

Urgent Support for Music Teachers: Tune in 12pmET Tues, July 19 for Nat King Cole Generation Hope "Music Ed Conference"

Acclaimed actor Harry Lennix to deliver keynote address, forum under leadership of Kennedy Center's Dr. Edrick Rhodes

BOCA RATON, FL, USA, July 18, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Today, when countless children face



Post-COVID, music teachers faced a daunting return to the classroom, contending with behavioral issues, destabilized families, staff shortages and budget cuts, especially at under-resourced schools."

Shanna St. John, Executive Director - Nat King Cole Generation Hope

unprecedented challenges - mentally, emotionally and academically - quality [music education and inspired teachers](#) have never been more urgently needed, to uplift spirits, empower student learning and transform lives through music. Music instructors deserve more support than ever; post COVID, their return to the classroom has been daunting as they contend with behavioral issues, destabilized families, staffing shortages and reallocated budgets, especially at under-resourced schools.

For these dedicated mentors, Palm Beach County-based charity [Nat King Cole Generation Hope](#) (NKCGH) proudly hosts its third annual Music Educators Conference, July 19 - 21, 2022, a virtual forum under the leadership of Dr. Edrick

Rhodes, Director - Arts Education, Curriculum & Administration of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. He will be joined by the non-profit's co-founders Timolin and Casey Cole, twin daughters of iconic music artist Nat King Cole, to welcome participating educators and administrators. Over 500 previously attended via Zoom from across the U.S. and overseas.

Highly acclaimed film, television and stage actor [Harry Lennix](#), a former teacher and ardent proponent of equity in performing arts & education, will present the keynote address. The talented performer and social activist will speak to the payoff from investing in music education in all school systems, sharing his extraordinary personal and professional perspectives. Lennix recently earned a \$26 million grant to develop The Lillian Marcie Center and AAMPA (African American Museum of the Performing Arts) arts complex on Chicago's South Side.

The 2022 NKCGH Music Educators Conference, themed K-12 Music Education: Recapitulation

Yesterday, Today & Beyond, will feature an array of speakers from Carnegie Hall, Guitars Over Guns, Save the Music Foundation, the Kennedy Center, prominent universities, NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) and other organizations, will offer timely, compelling expertise on the vitals of music education. This yearly event is generously supported by The Selz Foundation.

Registration Online:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMuce2prj8rHdwtX_Vuuqk5ZIPtN66X1C1h

For more information on the program or Nat King Cole Generation Hope, visit www.natkingcolegenhope.org or contact 561.213.8209 or sstjohn@natkingcolegenhope.com

Harry Lennix

* Photo Links -

<https://www.dropbox.com/t/FM4aCIIPjmzCOBXT>

* Biography -

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/kyj5psc06w470eo/Harry-Lennix-Bio-2021.pdf?dl=0>

Research on Music Education

* Harvard Graduate School of Education – Music Lessons: Tracing Links between Musician Training and Executive Function - and Bolstering the Case for Music in Schools -

<https://www.gse.harvard.edu/news/uk/16/03/music-lessons>

* Inverse – Music Gives the Brain a Crucial Connective Advantage -

<https://www.inverse.com/mind-body/how-music-changes-the-brain-study>

* Inc — Want Smarter Kids? Teach Music Not Coding, According to MIT -

<https://www.inc.com/geoffrey-james/want-smarter-kids-teach-music-not-coding-according-to-mit.html>

* Florida National University – The Benefits of Studying with Music -

<https://www.fnu.edu/benefits-studying-music/>

* Graduate Programs for Educators – Importance of Music Education in Schools K-12 Teachers

Alliance - <https://www.graduateprogram.org/2020/08/the-importance-of-music-education-in-schools/>

About Nat King Cole Generation Hope, Inc. (NKCGH)

Co-founded in 2008 by Timolin and Casey Cole, twin daughters of legendary music artist and entertainer Nat King Cole, Nat King Cole Generation Hope builds on the storied Cole family



Acclaimed actor Harry Lennix, advocate for equity in music education and Nat King Cole Generation Hope

legacy: to create opportunities and expand access to music education for children with the greatest need.

The charity fulfills that calling by funding music instruction programs, mentoring, resources and scholarships for youth, while bolstering music educators. The ultimate goal: expand enrichment and inspire as many children as possible, while galvanizing community and fundraising support.

Nat King Cole Generation Hope upholds the vision that music education is not a privilege, but an entitlement. All youth deserve the chance to experience musical expression and creation, and to pursue excellence and achievement in that realm. Budding performers, empowered by mentors and resources from NKCGH, can transform their passion and skill into paths of opportunity; and in turn, their instruments and voices uplift the world and heal humanity.

- 40,500+ children have been supported by NKCGH's music education programs
- 85,000+ children have benefitted from donated instruments from Project Encore!
- \$2.5 million in fundraising
- 150,000+ volunteer hours

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