

GIA MAIONE PRIMA FOUNDATION AND TROMBONE SHORTY FOUNDATION TO PARTNER WITH HORNS TO HAVANA

[Morristown, NJ – March 12, 2019] As part of its ongoing focus on increasing access to music education, the **Gia Maione Prima Foundation** proudly announces a new partnership with New York City-based **Horns to Havana** with support from New Orleans-based **Trombone Shorty Foundation**.

The collaboration kicked-off this January when Trombone Shorty Foundation's Executive Director Bill Taylor traveled to Cuba with the Horns to Havana team to participate in an instrument donation program that sent eight new horns to music students in one of the partner schools of Horns to Havana, Conservatorio Amadeo Roldán, a leading music school in Cuba that is based in Havana, the country's capital. The Prima Foundation has committed to continued involvement in Cuba with Horns to Havana for the next three years.

"We know how profound the cultural ties are between New Orleans and Cuba," says Prima Foundation Trustee Anthony Sylvester. "So having Horns to Havana and the Trombone Shorty Foundation working with us to strengthen music education in one of the most musical places on the planet offers a powerful opportunity to really make a difference in the lives of these talented young students."

The Prima and Shorty Foundations have worked closely together in recent years to expand the music education landscape in New Orleans. With the deep connections that exist between New Orleans and Cuba, this new partnership with Horns to Havana opens the door for future collaborations between students in both places, as Horns to Havana brings almost 10 years of experience making a difference in the lives of Cuba's music students and previous work in New Orleans.

Shared Susan Sillins, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Horns to Havana, "We're so honored to receive three-year support from the Gia Maione Prima Foundation, an organization like ours that has been so committed to music education and that understands the very unique benefits of music studies and performance on young people's lives. The starting point for that is ensuring that our students have great instruments, so we really appreciate the Prima Foundation's instrument donations. Students like Sheyla and Dayron (*pictured here*) are excited beyond measure to get to make incredible music with them and to be introduced to jazz and world-class music organizations like the Trombone Shorty Foundation."

Horns to Havana supports young Cuban musicians and works to strengthen the ties between the U.S. and Cuba using shared music traditions, especially jazz. Since forming in 2010 to first address the instrument deficit in Cuba, Horns to Havana has expanded to also offer annual Jazz Amistad music residencies with leading professional jazz musicians and organizational partners, including Jazz at Lincoln Center, Stanford Jazz Workshop and Preservation Hall Foundation. Working with these partners and its internationally acclaimed music advisors Victor Goines and Yosvany Terry, Horns to Havana is also building the first jazz curriculum for Cuba's music schools and has worked with Cuba to create the first free-standing instrument repair shop on the island.



Photo Credits: (left) A young student in Cuba received a trombone courtesy of the new instrument program. (right) A young Cuban musician is shown with her teachers after she received a horn from the Horns to Havana program. *Photos courtesy of the Gia Maione Prima Foundation.*

Logos for Programs:

www.GiaMaionePrimaFoundation.com



www.HornsToHavana.org



www.TromboneShortyFoundation.org



Editor's Note: For more information or to schedule interviews, contact Don Jay Smith at 908-832-1020 or don@lksassociates.com.