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**2013 Thelonious Monk International Jazz Saxophone Competition and  
All-Star Gala Concert, Made Possible By Cadillac, Will Take Place September  
15-16 in Washington, DC**

*Wayne Shorter to receive Lifetime Achievement Award  
Special Tribute to George Duke*

*Talent Line-up Includes John Beasley (Musical Director), Brian Blade, Terri Lyne Carrington,  
Vinnie Colaiuta, Kurt Elling, Robben Ford, James Genus, Herbie Hancock, Roy Hargrove,  
Jimmy Heath, Ledesi, Branford Marsalis, Marcus Miller, T.S. Monk, John Patitucci, Danilo  
Pérez, Take 6 and other Special Guests*

Washington, D.C.—The 26th annual Thelonious Monk International Jazz Competition presented by the world-renowned Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, will take place September 15-16. Open to musicians under age 30 from across the globe, this year's competition will present a Lifetime Achievement Award to legendary saxophonist Wayne Shorter as well as paying tribute to the late George Duke.

The Semifinals of the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Saxophone Competition will be held on Sunday, September 15th, from 1:00pm to 6:00 p.m. at the Smithsonian Institution's Baird Auditorium inside the National Museum of American History. The semifinalists will compete before an all-star panel of judges including jazz saxophonists **Jane Ira Bloom, Jimmy Heath, Branford Marsalis, Wayne Shorter, and Bobby Watson**. Each semifinalist will perform for 15 minutes, accompanied by **Rodney Whitaker** on bass, **Reginald Thomas** on piano, and **Carl Allen** on drums, and from this group the judges will select three finalists who will perform in the final round at the Kennedy Center on Monday evening, September 16th. At stake are over \$100,000 in scholarships and prizes including a \$25,000 first place scholarship and guaranteed recording contract with Concord Music Group; a \$15,000 second place scholarship; and a \$10,000 third place scholarship. **Cadillac** is the **Presenting Sponsor** for the weekend, and air transportation will be provided by United Airlines, Official Airline of the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz.

Following the three finalists' performances at the Competition Finals, an **All-Star Gala Concert** at The Kennedy Center will bring together some of the biggest names in jazz, including **John Beasley (Musical Director), Brian Blade, Terri Lyne Carrington, Vinnie Colaiuta, Robben Ford, Kurt Elling, James Genus, Herbie Hancock, Roy Hargrove, Jimmy Heath, Ledesi, Branford Marsalis, Marcus Miller, T.S. Monk, John Patitucci, Danilo Pérez, Take 6** and others. Also

performing in the festivities will be the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Performance college students along with the 2013 edition of the Thelonious Monk Institute National Performing Arts High School All-Star Jazz Sextet. Additional talent will be announced shortly.

At the concert, the Institute will present the legendary **Wayne Shorter** with a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his extraordinary, six-decade career as a saxophonist, educator and composer. In the Institute's nearly 30-year history, this is only the second time the award has been presented, the first being to Quincy Jones in 1996. There will also be a special tribute to the late **George Duke**, a longtime friend and supporter of the Institute, who was scheduled to serve as the evening's Musical Director. Many of Duke's longtime musical collaborators will perform in his memory.

The semifinals will be streamed online via the web sites of the Smithsonian Institution and Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz. The Competition finals will be taped as a documentary for BET/Centric television. The documentary will include performance clips and interviews with the Semifinalists and judges. Air transportation is provided by **United Airlines**, Official Airline of the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz.

Proceeds from the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Saxophone Competition and All-Star Gala Concert will help fund the Institute's public school jazz and blues education programs across Washington D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles, New Orleans, and the Mississippi Delta.

**Editors please note the following event and ticket information:**

**Thelonious Monk International Jazz Saxophone Competition Semifinals**

Sunday, September 15th, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. with ticket distribution at 12 noon  
Baird Auditorium at the National Museum of Natural History, 10<sup>th</sup> St. & Constitution Ave., NW,  
Washington, DC

Tickets are free of charge and will be distributed by the Smithsonian Associates at the National Museum of Natural History on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 12:00 p.m.

**Thelonious Monk International Jazz Saxophone Competition Finals  
and All-Star Gala Concert**

Monday, September 16th, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.  
Kennedy Center Eisenhower Theater, 2700 F St. NW, Washington, DC  
Tickets are \$50 to \$75 and may be purchased via the Kennedy Center box office in person, by calling 800.444.1324, or online at [www.kennedy-center.org](http://www.kennedy-center.org). Information regarding VIP packages, which include admission to the post-event VIP Cast Party, is available from the Institute at 202.364.7272 or [bjones@monkinstitute.org](mailto:bjones@monkinstitute.org).

**Thelonious Monk Institute Of Jazz Assembly Program At Woodrow Wilson High School,  
Washington DC**

Tuesday, September 17th at 10:00am  
Woodrow Wilson High School  
Assembly program for 800 Washington DC students featuring Herbie Hancock, T.S. Monk, Bobby Watson and the Monk Institute's Jazz Performance Program College Students

### **Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz**

The Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, a nonprofit jazz education organization, was founded in 1986 in memory of the legendary jazz pianist and composer Thelonious Monk. The Institute fosters the next generation of jazz greats by offering the world's most promising young musicians college level training by internationally recognized jazz masters, educating young people around the world about jazz through innovative public school programs, and presenting a wide range of initiatives that expand and perpetuate America's indigenous musical art form. Visit the Institute at [www.monkinstitute.org](http://www.monkinstitute.org).

### **Thelonious Monk International Jazz Competition**

Since 1987, the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz has presented the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Competition, which is recognized as the world's most prestigious jazz competition and for discovering the next generation of jazz masters. Each year, major scholarships and prizes including recording contracts are awarded to the talented young musicians participating in the Competition. The scholarships help pay tuition for college-level jazz education studies and provide funds for private, specialized instruction. Past judges have included Quincy Jones, Diana Krall, Branford Marsalis, Christian McBride, Pat Metheny, Hugh Masekela and many others.