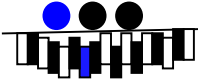


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WOMEN IN JAZZ COMPOSERS SERIES CONCERT FUNDRAISER

On Friday, August 5th 2016 at 7 pm, the awarding winning Maryland based organization, **Piano For Youth** will host the inaugural **Women in Jazz Composers Series Concert Fundraiser at the** Historic Landmark Lovely Lane Church in Baltimore City. The performance series will feature three internationally acclaimed American women composers, singers and pianists in the jazz genre in solo performances.

Featured artists include, **Amy K. Bormet**. A prolific composer, an alum of Howard University, frequently combines improvisation with concert music. She has been commissioned to write for Wild Up's Work concert for classical bassist/vocalist Maggie Hasspacher, the Bohemian Caverns Jazz Orchestra, the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra and the Brad Linde Ensemble among others. Amy is an alumna of the Kennedy Center's residency program for composer/performers, Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead, and the inaugural Mary Lou Williams Emerging Artist Workshop. As an advocate for women in music, Amy created the Washington Women in Jazz Festival in 2011 and continues to serve as executive director. **Navasha Daya** has performed all over the globe and has shared the stage with a bevy of artists such as Hugh Masekela, Angelique Kidjo, India.Arie, Erykah Badu, Run DMC, Zap Mama, Rachelle Farrell, Common, Jill Scott, Joan Baez, Cassandra Wilson, Earl Klugh, Michael Franti of Spearhead and Roberta Flack. As a songwriter, Navasha Daya's compositions have been remixed by some of the world's top DJs and producers. In addition to her solo career as an indie-soul artist, Navasha toured for the past 2 years as a guest artist, singing with the Grammy Award winning a capella group "Sweet Honey In The Rock". Navasha was nominated for female vocalist of the year for the Soultracks Reader's Choice Awards and has charted at #2 on both Japan's jazz and dance iTunes charts numerous times. **Diana Wharton** is a critically acclaimed awarding winning composer. She is a founding member of the internationally renowned vocal ensemble, Sweet Honey in the Rock. She has the distinction of being the only pianist of this acapella group as well as composer of "Doin Things Together" and arrangements on their premiere album. Ms. Wharton's compositions have opened for Bill Withers, Jon Lucien, Gil Scott- Heron and other luminaries. She is the composer of the Broadway hit: "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf" among other theatrical works. Her work as a composer has garnered her such prestigious awards as the Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship, National Endowment for the Arts in Jazz Composition (NEA), Maryland State Arts Council, Meet the Composer Grant and New Music America. Her work has been glowingly reviewed and interviewed by the New York Times, Washington Post, Atlanta Constitution, Essence Magazine, Cincinnati Enquirer, Downbeat Magazine, Baltimore Sun to name a few publications.

The Women in Jazz Composers Series Concert is a fundraiser for the Maryland-based award-winning piano tutelage organization Piano for Youth's Summer Music Theory and Math Camp. Acknowledged in 2013 - 2016 by Howard County, Maryland as Piano for Youth Day and as a recipient of a 2014 Bright Minds Grant, **PFY** has been the recipient of honors from Governor's Hogan and O'Malley, Congressman Elijah Cummings, Baltimore City Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, and Howard County Executives Ulman and Kittleman.

Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door. To purchase tickets please visit pianoforyouth123.com. For press inquiries, please contact the Series' producer and coordinator, A.D. Sennaar. The media is invited to interview and review the Artists.