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05/07/12

Thelonious Monk Institute Brings High School Jazz Sextet to Boston

Public schools will take part in peer-to-peer education program and performance

By Jeff Tamarkin

The Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz will introduce its "Peer-to-Peer" jazz education program in Boston public schools beginning today, May 7 through this Friday, May 11. Combining performance with educational information, these "informances" will be presented by six music students from the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts who participate in the Institute's National Performing Arts High School Jazz Program. They will be featured with jazz saxophonist and Grammy nominee Antonio Hart, vocalist (and former winner of the Monk Institute International Jazz Vocal Competition) Lisa Henry and jazz educator Dr. J.B. Dyas. Each school visit will include an assembly program featuring a musical performance for all students, followed by jazz workshops for each school's jazz band and choir with the visiting student performers playing alongside and sharing ideas with their Boston counterparts.



Alan Nahigian

Antonio Hart

The six Los Angeles students selected to participate in the Boston tour include guitarist Ari Berrong-Huber, 17; saxophonist Jasper Dutz, 18; pianist Mokichi Kawaguchi, 18; bassist Sarah Kuo, 17; drummer Adrian Cota, 16; and trombonist Kalia Vandever, 16.

Immediately following the informances, Hart, Henry and Dyas will conduct jazz workshops for each host school's jazz band and choir in which the visiting students will play with their Boston counterparts side-by-side, providing tutelage peer to peer.

The weeklong tour will include a concert open to the public on May 10 at Scullers Jazz Club, 400 Soldiers Field Road. The octet will perform standards, jazz classics and contemporary jazz, including compositions from Hart's and Henry's latest CD releases. The show begins at 8:00 p.m. For further information call 617-562-4111 or visit <u>Scullers</u>.

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