



News release
For immediate distribution

The up-and-coming generation is in fine form!

The 55 young people from the MMMIS Blues Camp in performance!

Montreal, Saturday, July 7, 2007 — The 55 students selected for the **MMMIS Blues Camp**, presented by **TD Canada Trust Musique**, are waiting for us big-time! At **7 p.m. tomorrow evening, Sunday, July 8**, the last day of the MMMIS, they will take over the **Club Jazz TD Canada Trust** stage on the **Festival International de Jazz de Montréal** site as part of the *Les Soirées jazz TD Canada Trust* series, and they have every intention of blowing us away!

When they first arrived at the **free musical day camp**, the 50 or so young musicians were immediately divided into six groups based on their level of musical knowledge. During an intensive week of music making, the members of these groups put together **their own musical creations** that they are now eager to present to us, along with their newly acquired knowledge, and their heart, body and soul, in what, for many, will be their first appearance on stage!

While the path that led them to this live show was anything but restful, it was also incredibly enriching and inspiring! No question of our musicians playing hookey! Beginning on day one, their teachers welcomed them with a show of their own invention to make sure that their students knew they were in good hands! Then they toured the premises they would be occupying for the next week, at the **Cégep du Vieux Montréal**.

Right from the start of the camp, the budding young musicians had the chance to meet their idols. Montreal blues beacon, **Stephen Barry**, together with his band, treated them to a blues anthology and all the goosebumps that go with such a performance. As a bonus, at day's end he offered them an exclusive lesson on the bass. Then on Tuesday, it was time for **Dawn Tyler Watson** and **Paul Deslauriers**, who the night before strutted their stuff in concert at Club Soda as part of the Festival. In addition to offering the young participants a private show, the two blues musicians each gave a workshop: Dawn with female voices—no guys this year—and Paul, with guitarists, of course! Day 3 was the day for keyboardists to get off, with a visit from the friendly **Antoine Gratton**! The next day, the Blues Camp welcomed the famous harmonica player **Jim Zellers**, who showed up exclusively to jam with the students. Drum-wise, **Martin Lavallée** paid a surprise visit on July 6, while **Jocelyn Couture** (trumpet) and **André Leroux** (saxophone) completed the loop the next day.

Classes, workshops, backstage visits, low-key musical get-togethers with artists, performances by the groups participating in the Festival, rehearsals, practice and pleasure: the daily schedule was chock-full of all this for the Blues Camp participants. A camp that once again showed beyond a doubt that our teenagers are doing just fine... and the up-and-coming musical generation as well!

Tomorrow then, at **7 p.m.**, on **Sunday, July 8**, the last day of the **Montreal Musician and Musical Instrument Show** and of this musical day camp, when they take the **Club Jazz TD Canada Trust** stage on site at the **Festival International de Jazz de Montréal**, we'll have the chance to see the sparks shine in the eyes of all these young people who do their generation proud.

The Blues Camp offers its warmest thanks to its partners: **TD Canada Trust Musique**, **Steve's Music Store**, **Mel Bay**, **Vox**, **Pearl**, **Marshall**, **Korg**, **Phonic** and **Markbass**, the **Cégep du Vieux Montréal**, **CIBL 101.5 FM** and **Musique Plus**.

To find out all there is to know about the Blues Camp and the MMMIS, visit the website at mmmis.ca.

– 30 –

Source:

Festival International de Jazz de Montréal – 514 509-2000

Media information:

Marie-Eve Boisvert, Media Relations Director – 514 509-2000; marie-eve.boisvert@equipespectra.ca
Frederic Poulin, Press Attaché, 514 509-2000; frederic.poulin@equipespectra.ca

Public information:

Website: mmmis.ca