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Hamilton Teenager Selected for Musical Scholarship

Photo caption left to right: Linda Burton, mother of scholarship winner and Reynolds Middle School Principal Gary Mattia, extend congratulations to music scholarship winner Sherrod Cotton. They are accompanied by representatives of the scholarship benefactors: Tara Buzash, a jazz pianist, represents The Greater Princeton Steinway Society and Randy Brown represents Jacobs Music Company in Lawrenceville, where the Steinway Society concerts are held.



HAMILTON 8TH GRADER SHERROD COTTON RECEIVES A SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDY JAZZ PIANO WITH A MASTER TEACHER AWARDED BY JACOBS MUSIC COMPANY AND THE GREATER PRINCETON STEINWAY SOCIETY

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ (May 28, 2013) — Fourteen year old pianist Sherrod Cotton, an eighth-grade student at Reynolds Middle School in Hamilton, has been identified as a keyboard player with exceptional promise and has been awarded a scholarship to study jazz piano, provided by Jacobs Music Company and the Greater Princeton Steinway Society. The award has a value of \$600 toward private jazz lessons this summer with Vince di Mura, a veteran pianist, composer, arranger and musical director who currently serves as the Resident Composer and Musical Director for the Lewis Center of the Arts at Princeton University.

Last summer Sherrod participated in the Westminster Conservatory "Jazz Boot Camp," where he learned to function in a jazz ensemble, and it revealed that he has great potential for jazz piano. "He has a highly developed musical ear and a natural affinity for jazz," explained Tara Buzash, a jazz pianist who is a member of the Steinway Society of Greater Princeton, which holds its concert series at recital hall in the Jacobs showroom in Lawrenceville. "Sherrod needs lessons to develop

his talent and that's why our organization and Jacobs Music reached out with these resources to make that possible."

The scholarship will pay for private lessons with Vince di Mura, who performed at a recent Jazz Musicale for the Greater Princeton Steinway Society. "It's a tremendous pleasure for Jacobs Music Company to help connect this talented and deserving young player, Sherrod Cotton, with a teacher of the caliber of Vince di Mura," said Al C. Rinaldi, Chairman and CEO of Jacobs Music Company. "Sherrod will not only benefit from the jazz techniques he'll learn this summer. A great teacher can help a student develop his or her musical heart and a greater capacity for musical expression." At the conclusion of the lessons, Sherrod will play a piece for the Steinway Society so members can celebrate his progress.

Sherrod is already relied upon for his keyboard talents, as he plays the organ every Sunday in church and serves as accompanist for the Interfaith Tabernacle Mass Choir. He has also played the organ for local funeral services and he performs on the synthesizer for his church's Annual Tent Revival outreach ministry." He comes from a musical family and has been surrounded with music since childhood. His father is a gifted musician. According to his mother, Linda Burton, Sherrod is an unusually thoughtful person who has won his school's citizenship award and has earned a perfect school attendance record since the fourth grade.

About Jacobs Music Company: Jacobs Music Company is the area's exclusive representative for new and authentically restored Steinway & Sons, and Steinway designed Boston and Essex pianos. Jacobs also represents many other highly respected new and used piano manufacturers from around the world, all at great values. The Lawrenceville piano showroom is located at 2540 Brunswick Pike (Rt. 1 North) in Lawrenceville, NJ 08648. Jacobs Music Company has six showrooms, including Lawrenceville, NJ. The company's flagship location is 1718 Chestnut Street in center city Philadelphia, with additional locations in Willow Grove and Whitehall, PA, and Wilmington, DE. Further information is available on their website www.Jacobsmusic.com or by calling the Lawrenceville showroom at 609-434-0222.

About The Greater Princeton Steinway Society: The Steinway Society is a tax exempt, piano scholarship organization founded in 1989 and dedicated to developing the talent of young piano students as future performers. During the past few years, it has grown dramatically in membership and substantially increased the number of musical events it sponsors. The Steinway Society scholarship awards inspire young piano students, and the Society's musicales, concerts and master classes display the range and power of the piano. The website is

<http://www.steinwaysocietyprinceton.org>

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