



July 2018

Mr. Dimitri Vassilakis  
Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations  
New York, NY, USA

Dear Mr. Vassilakis:

On behalf of UNESCO and the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz, please accept my deepest appreciation for the efforts of the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations in support of the 2018 edition of International Jazz Day. Thanks to your participation, this year's celebration was our best yet.

It is hard to believe that 2018 marked the seventh annual observance of this special day. Through countless performances, education programs, jam sessions, debates, art exhibitions and other initiatives offered by our endlessly creative partners, I am proud to acknowledge that International Jazz Day has impacted and uplifted people in virtually every corner of the world.

This year, the unforgettable All-Star Global Concert from the Global Host City of Saint Petersburg, Russia, along with the kick-off concert from New Orleans, Louisiana, received a record-setting **15.6 million views** by music lovers across the globe. More importantly, participation from organizers like you continued to grow, with **a multitude of events curated at all levels of civil society in over 190 countries**.

Many events in 2018 were offered free of charge and open to the public, ensuring broad accessibility among local communities. We continued to build connections with organizers seeking to spread the spirit of International Jazz Day well beyond April 30 through their projects and programs. Furthermore, numerous partners responded enthusiastically to the call for more charitable engagement, using their events to rally support for worthy causes.

Once again, thank you for all of your support. We value your membership in the global #JazzDay family, and look forward to learning about your plans for April 30, 2019.

Sincerely,

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

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