

THE ART OF MUSIC GALA

THE 2017 ART OF MUSIC GALA MUSICIANS



HEADLINER: JEFF COFFIN

Jeff Coffin is an internationally recognized saxophonist, bandleader, composer and educator who has been traveling the globe since the late 20th century. He is a three-time Grammy-winner as a member of Bela Fleck & the Flecktones, with whom he played from 1997-2010. In July 2008, Jeff began touring with Dave Matthews Band, and officially joined the group in 2009 following the tragic passing of founding member LeRoi Moore. When not on the road with DMB, Coffin fronts

his own group, Jeff Coffin & the Mu'tet, and works around the country playing shows and presenting music clinics to students. Coffin is also an avid photographer who views photographic composition, musical composition and improvisation as going hand in hand. All of his recent album photography is his own work. Listen to Jeff Coffin's music [here](#).



SHOW OPENER: MAYA DELGADO

Opening the show is Maya Delgado, a 10 year old aspiring actress and singer from Dallas, Texas. From a young age, Maya has had a love of the performing arts and tells people she was “born to entertain and make people smile.” She is professionally trained in voice, guitar, songwriting, stage presence, choreography, acting, voice-over, musicals, drama, and improv. In 2016 Maya founded “*HeARTS of Maya*,” a nonprofit organization that provides educational scholarships to underserved children who have a passion for the arts. *HeARTS of Maya* officially launched in

the summer of 2016 and most recently, Dallas' WFAA Ch. 8 did a special on Maya and her foundation. Learn more about Maya [here](#).



MARK WATTERS

Mark Watters is a six-time Emmy Award-winning composer and conductor whose diverse career spans 400 television episodes, feature films, DVDs and video games. He has served several terms as Music Governor on the Television Academy's Board of Governors, and is in his third year as Co-Chair of the Academy's Creative Arts Emmy Awards Committee.

Mark holds the distinction of serving as music director for two Olympics: the 1996 Centennial Games in Atlanta, and the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics.. Listen to the sounds of Mark Watters [here](#).



JAMAR JONES

At the age of four, Jamar was enrolled in a music school in his hometown of Philadelphia where he studied piano and began to compose. While a freshman at Temple University, Jamar co-wrote and co-produced the song, Dear God, for the Grammy nominated Boyz II Men album, Evolution. He also produced the theme song for the movie, Hurricane, which starred Denzel Washington. Jamar has worked with numerous artists including: Kanye West, Janet Jackson, Patti LaBelle and Rihanna just to name a few. Click [here](#) to watch Jamar Jones play the gospel classic "Great is thy faithfulness".



BROOK WALLACE

When she was five years old, Brook Wallace decided to play the fiddle. By the time she turned nine years old, she had accrued the junior titles of State, National, and World Champion. Today, Brook is the lead fiddlist of Green Light Pistol, the Texas Gypsies, the Uptown Drifters, Miss Devon & the Outlaw and other local bands around DFW. Mandolin, cello, and vocals are additional aspects of her repertoire. [Click here to see Brook Wallace perform "The Devil Went Down to Georgia"](#).



QUINN MASON

Quinn Mason is an accomplished classical composer. In fact, he has been writing music for more than half his life, and he's only 20. It's been a life of challenges – he grew up the son of a single mom and he has Asperger's syndrome, on the autism spectrum. But despite his challenges, in 2015 he was one of six students nationwide to win the distinguished American Composers Forum NextNotes High School Composition Award. In elementary school he found his way to his first instrument, piano. By the time he reached his senior year in high school the list grew to cello, clarinet, trombone and oboe percussion. [Watch the magic of Quinn Mason here.](#)

