



SOCIETY FOR THE ARTS IN HEALTHCARE

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## **Partnership Funds Arts Programs to Improve Health** ***Johnson & Johnson/Society for the Arts in Healthcare Announce 2008 Grants*** ***Music For All Seasons Award for Domestic Violence Shelters Program***

WASHINGTON, DC, February 12, 2008 – Today, the Johnson & Johnson/Society for the Arts in Healthcare partnership announced the 2008 award recipients of its annual grant program, designed to bridge the gap between illness and health and promote the use of the arts to enhance the healthcare experience for patients, their families and caregivers.

Grants were awarded to eight organizations in the U.S. and Canada to support new and innovative projects that will use art to advance healing and preventative health. Chosen from more than 130 proposals, the awards portray an imaginative array of art, drama, film, music and writing therapies.

The grant structure has been revised for the first time since the program's inception in 2001 to focus exclusively on organizations with evidence of prior success. The awardees will work to replicate their evidence-based models in underserved communities across the U.S. and internationally over a three-year grant period.

All awardees will convene at the end of the grant period to present findings from their programs, adding to the growing base of research that shows significant benefits when arts are incorporated into healthcare settings.

"Access to the arts uplifts the quality of the healthcare experience," said Anita Boles, executive director, Society for the Arts in Healthcare. "The Johnson & Johnson/Society for the Arts in Healthcare grants provide an important opportunity for replication of existing model programs that are advancing the arts in healing. These programs will continue to raise awareness of the potential of the arts to transform the healthcare experience."

"As the arts are increasingly integrated into health contexts, we are privileged to support eight promising programs that will provide further evidence of the vital connection between creativity and healing. As a health care company, we applaud these eight organizations for their work in bringing the arts to new populations," said Michael Bzdak, director, Corporate Contributions, Johnson & Johnson.

### **The Awardees**

From 2001 to 2008, Johnson & Johnson and the Society for the Arts in Healthcare have supported 115 cutting-edge programs. Funding leading models and initiatives in high quality healthcare through the arts, this annual grant opportunity is open to Society for the Arts in Healthcare members. The 2008 awardees are:

- Music For All Seasons (Scotch Plains, NJ) – *Professional Performances for Hope and Healing in Domestic Violence Shelters*

- Center for Health and Learning (Brattleboro, VT) – *The Art of Healing Loss: Support & Renewal for Caregivers and Veterans*
- The Art of Elysium (Universal City, CA) – *Girl Talk/Yo Lo Tengo Arts-Based Self-Esteem*
- The Children's Assessment Center (Houston, TX) – *Safe Boundaries*
- The Louis Armstrong Center for Music & Medicine (New York, NY) – *Music for Advances in Respiration*
- The NiteStar Program (New York, NY) – *Our Voices, Our Lives: Theater Project for Adolescents Living with HIV/AIDS*
- Toronto International Film Festival Group (Toronto, Ontario, Canada) – *Reel Comfort*
- The University of Iowa - Arts Share Program (Iowa City, IA) – *The Patient Voice Project*

**Music For All Seasons: Professional Performances for Hope and Healing in Domestic Violence Shelters in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and California.**

This J&J/SAH grant will help support the evaluation and eventual expansion of the *Professional Performances for Hope and Healing in Domestic Violence Shelters* program beyond its current nine shelters. Research shows that music education helps children develop stronger critical thinking, spatial reasoning and self-discipline; improves early cognitive development and basic math/reading skills; increases self-esteem and enhances graduation rates. Working with researchers from the New Jersey Neuroscience Institute under the direction of Dr. Martin Gizzi, Music For All Seasons will conduct a quality-of-life study to ascertain the benefits of its program with children currently living in domestic violence shelters where Music For All Seasons musicians perform. Based on the study's results, Music For All Seasons will expand and incorporate the musical education component of its program for children in shelters with which it has already developed partnerships. Music For All Seasons will then develop partnerships with additional domestic violence shelters in the five states it serves, significantly expanding the number of children it reaches through music.

Additional information on organizations and projects is available at [http://www.thesah.org/template/page.cfm?page\\_id=333](http://www.thesah.org/template/page.cfm?page_id=333)

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**About the Society for the Arts in Healthcare**

The Society for the Arts in Healthcare is a non-profit 501c3 international organization based in Washington, DC. Founded in 1991, it is dedicated to promoting the incorporation of the arts as an integral component of healthcare. Funded in part by the National Endowment of the Arts and Johnson & Johnson, the Society for the Arts in Healthcare provides program development support through grants, consultant services and the convening of conferences and symposia to a wide range of arts and healthcare institutions. Over 1,700 Society for the Arts in Healthcare members, including artists and healthcare professionals, serve patients and their families in the US and abroad. For more information, visit [www.thesah.org](http://www.thesah.org) or call 202-299-9770.

### **About Johnson & Johnson**

Johnson & Johnson is the world's most comprehensive and broadly based manufacturer of healthcare products, as well as a provider of related services, for the consumer, pharmaceutical and medical devices and diagnostics markets. The more than 250 Johnson & Johnson operating companies employ approximately 119,000 men and women in 57 countries and sell products throughout the world.

### **About Music For All Seasons**

Music For All Seasons brings the power and healing of live musical performance to people who, for health, economic or social reasons are unable to attend concerts. By bringing these programs to a wide range of institutions - including children's hospitals, retirement facilities, shelters for victims of domestic violence, juvenile detention centers, nursing homes, medical centers, halfway houses, and hospices – MFAS helps aid the healing process, physical, mental and spiritual. Also by providing opportunities for young professional artists to serve special audiences, and by creating volunteer opportunities to serve local communities, MFAS brings a wide variety of people and styles of music together. Music For All Seasons is funded in part by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

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