

For Immediate Release

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MEDIA RELEASE

The Hamilton Music Collective receives \$30,000 grant from The Hamilton Golf & Country Club Foundation in support of the 'An Instrument for Every Child' program.

The Hamilton Music Collective is pleased to announce it is one of 6 charities that received \$30,000 raised from The 45th Annual Dick Borthwick Memorial Golf Tournament.

This funding will support both the operational and programming aspects of the AIFEC program, which is currently operating in 8 schools and has expanded this year to reach children in the broader community through the Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club of Hamilton, at local community centres, and through new programming at the organization's headquarters, The Gasworks. "The impact of this grant cannot be underestimated," said Astrid Hepner, President, Hamilton Music Collective. "This grant will allow us to expand the program to at least 2 additional inner-city schools in the 2016/17 school year."

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. The AIFEC program was founded in 2009, by the Hamilton Music Collective, with a pilot project at King George elementary school. From that class of 20 students, AIFEC expanded to over 450 children in 10 inner-city schools and community centres.

The Dick Borthwick Memorial Golf Tournament began in 1971 to support Branchton Camp. Its esteemed late member, Mr. Warren Harding, was the driving force behind the tournament in the early years. A number of Warren's friends at the Hamilton Golf and Country Club provided strong support. Branchton Camp was the beneficiary of the tournament until the late 1990's. Since that time various Hamilton charities have benefited from the tournament.

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

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