



August 8, 2022

Dr. Timothy Zifer
University of Evansville - Music Conservatory
Evansville, IN, USA

Dear Dr. Zifer:

On behalf of UNESCO and the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz, please accept my sincere gratitude and appreciation for your participation in International Jazz Day 2022.

This year's program took place amid global uncertainty, humanitarian crises and economic upheaval, which tragically threaten to undermine the steady progress the world has made in recovering and emerging from the pandemic.

Yet the International Jazz Day family refused to allow its celebrations to be overshadowed. In 2022, artists and organizers in more than 180 countries mobilized their local communities like never before on April 30, with historic town squares, museums, restaurants, schools, concert halls and even trains, vineyards, parks and back patios brought to life with live music, learning and discussions about jazz.

Virtual events continued, as many organizers leveraged the miraculous technology developed and refined throughout the pandemic to reach further and share their music with more people around the world. Online and hybrid celebrations continued to play an important role in showcasing the vision of global unity that is at the heart of International Jazz Day. We are proud that the 2022 All-Star Global Concert webcast reached more than 30 million viewers on YouTube and Facebook alone.

Citywide, national and regional celebrations from South America to Central Africa to Europe and Asia saw people and institutions at all levels of civil society mobilize to show their solidarity with International Jazz Day and its message of hope. These and other programs engaged with a diversity of issues, from helping those impacted by conflict to supporting the food insecure to raising awareness of environmental degradation.

Despite the many difficulties so many across the globe still face, these accomplishments give me a sense of optimism. With music and open, respectful dialogue in our toolbox, I am confident that together we can weather any obstacle.

Thank you once again for your steadfast support for International Jazz Day. We look forward to your continued participation next year on April 30. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us at outreach@jazzday.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Herbie".

Herbie Hancock
UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador
for Intercultural Dialogue