

News Release

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George Heid III to Receive 2010 Pittsburgh Jazz Society / BNY Mellon Jazz Scholarship

PITTSBURGH, July 19, 2010 — The Pittsburgh Jazz Society and BNY Mellon today announced the selection of George Heid III as the recipient of the 2010 Pittsburgh Jazz Society / BNY Mellon Jazz Scholarship. Heid will receive his scholarship award on Saturday, September 11, during the Pittsburgh Jazz Society's *Jazz Day in the Park* at Schenley Plaza in Oakland.

Chosen by a panel of nationally recognized jazz musicians and educators on the basis of his scholarship application and accompanying audition CD, Heid will receive a \$5,000 tuition award from the Pittsburgh Jazz Society and BNY Mellon.

George Heid III has been mentored by his father, George Heid Sr., and other great jazz musicians including Dwayne Dolphin, Roger Humphries, David Budway, Jimmy Ponder, Mike Taylor, Bill Heid, Lou Stellute, Sonny Barbato, Tom Wendt, Sandy Staley and Sean Jones. In August, Heid will attend the State University of New York in Purchase (SUNY Purchase), New York, as a freshman majoring in Jazz Studies. He plans to continue studying piano and using it as a vehicle for writing and arranging. Ben is a 2009 graduate of Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) High School where he participated in the Jazz Band. During his junior year at CAPA, he attended Jazz Camp at Duquesne University and joined the Center of Life (C.O.L.) Jazz Group.

"George Heid III is bright, talented and a determined musician," said James P. McDonald, Managing Director of Philanthropy, BNY Mellon. "We are delighted that this scholarship supports his educational journey."

"There were many qualified applicants for this year's scholarship; however, George was the top candidate because of his ability and love of jazz music," said Tony Mowod, founder and president of the Pittsburgh Jazz Society and executive producer and jazz host of WDUQ 90.5 FM. "With the support of BNY Mellon, we are able to allow very gifted students to focus on learning jazz instead of worrying about their financial need."

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A non-profit 501(c) (3) all-volunteer organization, The Pittsburgh Jazz Society is dedicated to the promotion, preservation, and perpetuation of all jazz through education, performance, partnering and community outreach for members and the general public. Please visit www.pittsburghjazz.com to become a member or to learn more about the Pittsburgh Jazz Society.

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