



## For Immediate Release

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For More Information

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### Annual *For the Love of Art* Music Celebration Honors Jazz Legend's Birthday and Memory

Little Rock, AR – Art Porter Music Education's (APME) annual *For the Love of Art* Series, recognizes Art Porter, Sr. with two special events in Little Rock, featuring an all-star lineup of talented local musicians, as well as Minors in Music, Friday, February 17, 2023, 7 p.m. at the AC Hotel by Marriott, 201 W. Capitol, and Sunday, February 19, 2023, 6 p.m. at St. John Missionary Baptist Church, 2501 Main St.

Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, the talented Minors in Music students and their Mentors in Music will pay tribute to the late Porter during the month he would have observed his 89<sup>th</sup> birthday. The celebration continues Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> with performances by the Art Porter Singers and G-Music (former members of APME's Minors in Music program), including local American Idol contender Tania (Nia Renee) Kelley.

APME is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization established to honor the legacies of Art Porter Sr. and Jr. who dedicated their lives to music, education and community service. Annual fundraisers are held to recognize both ARTS in their birth months and support scholarships awarded to college-bound Arkansans. "For the Love of Art" recognizes Art Porter Sr., born February 8, 1934.

**About Art Porter, Sr.** – Art Porter, Sr. was a renowned pianist, entertainer, educator and television producer. He was born in Little Rock on February 8, 1934. The Arkansas Jazz Statesman never officially worked as a touring musician, even though he was encouraged by many to do so, he instead chose to perform, teach and contribute to his church and his Arkansas community. He was known for his willingness to help other musicians by providing a platform to display their talent. As producer of "The Minor Key," a series of television programs on AETN Channel 2, Porter showcased up-and-coming talent in Arkansas and surrounding areas.

#### **About the Art Porter Singers:**

The Art Porter Singers were organized by Porter in December, 1976 and consist of Horace Mann students and family members. They are best known for their rendition of Handel's Messiah; a Christmas holiday favorite they have performed since 1977. Other appearances include performances on Arkansas Education Television Network (AETN) and at the grand opening for the William Jefferson Clinton Presidential Center.

#### **About G-Music:**

Born out of APME's Minor in Music program, the G-MUSIC band is comprised of former student musicians. Thanks to a very supportive community and wonderful opportunities, they have been able to hone their craft and pursue their musical dreams, performing at venues throughout the state!

Admission to both *For the Love of Art* events is free, but donations, on site and online at [artporter.org](http://artporter.org) are encouraged, and will benefit APME's scholarship program. Additional information can be found on [artporter.org](http://artporter.org) and APME's book page.

Help us celebrate a musical legacy that spans over 80 years!

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