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February 9, 2011

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Bart Marantz
Director of Jazz Studies
Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts
2501 Flora Street
Dallas, TX 75201

Dear Bart,

Congratulations! Your student, AJ Durham, has been selected to the 2011 edition of the Thelonious Monk National Performing Arts High School All-Star Jazz Sextet. This would include AJ's participating in an **all-expenses paid**, weeklong performance tour with internationally renowned jazz recording artist **Antonio Hart**, destination Washington, DC, and Annapolis and Baltimore, MD, May 9-14, 2011.

Pending his acceptance and your and his parents' approval, AJ – along with his peers from across the country and Mr. Hart – will perform and present peer-to-peer master classes in public schools along the Beltway in an effort to teach their like-age audiences about jazz and the important American values it represents: teamwork, unity with ethnic diversity, and democracy. They also will perform in a major venue open to the public. Rounding out the trip will be interesting/educational/fun fieldtrips in our nation's capital in which AJ and his band mates will meet eminent officials along the way.

We respectfully request that you notify AJ and his parents on our behalf, and help work out any details on your end so that he may take full advantage of this incredibly educative opportunity. Please feel free to contact me anytime with any questions you, AJ, and/or his parents may have.

On behalf of our chairman Herbie Hancock and everyone at the Monk Institute, thank you so much again, Bart, for continuing to develop such talented students deserving of this prestigious honor.

Sincerely,

JB Dyas

JB Dyas, PhD
Vice President, Education and Curriculum Development