



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Music Forward is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to accelerating real-life skills for youth using music as the bridge to success.

Focusing on young people ages 12-19 in underserved communities, we set the stage for success by providing workshops and showcases to kick-start musical careers; fulfill musical dreams by equipping dedicated young musicians with instruments; and inspire the next generation of music industry leaders with hands-on career exploration.

## **NEEDS STATEMENT**

More than 6.7 million young people in the United States are disengaged from school or work. Helping those disconnected youth identify a clear plan for their future has the potential to change the trajectory of their lives.

Music Forward leverages music and the music industry to provide underserved youth with the access and tools they need to uncover their pathway to success. Our programs inspire, equip, connect, and prepare youth for careers in the music industry and beyond, yielding life-changing results.

## **BOILER PLATE**

Music Forward is a national, independent non-profit organization dedicated to accelerating real-life skills for youth using music as the bridge to success. We set the stage for success by providing workshops and showcases to kick-start musical careers; fulfills musical dreams by equipping dedicated young musicians with instruments; and inspires the next generation of music industry leaders with hands-on career exploration. Our programs inspire, equip, connect, and prepare youth for careers in the music industry and beyond, yielding life-changing results. Music Forward is the evolution of the International House of Blues Foundation, which began in 1993.

## **HISTORY STATEMENT**

Music Forward is the evolution of the International House of Blues Foundation, which began in 1993. While we benefit greatly from our relationship with House of Blues, we are an independent nonprofit organization relying on public donations to fulfill our mission.

## OUR PROGRAMS



### **Bringing Down the House**

*Setting the Stage for Success*

We're giving our young people a chance to shine -- one standing ovation at a time. Bringing Down the House is a multi-week program connecting talented, young artists to one another and music industry insiders to build self-confidence, develop new skills, and bring crowds to their feet. Celebrated venues play host as memorable backdrops for experiences that fuel ambition and kick-start musical careers.



### **Bringing Down the House – Boot Camp**

Boot Camp provides a single-day snapshot of Bringing Down the House by offering young artists an opportunity to connect with each other and learn from music industry leaders what it takes to go to the next level.



### **Give Music**

*Opportunity in Hand*

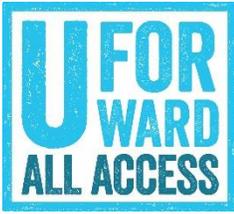
It's amazing what an instrument can do in deserving hands. Give Music provides aspiring young musicians a chance to nurture their passion, strengthen their talents, expand their possibilities, and pursue their lifetime goals on an instrument they can call their very own. Give Music paves pathways to college and career, unites schools in sound, and connects young people to their community. More than melodies are created when a young person receives an instrument – dreams are fulfilled.



### **UForward**

*Career Day Unplugged*

Imagine the coolest career day. Ever. UForward is a year-long program offering high school juniors and seniors a VIP backstage pass to learn about coveted gigs in the music industry. No musical skills required – just a passion to learn. This ticket to a more promising future is designed to inspire ambition, create momentum, and redefine what's possible with hands-on experience in behind-the-scenes jobs most people only dream about.



### **UForward – All Access**

All Access offers a healthy dose of UForward in the form of a music field trip. Youth are invited to tour live entertainment venues and discover careers in the music industry that don't require being on stage to be a star.



### **Blues Schoolhouse**

*Musical Journey through History*

Blues Schoolhouse is the legacy program of the International House of Blues Foundation, which traces the history of the blues from its roots in African musical traditions through its emergence as an American musical form, and its influence on other genres including Gospel, Spirituals, Blues, Jazz, R&B, Rock & Roll, Soul, Funk, Hip-Hop, and Rap. Performances of this program are limited to select markets.

**[www.HOBMusicForward.org](http://www.HOBMusicForward.org)**