

“Just like language, Music is a basic manifestation of the human spirit – education without Music short changes our young people.”

Reg Weaver, President  
National Education Association (NEA)

The FAME, a 501(c) (3) nonprofit, was organized in June 2004 to advance the value of music, music making and educational study and to create opportunities for youth to experience the joys of music and provide them gifts that last a lifetime. FAME Inc has concentrated its resources and efforts in Maryland, District of Columbia, and Virginia. FAME provides supports primarily through individual grants, scholarships and educational workshops for students, teachers, scholars and specialists. Grants will also be awarded to nonprofits and educational institutions for specific projects of particular significance/relevance to FAME mission. The Foundation wants to bring equity to the educational system by ensuring that young people have access to high-quality education.

The Foundation provides scholarships and grants to individuals and nonprofit organizations in the areas of music, performing and visual arts and education in general. The purpose of the scholarships and grants is to provide financial and tuition assistance to young people, and opportunities to engage in the performing arts and attend colleges and universities and to help them advance their education and to build a diverse generation of new leaders in the USA.



**2007 Awardees (Seated):**

Dr. Joyce Bowles, DC Boys Choir; Victor Lopez, Lopez Youth Performing Arts Center; Amanda Standard, Divine Dance Institute; Cheryl Nkeba, Mitchellville Community School of the Arts.

**Standing (Left to Right):**

Prince George's Council Member, Samuel H. Dean; Carolyn D. Alston, FAME Vice Chair; Darrell Miller, Mayor Capitol Heights, MD; FAME Co-Founders: A. Toni Lewis & Richard Elihu Payne; Karen S. Jackson, FAME Board Member; Douglass J J Peters, Maryland Senator, and Cecelia Davis, FAME Treasurer.

**2006 Grant Awardees:**

Innovative Study Techniques  
The Maryland Opera Society  
Dance Institute of Washington  
DC Boys Choir  
The Ottley Music School

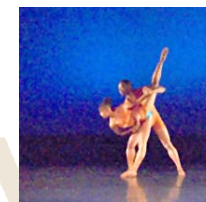


The 2007 FAME Awards Ceremony was held on December 8, 2007, at FAME's Headquarters in Bowie, Maryland. Each recipient gave overviews of their organizations to attendees and received a \$2000 FAME grant to support their nonprofit efforts.

FAME was set up to provide high quality and diverse music-making opportunities for youth. It targets young people living in areas of social and economic need who might otherwise lack opportunity, and predominantly supports activities held outside school hours.

Although the local counties and the Federal government provide funds to address the needs of low income communities and individuals, these efforts are not enough to eradicate attendant conditions of poverty and undereducated, joblessness and unemployment. At a time when education research indicates the need to move in one direction, economic pressures dictate another. Recent public concerns about basic skills in reading and mathematics have led some school districts to narrow their curriculum, eliminating ostensibly peripheral subjects like music in an effort to improve scores on standardized tests.

Statistics indicate that children who participate in music are more likely to earn higher grades and score better on standardized tests. According to recent reports in Neurological Research, the children who had received piano keyboard instruction scored 34 percent higher than the others on tests designed to measure spatial-temporal reasoning. Because these functions are critical components in the understanding of subjects like mathematics, science and engineering, this body of research has significant implications.



# F A M E

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Figurative Artist Ralph E. Irby of Norfolk, VA, presented the FAME Board of Directors with an original painting created specifically for FAME, at Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Maryland University in 2007. The framed painting, valued at \$3500, depicts the music role FAME plays in the lives of youth through young adulthood. Prints (11" x 17") of the painting are available for \$25 each. For additional information please call or email us.



**The Foundation for the  
Advancement of Music & Education, Inc.**

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