and strengthens academic performance. Through music, mentoring, education and apprenticeship, Jazz House Kids cultivates tomorrow's global citizens so they may build vibrant communities.



OUR HISTORY

Melissa Walker founded Jazz House Kids 14 years ago to help young people find their ‘voice’ in jazz and provide the tools they need to become global citizens and community leaders. The organization fosters a strong community of award-winning students, dedicated teachers, and first-rate professional musicians.



Walker’s mission to help students embark on a journey of musical creativity and learn about jazz’s cultural and international legacy first began in 1999, when Newark jazz station WBGO asked her to create a program to introduce children to jazz. Telling the students to put on their make-believe tool belts to build their first “jazz house” together, Walker would set the precedent for the cultivation of a series of elementary school “Let’s Build a Jazz House” workshops. Jazz House Kids was incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 2002 and would soon introduce its in-school Vocal Summit and Instrumental Jazz Residency programs, bringing professional teaching artists into the schools to work side-by-side with young, aspiring musicians.



Together with her husband, **Christian McBride**, renowned five-time GRAMMY® Award-winning jazz bassist and recently appointed artistic director of the Newport Jazz Festival, Walker has built Jazz House Kids into a highly regarded, multi-faceted jazz education organization that has served more than 45,000 young people in schools, at the Jazz House and in the community.

FAR REACHING IMPACT

Each year, Jazz House Kids brings jazz into the community through more than 75 student performances. Through its events, performances and programming, Jazz House Kids reaches 25,000 people annually.

Jazz House Kids is the producer of the annual **Montclair Jazz Festival**, now in its 7th year. This yearly “No Tickets Required” summer event features a host of acclaimed artists plus more than 150 Jazz House Summer Workshop student musicians performing for thousands of friends and fans from New Jersey and beyond. It has become one of the region’s largest outdoor music festivals, attended by 8,000+ people.



Jazz House Kids hosts the 2-day **Inside the Jazz Note Education Fund Benefit**, which raises much needed funds for **Jazz House Kids’ Music + Education Fund**. Inside the Jazz Note features a full-day masterclass for middle and high school students with professional Jazz House faculty and jazz giants, and a concert + conversation hosted by 5-time GRAMMY-Award winner and Jazz House Artistic Chair, **Christian McBride**. Over the years, special guests have included **Wynton Marsalis, Chick Corea, Esperanza Spalding, Dianne Reeves, Pat Metheny, Al Jarreau, David Sanborn, Chris Botti, Sheila E., Jon Faddis, Jimmy Heath** and **Louis Hayes**.



OUR STUDENTS ARE GOING PLACES

Presently, Jazz House Kids touches the lives of more than 1,000 students at its Jazz House facility in Montclair, in the schools, and in the community every year. The organization offers more than 20 instrumental and vocal jazz classes at the Jazz House, and provides access to music education in underserved school districts, with programs in 10 schools in Newark, Orange, Union and Elizabeth. Jazz House Kids also places instruments in the hands of young people who want to play but can't afford instruments.



100% of our students at the Jazz House graduate from high school and go on to college, many with significant merit scholarships at leading universities and music conservatories. Some of our students are the first in their families to go to college.

In the past two years, our students have gone to:

- University of Miami
- Rutgers University
- Syracuse University
- SUNY Purchase
- The Juilliard School
- Berklee College of Music
- Montclair State University
- Rowan University
- Northwestern University
- William Paterson University
- University of New Haven
- The New School
- Princeton University
- New Jersey City University
- Eastman School of Music
- Temple University
- Columbia University
- Oberlin College
- Swarthmore College
- Michigan State University
- Lehigh University
- USC Thornton School of Music

JAZZ HOUSE KIDS DELIVERS... AT THE JAZZ HOUSE + IN THE COMMUNITY

At the Jazz House in Montclair, our 20+ tuition-based ensemble programs – such as the Jazz House Messengers, the Louis Armstrong Ensemble for beginning students, the Vocal Jazz Academy, and the award-winning Jazz House Big Band – accommodate 150+ students ages 8-18, across all playing levels. Students represent 43 New Jersey communities, and nearly 40% of our student body pays reduced tuition based on financial need.

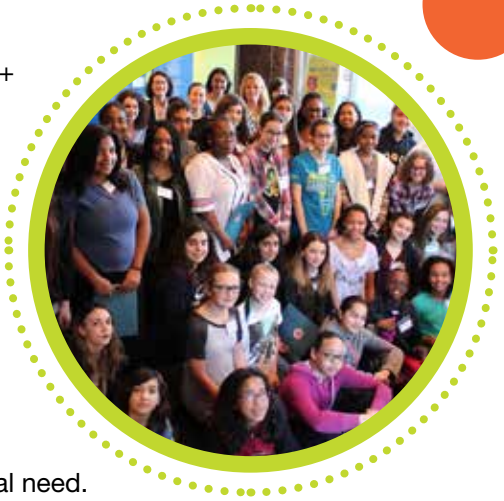
Classes at the Jazz House and our two-week Jazz House Summer Workshop provide between 50 and 200 hours of annual instruction and performance, and are led by our experienced teaching artists, all of whom are professional jazz musicians.

Inspiring more girls!

The Jazz House hosts our five-week **CHiCA Power Program** during Women's History Month. This free, instrumental program is part of our ongoing work to bridge the gap in the arts by supporting more young women's pursuit into jazz. Chica Power seeks to inspire young female instrumentalists ages 8-18 through weekly hands-on workshops with top female artists and faculty members. This year, we had our most diverse group yet, with **new participants from across 20 school districts**. This program is funded by the Montclair Fund for Women, the Northeasterners, the New Jersey Northeasterners, Susan & Chris Gifford, and other generous donors.

Making communities Swing!

Each year, our emerging musicians perform in more than 80 concerts before 25,000 people. We thank our many partners who make our programming possible around the year, including the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, Victoria Foundation, Turrell Fund, Prudential Foundation, Rivendell Foundation, Silver Family Foundation, the Appaloosa Management Charitable Foundation, TD Charitable Foundation and our many generous and wonderful individual supporters.





New schools!

Jazz House Kids continues to provide New Jersey students with free musical training, transformational experiences with renowned mentors, and opportunities to receive national recognition! Over the years, many exciting new partnerships have developed, as our in-school programming spread into new school districts, including Orange Public Schools, and South Orange and Maplewood!

Going strong in Newark!

We continue to be a consistent music education provider in Newark, with our free, weekly **Jazz House Kids Music Clubs** at five middle and high schools, our highly valued vocal and instrumental music residency for students with special needs at the John F. Kennedy middle/secondary school, and our music residency at Link Community Charter School. We also present exciting, interactive assembly programs at KIPP Spark Academy.

More instruments!

Our **Give An Instrument, Build a Musician** program continues to provide students in the Elizabeth and Union Public Schools districts with donated rental instruments so they can participate in their school bands, and attend masterclasses with accomplished jazz musicians. This year, we provided 50 new instruments and 30 masterclasses to our participating schools. We are grateful for the continued and inspired support of Janet Shapiro and Phil Byrd, and our many other generous individual donors.

Special thanks to the Iversen Family Foundation, Schumann Fund for New Jersey, and Don Katz and Leslie Larson.

AROUND THE WORLD PERU!



For the second year in a row, Jazz House students traveled to **Peru**. Most recently in 2016, our students took part in a cultural exchange sponsored in part by the **United States Embassy in Peru** and the **Instituto Cultural Peruano Norteamericano (ICPNA)**. This initiative supports the Peruvian National Project for Education (PEN 2021), which seeks to elevate the level of education across the country, and encourage students to consider studying abroad. The nine-day, action-packed trip featured performances, masterclasses, jam sessions and sightseeing, including a special “Earth Month” concert in Manchay, with opening remarks from **U.S. Ambassador to Peru Brian A. Nichols**, and the 16th annual weeklong Jazz Festival in Lima.

During the trip, which sought to inspire students in Peru through jazz, our students visited some of the poorest school districts in the country, and also traveled to Iquitos, the largest metropolis in the Peruvian Amazon, where they conducted a masterclass for local students and performed a free community concert. Other tour highlights included jazz masterclasses at the National Conservatory, and concerts at Peruvian clubs, schools and cultural centers.

The Jazz House Kids Peru initiative enables us to fulfill two time-honored traditions in jazz: spreading this original musical genre from the U.S. around the world, and learning about the sounds and rhythms of other cultures to incorporate into our music!

Jazz House Kids creates global citizens!

JAZZ HOUSE SUMMER WORKSHOP RECAP!

For the second year, Jazz House Kids returned to the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University for an intensive two-week summer workshop. Students of all levels received mentoring and top-notch instruction to develop key skills and enhance knowledge in fundamentals of music and the art of performance.



HIGHLIGHTS:

- Sold-out performance at the renowned **Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola at Jazz at Lincoln Center**, and the “No Tickets Required” Montclair Jazz Festival
- **Mid-Day Summer Concert + Symposium Series** curated by festival artistic director **Christian McBride**, with special guests, including drum legends Louis Hayes and Billy Hart, trumpeter Ingrid Jensen, guitarist Dave Stryker, pianist Harold Mabern, and Montclair Jazz Festival headliners
- Special CHiCA POWER! workshops led by special guests including Dee Dee Bridgewater and Ingrid Jensen
- Family BBQ and all-night jam, and more students staying on campus than ever before!

The 2016 Jazz House Summer Workshop would not have been possible without the tremendous generosity of the following organizations and individuals: City National Bank, Ronald McDonald House Charities of the New York Tri-State Area, Gia Maione Prima Foundation, Susan & Tom Dunn, the ASCAP Foundation Louis Armstrong Fund, Mortgage Master, Montclair Fund for Women, Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, and Variety, The Children's Charity of New York.

WYNTON MARSALIS SALUTES JAZZ HOUSE KIDS



To Jazz House Kids:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of support to Melissa Walker and Christian McBride for the untiring and very successful work they do in the service of jazz music, our community and our youth through their organization, Jazz House Kids.

It seems like only yesterday that I met a 14-year-old bassist in a Philadelphia classroom who sat in with my band later that evening in the fabled Academy of Music and blew everyone away with his sophistication, charisma and the size of his beat. After years of thrilling audiences of all sizes around the world, that same young man and his wife Melissa are making sure that the circle is unbroken. Through Jazz House Kids, they are developing some of the country's most promising young musicians by providing them with world class educational and performance opportunities.

I have seen and heard the deep swing and skillful improvisations of the Jazz House Kids. Their soloing and ensemble playing makes me so proud and has been recognized by many knowledgeable lovers of jazz. Their top big band received one of the top awards for two years in a row at Jazz at Lincoln Center's Essentially Ellington Competition and several of the students have been accepted into the jazz studies program at The Juilliard School.

Their students consistently impress, not only because of their musical abilities, but also because of their focus, presence and commitment to quality. Jazz House Kids, besides having a great name, is doing much more than educating musicians – they are developing cultural leaders. Something we desperately need at this time.

Their artistic and social victories are the result of dedicated and strong organizational leadership. I commend the Jazz House Kids Board of Directors and staff for their passionate commitment to providing access and equity for all students through jazz.

This is an organization that is a beacon of light on what is known to be a barren cultural landscape.

This organization is deserving and worthy of support from all who wish to see an actual movement in the direction of excellence for our young people.

Count me in that number. They are on to something special.

In the spirit of swing,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wynton Marsalis'.

Wynton Marsalis

JAZZ HOUSE KIDS®

Our mission in action...

45,000+ students have participated in Jazz House Kids music education and performance programs since 2002

100% of Jazz House students go on to college!

\$1 Million+ in college scholarships have been awarded to Jazz House graduates since 2014

JazzTimes calls
JAZZ HOUSE KIDS
"one of the most
successful and
respected jazz
education programs
in the country"

GIA MAIONE PRIMA
FOUNDATION, INC.

The Gia Maione Prima Foundation is proud to support Jazz House Kids at JEN and year round through the **Louis Prima and Gia Maione Prima Jazz Scholarship Fund**, created in honor of the lives and legacies of Louis Prima & Gia Maione Prima.
www.giamaioneprimafoundation.com



Celebrating its 19th year of operation, NorthStar Cruises is a proud supporter of Jazz House Kids at JEN and the **Montclair Jazz Festival**.
www.northstarcruises.com

WE THANK OUR PARTNERS
for supporting our student
cultural trip to New Orleans!



jazzhousekids.org