

Press Contact: Jennifer Clements jennifer@capkids.org 904.281.5599 x20

## **Cathedral Arts Project brings Back to BACH Project to Jacksonville**

August 23, 2017 – The Cathedral Arts Project is pleased to welcome the Back to BACH Project to Jacksonville for performances at local schools on Thursday and Friday, August 24 and 25.

The <u>Back to BACH Project</u> is a national initiative to inspire and encourage young school children to learn musical instruments and to instill in them a love of music. They bring classical musicians from prestigious music schools – like The Julliard School, San Francisco Conservatory of Music and The Curtis Institute of Music – to local elementary schools and community centers, aspiring to foster excitement and passion in children through music.

CAP partnered with Back to BACH in 2016, arranging performances at Pine Forest Elementary School and Fort Caroline Middle School, two Duval County Public Schools arts magnets.

This year, eight Back to BACH students will return to Pine Forest and Fort Caroline, and will also perform at LaVilla School of the Arts and Don't Miss a Beat's afterschool program at the J.S. Johnson Community Center.

These performances are made possible through CAP Connect, a CAP program that inspires students by introducing them to professional and diverse working artists through field trips and guest artist presentations and performances. Opportunities like these allow students to connect with local, regional and national arts professionals across all arts disciplines, providing gateway experiences that illustrate what a life informed by arts and culture looks and feels like.

In addition to their performances, a reception will be held on Thursday evening at the CAP offices for Back to BACH students and parents to meet members of the <u>Civic</u> <u>Orchestra of Jacksonville</u>, <u>Ritz Chamber Players</u>, <u>Jacksonville Symphony</u> and <u>First</u> <u>Coast Youth</u> orchestras, and DCPS music teachers.

"Every child deserves to experience the magic of music by unleashing their creative spirit," says Teresa McKinney, director of educational outreach for The Juilliard School. "There are numerous studies that show music positively affects academic learning, but aside from the statistics, there is something indescribably beautiful and magical about making music that will enrich children's lives like nothing else will."

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The **Cathedral Arts Project** is the leading nonprofit provider of quality, comprehensive and ongoing instruction in the visual and performing arts for



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elementary and middle school students in Duval County. The driving force behind all CAP programs is the belief that the arts matter – they provide essential skills, like creative thinking, perseverance, teamwork and self-discipline, that benefit all people in all areas of their lives.

Too often, certain populations of students do not have access to an arts-rich education because of limited access and resources in their schools, communities or homes. Yet these are the students for which the arts can have the strongest and longest-lasting impacts. CAP needs your support to accomplish its vision for every child in Northeast Florida to have access to a well-rounded, arts-rich education that endows his or her spirit with the imagination, self-confidence and strength of character that inspires great leadership and a will to succeed. Learn more at <u>capkids.org</u>.