

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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For bios on the faculty, visit: http://www.jalc.org/about/pdf/MSJA_Faculty_Jan_08.pdf



From l to r (back row): Malcom Matthews, Cindy Rodriguez, Gyason Copeland, Joshua Camacho, Luzarnell Lantigua (second row) Raldy Vargas, Gregory Hunter, Mark Schramm, Kief Martin, Yasiel Sanchez, Ari Tessitore. (front row) Nickarel Forbes-Allen, David Molina, Gabe Warshaw, Joshua Everett

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER'S MIDDLE SCHOOL JAZZ ACADEMY FREE PERFORMANCE JAN 26

WHO/WHAT:

Jazz at Lincoln Center premieres the MIDDLE SCHOOL JAZZ ACADEMY (MSJA) class of 2008, under direction of Eli Yamin, in a free concert featuring the repertoire of Gene Ammons, Count Basie and Mongo Santamaria, as well as a special collaboration with dancers from CAS/AileyCamp Manhattan.

Students from CAS/AileyCamp Manhattan and MSJA will participate in a group workshop, creating a collaborative music and dance composition taken from their own personal narratives or 'blood memories'. The students will present their work in progress during MSJA's First Semester Showcase Concert.

About MSJA:

Each year Jazz at Lincoln Center chooses 15 students from all five boroughs of New York City, in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades to be a part of MSJA. Each

student is awarded a full tuition scholarship, based on application, audition and family interview, to provide intensive jazz instruction throughout the school year.

Now in its third year, this unique program offers a course of study in instrumental performance, including Saturday Academy and weekly private lessons, as well as broader youth development activities. Students have the opportunity to meet and learn from Wynton Marsalis, Artistic Director of Jazz at Lincoln Center, members of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and other special guest musicians.

About AileyCamp:

AileyCamp is an innovative program that helps underserved youth develop their full potential through disciplined dance training, along with creative communications and personal development classes. It has been presented in Manhattan over the past 17-years by the Ailey organization in partnership with The Children's Aid Society (CAS).

MIDDLE SCHOOL JAZZ ACADEMY CLASS OF 2008

Joshua Camacho, flute, Washington Heights
Gyason Copeland, flute, Bronx
Joshua Everett, drums/percussion, Brooklyn
Nickarel Forbes-Allen, clarinet, Brooklyn
Gregory Hunter, alto sax, Brooklyn
Luzarnell Lantigua, bass, Manhattan
Keefe Martin, trumpet, Brooklyn
Malcolm-Jamal Matthews, tenor sax, Bronx
David Molina, drums/percussion, Washington Heights
Cindy Rodriguez, clarinet, Washington Heights
Yasiel Sanchez, piano, Manhattan
Mark Schramm, trombone, Manhattan
Aristide Tessitore, Manhattan
Raldy Vargas, piano, Bronx
Gabe Warshaw, drums/percussion, Manhattan

WHEN: January 26, 2007 at 1 p.m.

WHERE: Irene Diamond Education Center, 5th Floor, Frederick P. Rose Hall, Home of Jazz at Lincoln Center, on Broadway at 60th Street, New York City.

HOW: Tickets are free and will be available as of January 21 at Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall box office located on Broadway at 60th Street.

For more information on MSJA, visit:

http://www.jalc.org/jazzed/s_msja.html

For more information on CAS/AileyCamp, visit:

<http://www.alvinailey.org/page.php?p=arti&v=16&sec=programs>

QUOTES:

“The program taught my son and my family that jazz is not only a music style... it’s a lifestyle. It’s the different way to see and live life... it’s the way to interact with other people without discrimination... it’s the way to demonstrate to the world that we are equal, no matter which color, religion, or where you come from, not even what you speak...just to bring your instrument and swing.”

– *Stefanos DiFonis, MSJA Parent*

“Middle School Jazz Academy welcomes middle school musicians into the creative and soulful world of jazz. Students make friends with each other and legendary jazz musicians. Within months, everybody is playing the blues, improvising on tunes and swinging as one voice.”

– *Eli Yamin, Director of MSJA*

CONTACT:

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Bloomberg is the proud sponsor of CAS/AileyCamp Manhattan

The AileyCamp program is supported by The Lehman Brothers AileyCamp Endowment Fund

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