



Musicopia partners with Carnegie Hall on the Philadelphia Lullaby Project

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Philadelphia, PA ... This season, Musicopia will serve as a national partner for the Lullaby Project, a program of Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute (WMI) that pairs parents and caregivers who have young children with professional artists to write personal lullabies for their babies. The participants are offered a creative opportunity to communicate feelings, hopes, and dreams as they look to the future with their child. With lead support from the William Penn Foundation, the Philadelphia Lullaby Project supports maternal health, aids childhood development, and strengthens the bond between parent and child.

Musicopia is looking for parents or caretakers of children aged 18 months to three years to participate in this program. Families will join an online, interactive, six-session music class to create an original song with professional musicians and discover new and fun ways to sing, move, and play together during family time. Musicopia recently kicked off its first rendition of the Lullaby Project but will be continuing the project with a new cohort. Interested families should attend a 90-minute, in-person intake session held on May 20 at 11 AM or 2 PM. Participating families will then join the Wednesday Evening Group at 6 PM (with online sessions beginning May 24) or the Saturday Morning Group at 10 AM for Spanish-speaking families (with online sessions beginning May 27). A \$75 Visa card will be offered to all families who complete the program. To get more information and sign up, contact Nathan at Nathan@musicopia.net or call/ text 215-268-6255.

Over the last 3 years, with support from the William Penn Foundation, the Philadelphia Lullaby Project has served 128 families, who learn about the project through social media invitations and partnerships with many Philadelphia community partners including The Family Practice & Counseling Network,

Esperanza Arts Center, Free Library of Philadelphia, Community College of Philadelphia, Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia, and Catholic Social Services Philadelphia (add Puentes de Salud).

In New York City, the project reached about 200 families this year through partnerships with several city agencies, including the NYC Department of Education, NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS), NYC Health + Hospitals, and CUNY. The project also reaches families annually in healthcare settings, high schools, and other community sites. The first Lullaby Project took place at Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx, New York, in December 2011, and since then, more than 35,000 families have written original songs for their children, many of which are available for listening and sharing at www.carnegiehall.org/lullabies. Lullabies have been written in more than 20 different languages and a wide range of musical styles, reflecting the diverse backgrounds of participating families.

With materials provided free-of-charge from Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute, artists lead participants through the process of creating, recording, and sharing personal songs for their babies. At the end of the songwriting process, each parent or caregiver receives a recording of their final lullaby to listen to and sing with their baby.

The primary goals of the Lullaby Project are to:

- encourage or initiate parent-child bonding for new parents affected by challenging social or emotional circumstances
- bolster participants' self-confidence
- promote communication between parent(s) and baby/child
- nurture participants' capacity to be loving parents and caregivers
- establish collaborative relationships with partners across the country to contribute to a national conversation that promotes creative activity and lullaby creation as part of a holistic approach to maternal-child healthcare

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About Musicopia

Musicopia's mission is to provide equitable access to music education and enrichment, encouraging self-confidence, global awareness, dedication and joy in Pre-K to 12th grade students and their communities. Since its founding in 1974, Musicopia has helped more than 370,000 children experience the benefits of first-hand exposure to the arts, and is a recognized leader in rebuilding and revitalizing school music programs. Musicopia reaches thousands of children each year in the Delaware Valley/Philadelphia area through in-school music education, an afterschool string orchestra program, an afterschool drumlines program, and its Gift of Music Instrument Donation Program.

For more information, please visit www.musicopia.net.

About Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute

Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute (WMI) creates visionary programs that embody Carnegie Hall's commitment to music education, playing a central role in fulfilling the Hall's mission of making great music accessible to as many people as possible. With unparalleled access to the world's greatest artists, WMI's programs are designed to inspire audiences of all ages, nurture tomorrow's musical talent, and harness the power of music to make a meaningful difference in people's lives. An integral part of Carnegie Hall's concert season, these programs facilitate creative expression, develop musical skills and capacities at all levels, and encourage participants to make lifelong personal connections to music.

More than 800,000 people each year engage in WMI's programs through national and international partnerships, in New York City schools and community settings, and at Carnegie Hall. This includes more than 155 orchestras, music presenters, and education organizations in 40 US states as well as internationally in 15 countries on 6 continents. WMI's hands-on programs tap into the creativity of audiences of all ages, inviting them to make their own music in all genres, express their viewpoints, and raise their voices. WMI shares an extensive range of online music education resources and program materials for free with teachers, families, orchestras, arts organizations, and music lovers worldwide. As a leader in music education, WMI generates new knowledge through original research, which inform Carnegie Hall's own programs and are also available as a resource to artists, organizations, and peers.

For more information, please visit: carnegiehall.org/education