



Project 440, Inc.
www.project440.org
Media Contact: Samantha Apgar, Managing Director
sapgar@project440.org
844-776-5440

Joseph Conyers, Project 440 Founder and Executive Director, honored by Sphinx Organization with \$50,000 career grant

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Philadelphia, PA (September 12, 2018) – The Sphinx Organization, the social justice organization dedicated to transforming lives through the power of diversity in the arts, has announced the 2019 recipients of the [Sphinx Medals of Excellence](#). Project 440 Founder and Executive Director Joseph H. Conyers is among the recipients of this prestigious award. The other recipients are [Raquel González](#) and [Will Liverman](#).

Sphinx annually honors three emerging Black or Latinx classical musicians with the Sphinx Medal of Excellence. Through a national nomination process, Sphinx identifies musicians early in their professional career who demonstrate the following qualities: artistic excellence, outstanding work ethic, a spirit of determination and ongoing commitment to leadership. The recipients each receive a \$50,000 career grant, bestowed in Washington D.C. at a private luncheon hosted by The Kennedy Center and the Aspen Institute, and celebrated at a black-tie gala. The eighth annual Sphinx Medals of Excellence celebration will take place on March 20, 2019.

Joseph shared, "I'm honored and humbled to be a recipient of Sphinx's 2019 Medal of Excellence. My relationship with Sphinx extends back to the very first competition held 20 years ago, and I've been in awe and inspired by Sphinx's capacity to affect so many ever since. This recognition only strengthens my resolve to continue to positively affect the lives of young people across the country. I'm thankful to Sphinx for empowering me with further support to do so."

About [Joseph H. Conyers](#): Double bassist Joseph H. Conyers was appointed assistant principal bassist of The Philadelphia Orchestra in 2010 after tenures with the Atlanta Symphony, Santa Fe Opera, and Grand Rapids Symphony where he served as principal bass. A formidable advocate for music education, he is executive director of Project 440, an organization that engages, educates, and inspires young musicians, providing them with the career and life skills they need to develop into tomorrow's civic-minded, entrepreneurial leaders.

Visit SphinxMusic.org/sphinx-medals-of-excellence for more information on the Sphinx Medals of Excellence program.



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About Project 440

Project 440 engages, educates and inspires young musicians, providing them with the career and life skills they need to develop into tomorrow's civic-minded, entrepreneurial leaders. Project 440 refers to the 440Hz "tuning A" of an orchestra - thus, just as the oboe leads an orchestra with the 440Hz pitch, Project 440 students are learning to be 21st Century leaders. Programmatically, P440 has developed a comprehensive curriculum which uses music as a tool to cultivate tomorrow's civic-minded, entrepreneurial leaders. Organizationally, Project 440 has grown from an all-volunteer organization with a small board to a professional organization with paid staff, a dynamic and hands-on board, and a growing national reputation for providing innovative programming to budding musicians. Read more at www.Project440.org.

About the Sphinx Organization

The Sphinx Organization is the social justice organization dedicated to transforming lives through the power of diversity in the arts. Sphinx's four program areas – Education & Access, Artist Development, Performing Artists, and Arts Leadership – form a pipeline that develops and supports diversity and inclusion in classical music at every level: music education, artists performing on stage, the repertoire and programming being performed, the communities represented in audiences, and the artistic and administrative leadership within the field. Sphinx programs reach more than 100,000 students and artists, as well as live and broadcast audiences of more than two million annually. Read more about Sphinx's programs at www.SphinxMusic.org.

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