

URBAN HARPIST



Volume VI, Issue II

Winter Concert 2019



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Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

We are excitedly anticipating our 2019 Winter Concert. It is such a joy to see the progress of our remarkable students, especially our new students. Seeing the hard work of our exceptional instructors - Artistic Director Angelica Hairston and Teaching Artist, Dr. Molly O'Roark, both accomplished and highly qualified harp instructors at Drew and Julia Blackwell at Mainstreet Academy - come to fruition is always such a joy.

The Urban Youth Harp Ensemble continues to grow, instilling in our students a sense of accomplishment by learning an instrument that can be as daunting and, quite possibly foreign, as the harp. In truth, the harp is a difficult instrument to master but the poise, the confidence, the pure satisfaction that comes from mastering such a beautiful instrument is immeasurable.

Even as I admire the tenacity and perseverance of our students as they learn the harp, I am reminded that truly "it takes a village" because without our village of supporters, there would be no growth and, very likely, no Urban Youth Harp Ensemble. So, I take a moment to thank you for your continued support. Keeping with the spirit of the Season, I must express overwhelming gratitude for your contributions to the shining faces we will all see on the stage during our Winter Concert!

Many blessings and Happy Holidays,

Roselyn Lewis
Co-Founder/Executive Director



Students in Demand

Because of their budding talent, you could say the Urban Youth Harp Ensemble's calendar is full. Students have been seen around the city, at the state Capitol, and even outside the state displaying their talent. Even as the year comes to a close on the accomplishments of our students, future activities end the year. Holiday events include Kamea Alleyne performing at the Wrens Nest on December 8. Students will play at UMC Cascade also Dec. 8. Three students will play at St. Regis Hotel for the Southern Co. Board Holiday Gathering.

Winter Concert Dec. 10!

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Urban Youth Harp Ensemble is to deliver quality musical instruction on the harp, develop music reading skills and musicianship to at-risk urban youth."

EXTRAORDINARY HARPISTS LEAD EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS

Fall 2019 Student Composition

Senior Academy:	30
Junior Academy	27
After School:	32
Main Street Academy	4
Total UYHE Students	93

Accomplishments 2019

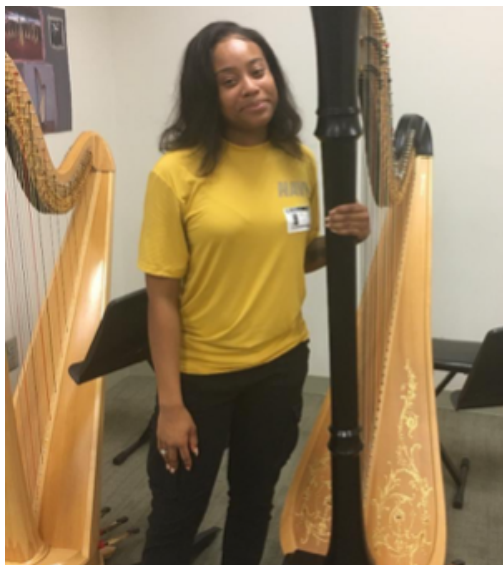
Summer Camp Acceptances:
Sage Harrison, Micah Blair, Erin Howard, Sam McGhee
UYHE YouTube Channel Launch
50% increase in student retention JA to SA
Nearly 50% increase in Drew after-school program classes

Angelica Hairston and Molly O'Roark: Dynamic Duo

UYHE Artistic Director Angelica Hairston was recently recognized for her exceptional talent and contribution to the arts when she was honored by Governor Brian Kemp and First Lady Marty Kemp with the Governor's Arts and Humanities Award. The recipients of the 2019 Awards were announced in a ceremony at the state capitol in September. The competitive, prestigious award recognizes individuals and organizations from across the state that have made significant contributions to Georgia's civic and cultural vitality. Ms Hairston was recognized not only for her accomplishments as a harpist but also for her advocacy to bring classical music to underserved communities.

Having recently received her Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Ms. Molly O'Roark is now Dr. Molly O'Roark. In addition to molding future harpists, Dr. O' Roark is an accomplished composer and performs professionally as part of the team Ginger and Spice. You can read more about Dr. O'Roark and Ms Hairston significant accomplishments at Urbanharp.org. We are proud of our outstanding instructors.





VISITORS TO UYHE

Oliscea Taylor (2018 graduate) stopped by for a visit during the first month of school. She is now enlisted in the Navy working in IT and is headed to San Diego after a successful first year in Pensacola!

"[The] harp taught me patience, which I certainly need every day. It helped me learn that success comes only with hard work and dedication. I'm so grateful for my time with UYHE and how it changed my life."

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Elisabeth Remy Johnson
Visiting Artist Fall 2019
Atlanta Symphony Orchestra



Monica Hargrave
Visiting Artist 2019
University of Georgia at Athens



"Because of the work of our volunteers and the support of our donors, we thrive."

William E. Stanley, Jr.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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Mark and Lisa Randolph

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Jacqueline Harrison

Chae An

Ruth Walker

Divinity Roxx

Lisa Tibbetts

Gwendolyn Campbell

Renay Allen

Angelica Hairston

Kay Campbell

Dawn Comeau

Katrina Trivers

Yolande Whitney

Sydney Turner

Kobi Reynolds

Lamonte Carr

Doris Lewis

Arletta Brinson

Tracy Gould Sheinin

Laura Acree

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The Pierians Incorporated

Founded in 1958 . National Office Established in 1982



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