



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MUSICCOUNTS ANNOUNCES A HALF-MILLION DOLLAR INVESTMENT
TO MUSIC PROGRAMS NATIONWIDE**

71 SCHOOLS - THE MOST-EVER TO BENEFIT FROM BAND AID GRANTS

*PLUS, The Slaight Family Foundation pledges five-year MusiCounts donation
to six Toronto District schools*

Toronto, ON (October 4, 2010) – Music teachers and students from coast to coast are celebrating in record numbers to the sound of \$560,000 worth of new instruments. **MusiCounts**, Canada's music education charity associated with The Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (CARAS), announced today 71 deserving schools across Canada as the recipients of **2010-2011 Band Aid Grants**. The schools selected will receive grants of either \$5,000 or \$10,000 to go toward the purchase of new musical instruments.

In partnership with the **Slaight Family Foundation** and the **Toronto District School Board (TDSB)**, MusiCounts also introduced a five-year initiative that will annually award an additional six schools in the Greater Toronto Area with \$10,000 Band Aid Grants in support of their music programs. These schools will be selected based on the greatest need by the TDSB, the largest school board in Canada representing nearly 600 schools.

MusiCounts has donated more than \$3.7 million through Band Aid Grants impacting thousands of Canadian students in urban, rural, remote and First Nations communities coast to coast since its inception in 1997. Schools are selected based on criteria including economic need; inventory and condition of instruments; number of students; dedication of school staff; music program(s) and the overall impact the grant would make within the school and the community.

2010-2011 MusiCounts Band Aid Grant Recipients:

Newfoundland and Labrador

- J.M. Olds Collegiate, *Twillingate, NL*
- Laval High School, *Placentia Bay, NL*
- Woodland Elementary, *Dildo, NL*

New Brunswick

- New Maryland Elementary School, *New Maryland, NB*
- Oromocto High School, *Oromocto, NB*
- Southern Carleton Elementary School, *Bedell, NB*

Nova Scotia

- Evangeline Middle School, *New Minas, NS*
- Islands Consolidated School, *Freeport/Digby County, NS*
- Ridgecliff Middle school, *Beachville, NS*
- West Kings District High School, *Auburn, NS*

Prince Edward Island

- Miscouche Consolidated School, *Miscouche, PEI*

Québec

- École Jean XXIII, *St. Wenceslas, QC*
- École secondaire de la Seigneurie, *Québec City, QC*
- École secondaire Henri-Bourassa, *Montréal, QC*
- École secondaire le Carrefour, *Varenes, QC*
- École secondaire Louis-Saint-Laurent, *East Angus, QC*
- École secondaire Mont-Royal, *Mont-Royal, QC*
- École Elisabeth-Turgeon, *Rimouski, QC*
- École Saint-Majorique, *St. Majorique, QC*

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Ontario

- Ancaster Meadow Elementary School, *Ancaster, ON*
- Beaverton Public School, *Beaverton, ON*
- C.W. Jefferys Collegiate Institute, *North York, ON*
- Catholic Central High School, *London, ON*
- Claireville Junior School, *Toronto, ON*
- Derby Public School, *Owen Sound, ON*
- Don Mills Collegiate, *Toronto, ON*
- Dovercourt Public School, *Toronto, ON*
- Elora Public School, *Elora, ON*
- Fort Frances, *Fort Frances, ON*
- Foxboro Public School, *Foxboro, ON*
- Glen Shields Public School, *Thornhill, ON*
- Holy Family Catholic School, *Wallaceburg, ON*
- Jean Little Public School, *Guelph, ON*
- John D. Parker Junior School, *Toronto, ON*
- John English Junior Middle School, *Toronto, ON*
- John McCrae Senior Public School, *Toronto, ON*
- Maple Leaf Public School, *Newmarket, ON*
- Monsignor John Pereyema Catholic Secondary School, *Oshawa, ON*
- Montcalm Secondary School, *London, ON*
- Oakridge Junior Public School, *Toronto, ON*
- Parkdale Collegiate Institute, *Toronto, ON*
- Portage Trail Junior Community School, *Toronto, ON*
- Rose Avenue Junior Public School, *Toronto, ON*
- Sherwood Secondary School, *Hamilton, ON*
- St. Anne's Catholic School, *Clinton, ON*
- St. Catharines Collegiate and Vocational Institute, *St. Catharines, ON*
- Summit Heights Public School, *North York, ON*
- Tyendinaga Public School, *Shannonville, ON*
- Winchester Jr. and Sr. Public School, *Toronto, ON*
- York Humber High School, *Toronto, ON*

Manitoba

- East Selkirk Middle School, *East Selkirk, MB*
- Hamiota Collegiate, *Hamiota, MB*
- Ste. Anne Elementary School, *École Ste-Anne Immersion, Richer School, St. Anne, MB*

Saskatchewan

- École Oman Elementary School, *Swift Current, SK*
- Kitchener Community School, *Regina, SK*

Alberta

- Children's Village, *Calgary, AB*
- Evergreen Elementary, *Drayton Valley, AB*
- Graminia School, *Spruce Grove, AB*
- Vista Heights Elementary School, *Calgary, AB*
- W.G. Murdoch School, *Crossfield, AB*
- Wilson Middle School, *Lethbridge, AB*

British Columbia

- Admiral Seymour Elementary School, *Vancouver, BC*
- Britannia Elementary School, *Vancouver, BC*
- Charles Dickens Elementary School, *Vancouver, BC*
- Confederation Park Elementary, *Burnaby, BC*
- Kingswood Elementary School, *Richmond, BC*
- Ladysmith Primary School, *Ladysmith, BC*
- Princess Margaret Secondary School, *Surrey, BC*
- Sen Pok Chin, *Oliver, BC*
- St. Joseph's School, *Chemainus, BC*
- WE Kinvig Elementary, *Surrey, BC*

About MusiCounts

MusiCounts, Canada's music education charity associated with The Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (CARAS), is helping to keep music alive in schools across Canada. MusiCounts' mission is to ensure that children in Canada have access to a comprehensive music program through their school. MusiCounts includes Band Aid musical instrument grants, the MusiCounts Teacher of the Year Award, Scholarships and other music education initiatives. MusiCounts is supported by various initiatives such as the JUNO Award nominee compilation CD; annual contributions by CTVglobemedia; EMI Music Canada Inc.; Sony Music Entertainment Canada Inc.; Universal Music Canada and Warner Music Canada Ltd.; as well as Songwriters' Circle presented by CMPA and SOCAN; Juno Cup presented by The Keg Steakhouse and Bar; and individual and corporate contributions, including Astral Media, Baldwin Pianos, Bob FM, Corus Entertainment, The RBC Foundation, Rogers Broadcasting Ltd., The Shore 104 FM, and SIRIUS Canada Inc. Since the Program's establishment in 1997, more than four million has been donated impacting 238 post secondary music program graduates and over 325,000 individual students, their schools and communities, from coast to coast. MusiCounts has also honoured 6 extraordinary music teachers through the MusiCounts Teacher of the Year Award. For more information, please visit: www.musiccounts.ca

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