



Robert Ball, Marimbist and Jacqueline Hairston, Pianist

Robert Ball, a professional Marimbist of Los Angeles, CA and Jacqueline Hairston, award-winning ASCAP composer-arranger-pianist of the San Francisco Bay Area, will have a joint premier performance in Los Angeles commemorating Jester Hairston at the JESTER HAIRSTON SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION CONCERT, May 16, 2010, at 3:00 p.m. at Holman United Methodist Church. The concert is featuring performances by approximately six Graduating High School Seniors who auditioned on April 17, 2010. Ball and Hairston represent one portion of this occasion focusing on Jester Hairston's rich legacy.

Ball, a music-major graduate of California State University, Los Angeles, who received his training from three noted Southern CA Marimba teachers, Emil Farlund, Howard Peterson and Earl Hatch, is "pairing" his musical prowess with Hairston, who received her music training/education at Juilliard School of Music, Howard University School of Music, and Columbia University. The two versatile, seasoned artists are combining their musical skills in a marimba-piano duet that Jacqueline arranged expressly for ***Remembering the Legacy*** of her esteemed cousin, Dr. Jester Hairston. Their instrumental duo-medley is highlighting some of Jester's favorite Spiritual arrangements: ***You Better Mind; Hold On; Elijah Rock; and Great Day.*** An added feature on a couple of the selections is Los Angeles former outstanding music educator-percussionist, and Scholarship Committee Chair **Danellen Joseph**, an energetic Djembe performer that Jacqueline adamantly validates.

Established 12 years ago, the Jester Hairston Scholarship Fund honors and recognizes the life of the late Jester Hairston, the extraordinarily gifted person who wore many "hats:" renowned choir conductor, composer-arranger, and actor raconteur, in addition to having been an American State Department Ambassador traveling all over the world teaching his Spirituals. Jester's cousin, pianist Jacqueline Hairston, is wearing two "hats" on program; she is also serving as Mistress of Ceremonies.

The graduating high school seniors-performing artists, were chosen in the past because of their *"demonstrated music proficiency and commitment to pursue the study of music,"* a spokesperson said. Persons interested in helping future artistic aspirants may make donations to the Scholarship Fund, payable to Holman Church in Los Angeles – Attention: Jester Hairston Scholarship Fund. The public is cordially invited.

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