

# Essential Learning...*In the Arts*

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Opportunities & Events

## AEC & MCG Jazz Residencies Highlight Wealth of Jazz Talent in the Region

As part of an ongoing jazz education project, MCG Jazz and the Arts Education Collaborative continue their partnership to develop a residency program that utilizes three artists from Pittsburgh's jazz community. The primary goal of this portion of the project is to connect the wealth of jazz talent available in southwestern Pennsylvania with schools to stimulate jazz education in the region. Last November, educators had the opportunity to submit an application to host a jazz residency. Over twenty applications were received for three available residency locations and each residency will be fully tailored to meet the needs of the school and the teacher(s).



Sean Jones

Sean Jones, lead trumpeter of the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra and the Professor of Jazz Studies at Duquesne University, will be working with Ayisha Morgan-Lee at St. Benedict the Moor. In addition to his roles with the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra and Duquesne University, Sean is an active recording artist with his sextet and is about to release his latest album, *The Search Within*. The goals of the residency at St. Benedict will be to heighten student awareness of jazz as an art form and explore connections between jazz and dance.

James Moore, director of jazz ensembles at West Virginia Wesleyan College, will be working with Mark Killinger and Laura Piecknick at Charleroi High School in Washington County. James also leads his own quartet and is a freelance jazz trumpeter while also playing with the Roger Humphries Quintet and the Three Rivers Jazz Orchestra under the direction of Mike Tomaro and Steve Hawk. The goal at Charleroi High School for this project is to use the residency as a catalyst to create a consistent and comprehensive jazz program.



James Moore



Kim Nazarian

Kim Nazarian, a founding member of the Grammy award-winning jazz vocal group New York Voices, will be working with Becky Dougan at Pittsburgh Dilworth Traditional Academy. Kim tours around the world with the New York Voices and their most recent recording project provided them the opportunity to work with Paquito D'Rivera on his latest release, *Brazilian Dreams*. Additionally, Kim is in the process of completing an educational book and video/DVD that focuses on her approach to vocal technique. The goal of residency at Pittsburgh Dilworth Traditional Academy will be to focus on improvisation and to develop an appreciation for the cultural and historical context of jazz.

These residencies are supported by a generous grant from the Benedum Foundation and will enable MCG Jazz and AEC to lay the ground work for future jazz residencies in addition to developing jazz education materials and resources. For more information on MCG Jazz visit [www.mcgjazz.org](http://www.mcgjazz.org) and to stay up-to-date on AEC opportunities visit [www.artsedcollaborative.org/calendar.html](http://www.artsedcollaborative.org/calendar.html).