



April 2015

Dear Mr. Mikhail Freidlin,

On behalf of UNESCO and the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, we want to thank you and the *Master-Jam Fest* for agreeing to help bring International Jazz Day 2015 to Odessa, Ukraine.

Jazz is more than just a musical art form; it is an affirmation of our ability to peacefully collaborate and cooperate in spite of profound differences – to speak with our unique individual voices while still respecting and celebrating the collective. Your participation on April 30 is critical to ensuring that all people continue to hear this positive message and the music behind it.

This year, we are pleased to align our recognition of the growing global jazz movement with UNESCO's 70th anniversary celebration. For nearly three-quarters of a century, their tireless work has helped to secure and advance culture and freedom of expression throughout the world. International Jazz Day was created as a natural extension of that mission, and we are proud that countless citizens, governments, NGOs and businesses continue to invest in UNESCO's legacy by supporting jazz. We ask all our partners to keep this synchronicity in mind as they organize and promote their events in 2015.

We live in a world of increasingly complex problems. On April 30, the world will show once again that jazz is a natural part of a sustainable solution. We are so grateful to have you with us this year – please accept our best wishes as you plan your celebration in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Herbie Hancock'.

Herbie Hancock
UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador
for Intercultural Dialogue
Chairman, Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tom Carter'.

Thomas R. Carter
President, Thelonious Monk
Institute of Jazz