

For Immediate Release

MEDIA RELEASE

The Hamilton Music Collective receives \$10,000 grant from The Hamilton Community Foundation, Creative Arts Fund in support of the expansion of the AIFEC Jambassador program.

DEC. 17, 2015 The Hamilton Music Collective is pleased to announce it is a recipient of a new grant from the **Hamilton Community Foundation**. The Creative Arts Fund provides arts experiences for young people from low-income families.

AIFEC JAMBASSADORS is a new and unique, performance-based program offered by the Hamilton Music Collective. Children experience the “ins and outs” of being in a band, with instruction from professional musicians. This program covers the entire musical journey - from auditions, through rehearsing cover songs and even writing their own original material... all building-up to an onstage live performance in a professional concert setting.

“We are thrilled about this new funding stream as it will support both the sustainable development and growth of the *Jambassador* program,” said **Astrid Hepner, President, Hamilton Music Collective**. “More programming, more access and, especially, increased stability are all important to a healthy arts scene,” said **Terry Cooke, Hamilton Community Foundation’s president & CEO**. “We are so pleased to be able to make such a substantial contribution to this sector which plays a critical role in creating a vibrant city.”

AIFEC is a visionary music project aimed at providing elementary school children in Hamilton’s inner-city schools and community centres with the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument. The program promotes the healthy growth and development of children through the study, practice, and performance of music and builds healthier communities by investing in the positive development of children through music.

About the Hamilton Community Foundation: Hamilton Community Foundation has been working to drive positive change in Hamilton since 1954 by helping people give in a way that has meaning to them and impact in the community, providing grants and financing to charitable organizations and initiatives and bringing people together to address priority issues that affect Hamiltonians.

For more information about An Instrument for Every Child, please visit www.aninstrumentforeverychild.ca

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