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7 December 2012

Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
10th floor, West Tower
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mayor Ford and Members of the Toronto City Council,

I am writing to express how important funding from the Community Partnership and Investment Program through the Toronto Arts Council has been for Axis Music.

With a project grant from the Toronto Arts Council, Axis Music provides tuition-free music lessons to children and youth living in the Gordonridge community. This is a Toronto Community Housing community located in South-West Scarborough. All workshops are held at 20 Gordonridge Place, Scarborough ON, M1K 4H5.

Encouraging excellence, Axis Music aims to provide equal access to music education, engagement, and performances. I sincerely believe the arts play an integral role in a thriving community. Residents of the Gordonridge community have expressed to me how appreciative they are for this opportunity.

As a single father of two living in low income housing, I would not be able to afford such luxury as giving my children music lessons that they so desire and appreciate. This is a wonderful opportunity for the community on a whole. I am hoping that we can hold on to this program as long as possible.

- Leon Carpenter, father of Axis Music participants Kayla (age 10), and Jadon (age 7)

Even though we don't have an extravagant life, I am very happy for my children. These kind, patient, unique, gifted, understanding, and talented teachers in my children's lives is an amazing gift. These teachers set a strong example for the children. Having this music in our community is a dream come true. If I didn't get this chance in our community, my children would not have the chance to learn music. Because of Axis Music, I am not going to move from Gordonridge.

- Zufan Keleta, mother of Axis Participants Jacob (age 7) and Aron (age 9)

I sincerely appreciate your support to the Toronto Arts Council through the Community Partnership and Investment Program. Your support has been essential to the success of Axis Music, and has played an important role in the TCHC Gordonridge community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judith Manger".

Judith Manger
Founding Director, Axis Music
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