



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **MusiCan Announces Over Half a Million Dollars for Music Education for Schools Across Canada**

**TORONTO, October 1, 2007** – MusiCan, the national music education charity of the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (CARAS), celebrated International Music Day by announcing the names of this year's Canadian public schools that will receive a Band Aid musical instrument grant.

Each recipient school will receive \$10,000 to replace aged, broken and battered instruments to help keep music alive in their schools. These grants will continue to enable young Canadians to participate in music programs, realize their musical potential and feel a genuine sense of accomplishment. This year marks the largest contribution at \$510,000 and more grants for schools than ever before.

"We were overwhelmed with the number and quality of submissions for grants this year," says Srinka Wallia, Executive Director, MusiCan. "Many of the requests were extremely moving and as difficult as it was to make the final selection, we are very pleased to announce our largest annual contribution to date and be able to positively impact thousands of young Canadians from coast to coast. "

Including this year's grants, CARAS will have donated over 2.3 million to music programs, impacting 120,732 young Canadians, their schools and communities right across the country. These grants will support a variety of music programs for JK to Grade 12, bringing together students from all walks of life and varied cultural backgrounds, including First Nations communities. It will also impact special needs children, at risk students and economically challenged families.

"Music is a vital component of education", says Melanie Berry, President of CARAS. "We have the ability to make a difference in the positive development of our youth. This year, once again, we will achieve that through our Band Aid grants."

Schools were selected by the MusiCan Committee based on criteria that includes economic need, inventory and condition of existing musical instruments, and overall impact the grant would make to the school and surrounding community.

#### **2007-2008 Band Aid Recipient Schools**

Amesbury Middle School, *Toronto, ON*  
Beverley Heights Middle School, *North York, ON*  
Bishop Redding Secondary School, *Milton, ON*  
Bloorlea Middle School, *Toronto, ON*  
Cartwright Central Public School, *Blackstock, ON*  
Chief Jimmy Bruneau Regional High School, *Behchoko, NWT*  
Cornell Jr. Public School, *Toronto, ON*  
Deer Park Public School, *Keswick, ON*  
École New Era School, *Brandon, MB*  
École Secondaire Paul-Gerin-Lajoie-d'Outremont, *Outremont, PQ*  
Elizabeth Sutherland School, *Halifax, NS*  
Elwick Community School, *Winnipeg, MB*  
Ernest Morrow Junior High School, *Calgary, AB*  
Fisherville Junior High, *Toronto, ON*  
General Brock Public School, *Scarborough, ON*  
George Peck Public School, *Toronto, ON*  
Gladstone Secondary School, *Vancouver, BC*

Harkins Middle School, *Miramichi, NB*  
 Heritage School, *Winnipeg, MB*  
 Hullett Central Public School, *Londesboro, ON*  
 Island View School, *Saint John, NB*  
 Jarvis Collegiate Institute, *Toronto, ON*  
 John Rennie High School, *Pointe-Claire, PQ*  
 Kelsey Community School, *The Pas, MB*  
 Lake Academy, *Fortune, NL*  
 L'Amoreaux Collegiate Institute, *Toronto, ON*  
 Leonardo Da Vinci Elementary School, *Montreal, PQ*  
 Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, *Sudbury, ON*  
 Mary Shadd Public School, *Scarborough, ON*  
 Mary Ward Catholic Secondary School, *Scarborough, ON*  
 Mayfield Secondary School, *Caledon, ON*  
 North Hastings High School, *Bancroft, ON*  
 Park View Education Centre, *Bridgewater, NS*  
 Polyvalente Robert Ouimet, *Acton Vale, PQ*  
 Pope John Paul II School, *Saskatoon, SK*  
 Royal Orchard Middle School, *Brampton, ON*  
 Sir John A MacDonald Collegiate Institute, *Scarborough, ON*  
 Sir William Osler High School, *Scarborough, ON*  
 St. John Elementary School, *Perth, ON*  
 St. Mary Catholic High School, *Brockville, ON*  
 Toronto District School Board – Inner City Model Schools (7 schools), *Toronto, ON*  
 Tisdale Middle & Secondary School, *Tisdale, SK*  
 Ucluelet Elementary/Ucluelet Secondary/Wickaninnish Community School, *Ucluelet, BC*  
 W.J. McCordic School, *Toronto, ON*  
 Waverley Drive Public School, *Guelph, ON*  
 Westgate Collegiate & Vocational School, *Thunder Bay, ON*  
 Whitney Pier Memorial Jr. High School, *Sydney, NS*  
 William Cook Elementary School, *Richmond, BC*  
 Wilma Hansen Jr. High School, *Calgary, AB*

Many Artists have lent tremendous support to MusiCan, inspiring young Canadians and recognizing extraordinary music teachers. They include **54•40, Alanis Morissette, Audrey de Montigny, Billy Talent, Doc Walker, Eva Avila, Great Big Sea, Gregory Charles, Hawksley Workman, Jane Bunnett, Jann Arden, Jelleestone, Jim Cuddy, Jimmy Rankin, Jully Black, Kalan Porter, Kathleen Edwards, Keshia Chanté, Matt Mays, Melissa O'Neil, Michael Bubl , Murray Lightburn (The Dears), Nickelback, Remy Shand, Rex Goudie, Ryan Malcolm, Sam Roberts, Sarah Harmer, Shania Twain, Shaye, Susan Aglukark, The Ennis Sisters, The Rolling Stones, The Tragically Hip** and others.

#### ***About MusiCan***

Through MusiCan, the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (CARAS) is helping keep music alive in schools across Canada. MusiCan's mission is to ensure that every child in Canada has access to a comprehensive music program through their schools. MusiCan includes Band Aid musical instrument grants, the MusiCan Teacher of the Year Award, Scholarships and other music education initiatives. MusiCan is supported by various initiatives such as the platinum selling Juno nominee compilation CD, annual contributions by CTVglobemedia, EMI Music Canada Inc., SONY BMG Music Canada Inc., Universal Music Canada and Warner Music Canada Ltd., as well as Songwriters' Circle sponsored by CMPA and SOCAN, Juno Cup and individual and corporate contributions.

Including this year's contributions and since the Program's establishment in 1997, over 2.3 million will be donated impacting 164 post secondary music program graduates and 120,732 individual students, their schools and communities, from coast to coast. MusiCan has also honoured three extraordinary music teachers through the *MusiCan Teacher of the Year Award*.

For more information on MusiCan and to find out how you can lend your support, please visit [www.musican.ca](http://www.musican.ca)