



*Music for Youth Foundation*

Contact: Eytan Bar-Chama 1.212.836.1419

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

## **\$25,000 Cash Scholarships Awarded To Two Teen Musicians**

**New York, June 16, 2004** — The Music for Youth Foundation (MYF) in partnership with The National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts (NFAA) announces that two extraordinarily talented teen musicians have each received \$25,000 Music for Youth Foundation Scholarship Awards for excellence in music.

The unrestricted cash awards were created exclusively by the Music for Youth Foundation in partnership with NFAA's Arts Recognition and Talent Search® (ARTS) program to support exceedingly gifted young musicians who are pursuing careers in music. The partnership was established in 2000, and with this year's winners a total of fourteen (14) young musicians have shared \$340,000 in cash scholarship awards.

"These Music for Youth Foundation Scholarship Awards represent our Foundation's commitment that music continue to be an important part of the education and opportunity of our young people," said Elliot Goldman, MYF President. "We are very proud to provide this significant assistance and wish the awardees much success in their studies."

"To champion the extraordinary accomplishments of young musicians at the level of \$25,000 per award – one of the largest grants in the world to musicians in this age group – is extremely important," said Dr. William H. Banchs, NFAA president. "The Music for Youth award renders these young musicians as role models among their peers, in their schools, and in their communities."

The 2004 \$25,000 Music for Youth Foundation Scholarship Recipients are:

Matthew Marantz, 18, jazz saxophone, from Cedar Hill, Texas, a recent graduate of Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. Matt will attend the Manhattan School of Music in New York.

Timothy Sawyer, 18, oboe, from Chicago, Illinois, a recent graduate of the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools. Tim will attend the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia.

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To be considered, 17-and 18-year-old musicians must first apply to the ARTS program and become a national finalist. National finalists participate in live auditions during ARTS Week, in Miami, FL, for cash awards through ARTS. The top-level winners from ARTS Week are then forwarded to MYF for consideration by a panel of judges specially selected by MYF.

This year's winners were chosen from a nationwide pool of 1,868 young artists in the categories of instrumental music, jazz, and voice and were among only 15 musicians whose ARTS Week audition tapes were judged for the \$25,000 awards.

The two young men will be flown to New York City to be honored at the annual Music for Youth Foundation/UJA-Federation of New York Music Visionary of the Year Awards Luncheon to be held on Wednesday, July 14. They will perform and receive their award checks at a special reception prior to the luncheon. The reception and the luncheon will be held on July 14th at The Pierre, Fifth Avenue at 61st Street, Manhattan.

At the 2004 Music Visionary of the Year Awards Luncheon, hundreds of leaders from the worlds of music, entertainment, communications, and business will honor David Munns, Vice Chairman, EMI Music worldwide, and Chairman and CEO, EMI Music North America, and Rob Glaser, Chairman and CEO, RealNetworks®, Inc., (Nasdaq: RNWK).

EMI's S-Curve Recording Artist Joss Stone ([www.jossstone.com](http://www.jossstone.com)), whose electrifying debut album, *The Soul Sessions* has sold more than 1.5 million copies, and whose recent performances on VH1 "Divas" and ABC's "Motown 45" have received wide acclaim, is scheduled to perform at the luncheon. Other surprise guests are expected, as well as an inspirational performance by the Young People's Chorus of New York City, one of Music for Youth Foundation grant recipients.

### **About Music For Youth Foundation**

The Music for Youth Foundation (MYF) is a non-profit initiative with two primary missions: To identify, fund, and lend our experience to innovative programs that make quality music education available to young people, and to create scholarship opportunities for exceptionally talented youth who choose to make music their life's work, thereby helping to sustain the next generation of artists and teachers. MYF has distributed more than \$2.2 million in program grants to nearly 50 organizations, enabling thousands of young people to receive quality music education at a time when funding for the arts has been drastically decreased. For more information about NFAA, visit the website

<http://www.musicforyouth.org>

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### **About National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts (NFAA)**

Arts Recognition and Talent Search® (ARTS) is a program of the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts (NFAA). NFAA's mission is to identify emerging artists and assist them at critical junctures in their educational and professional development, and to raise the appreciation for, and support of, the arts in American Society. The ARTS program is sponsored, in part, by: Carnival Cruise Lines, The Coca-Cola Company, Gibson Musical Instruments, Baldwin Pianos and The Gibson Foundation, International Association for Jazz Education, The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Trust and Music for Youth Foundation. ARTS Week 2004 was made possible, in part, with support from American Airlines, The State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, the Cultural Affairs Council, the Tourist Development Council, the Mayor and the Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners. For more information about NFAA, visit the website [www.ARTSawards.org](http://www.ARTSawards.org).

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