

More funding for inner-city music program



HEATHER BAMBRICK

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Hamilton Spectator

By [Graham Rockingham](#)

A Hamilton-based program bringing musical instruments and education to inner-city children has received a \$60,000 grant from the TD bank.

The non-profit Hamilton Music Collective, which operates [An Instrument for Every Child](#), also announced the renewal of a multi-year funding of \$125,000 from founding sponsor Paul Lloyd, president of Hamilton-based security firm PasWord Protection.

The initiative was started in 2010 at King George School and has expanded to 10 inner-city schools and community centres, providing instruments and teachers to underserved youth.

"In the past five years, we have seen the program grow substantially, and we are most grateful that Paul Lloyd, who is an active member of the board of directors, has once again agreed to extend his commitment an additional five years," said HMC chair Bob Miller in a statement.

The Hamilton Music Collective also announced a new "Jazz for AIFEC" fall concert series at the Gasworks, 141 Park St. N., with ticket proceeds going to An Instrument for Every Child. The concerts feature the following four acts:

- Heather Bambrick, Thursday, Sept. 24.** Bambrick is a jazz singer best known for her timeless renditions from the Great American songbook. She'll be backed by Mark

Kieswetter on piano, Michael McClennan on bass and Daniel Barnes on drums. When not singing, Bambrick is an on-air host at Jazz.FM91.

•**Robi Botos Jazz Piano Trio, Thursday, Oct. 22.** Botos is one of Canada's elite jazz musicians, mentored by Oscar Peterson. Botos has won keyboardist of the year honours at the National Jazz Awards and received a first-place prize at the Montreux Jazz Festival for solo piano.

•**Darcy Hepner Rhythm and Blues All-Stars, Thursday, Nov. 19.** A former saxophonist with Blood, Sweat and Tears, Hepner has worked with B.B. King, Aretha Franklin, Sergio Mendes and Henry Mancini. Hepner and the band will perform funky hits from the '60s and '70s.

•**Tony Monaco Organ Trio, Thursday, Dec. 3.** A student of the legendary Jimmy Smith, Monaco is a master of the Hammond B-3. The Ohio-based keyboard player will be joined by Ted Quinlan on guitar and Vito Rezza on drums.

Tickets for each show are \$35 general admission and \$25 for students. Ticket information will be made available on the [AIFEC website](#) after Labour Day.

grockingham@thespec.com

905-526-3331 | @RockatTheSpec

Graham Rockingham is the Hamilton Spectator's music editor.

Email: grockingham@thespec.com. **Twitter: @RockatTheSpec**