



HERBIE HANCOCK
INSTITUTE OF JAZZ

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 19, 2019

Contact: Alisse Kingsley
akingsley@hancockinstitute.org
323.467.8508

**Herbie Hancock Institute International Jazz Guitar Competition
To Take Place December 2-3 in Washington, D.C.**

Applications due October 11, 2019

Washington, D.C.—The Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz International Competition will be presented on December 2-3 in Washington, D.C. Open to musicians age 30 and under from across the globe, this year's competition will shine a spotlight on the guitar.

For over three decades, the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Competition played a pivotal role in identifying and empowering the next generation of jazz musicians, educators, and influencers. Building upon this important legacy, the newly minted Hancock Institute Competition represents a changing of the guard for one of the jazz world's most renowned institutions.

The Semifinals of the 2019 Guitar Competition will be held on Monday, December 2nd, from noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Smithsonian Institution. The semifinalists will compete before an all-star panel of judges including jazz guitarists **Stanley Jordan, Russell Malone, Pat Metheny, Chico Pinheiro, Lee Ritenour** and **John Scofield**. Each semifinalist will perform for 15 minutes accompanied by a professional rhythm section.

From this group, the judges will select three finalists who will perform in the final round at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on Tuesday evening, December 3rd. At stake is more than \$150,000 in scholarships and prizes, including a \$30,000 first place scholarship and guaranteed recording contract with Concord Music Group; a \$15,000 second place scholarship; and a \$10,000 third place scholarship.

According to Institute Chairman Herbie Hancock, whose career epitomizes the ideals of the jazz tradition and innovation, "We look forward to discovering and hearing from the next generation of young jazz guitarists, with their innovative styles and unique approach to the music. We are particularly excited to pay homage to the guitar, which has a rich and colorful history that continues to play a pivotal role in the development of jazz. I have no doubt that this year's Competition will show that the future of this instrument, and of our music, is in good hands."

The application for the 2019 Guitar Competition can be found at hancockinstitute.org. All materials must be submitted no later than Friday, October 11, 2019. Please submit any questions to Leonard Brown at lebrown@hancockinstitute.org or by phone at +1 (202) 364-7272.



HERBIE HANCOCK INSTITUTE OF JAZZ

Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz

The Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz is a nonprofit education organization offering the world's most promising young musicians college level training by internationally acclaimed jazz masters and presenting public school music education programs for young people around the world. The Institute preserves, perpetuates and expands jazz as a global art form, and utilizes jazz as a means to unite people of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities. All of the Institute's programs are provided free of charge. Founded in 1986 as the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, the organization began operating as the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz in January 2019 in recognition of Mr. Hancock's commitment to the Institute since its establishment, his expert guidance as Institute Chairman, and his immense contributions to and impact on music, education and humanity. hancockinstitute.org

Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz International Competition

Formerly the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz International Competition, the Hancock Institute Competition is recognized as the world's most prestigious jazz competition and for discovering the next generation of jazz masters. Each year, major scholarships and prizes including recording contracts are awarded to the talented young musicians participating in the Competition. The scholarships help pay tuition for college-level jazz education studies and provide funds for private, specialized instruction.

The competition has launched the careers of a number of major jazz artists including saxophonist Joshua Redman; vocalists Cécile McLorin Salvant, Jane Monheit and Jazzmeia Horn; pianists Marcus Roberts and Kris Bowers; bassist Ben Williams; and trumpeter Ambrose Akinmusire, among others. These artists and dozens more from past competitions have forged successful careers as performing and recording artists, as well as music educators helping to perpetuate America's legacy of jazz. Past judges have included Quincy Jones, Diana Krall, Branford Marsalis, Christian McBride, Arturo Sandoval, Dianne Reeves, Slide Hampton, Roy Haynes and many others. hancockinstitute.org/competition/