

Equity and Human Relations Award Nomination Form



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Nominee Information

Award Category **Non-Profit Organization**

Name of Individual/Student/Non-Profit
Organization/Business **Jazz Hands For Autism**

Name of Business Owner or Manager

Business or Non-Profit Organization Website **www.jazzhandsforautism.org**

Name of Organization's
President/Director/Representative **Ifunanya Nweke**

Purpose of Non-Profit Organization **Jazz Hands For Autism is a nonprofit organization that is diversifying the entertainment industry by helping individuals on the autism spectrum turn their interests and talents in music into community-based employment in music-related positions such as performing, composing, teaching and more! Through our vocational academy, our music library, our junior academy and our semi-annual concert, JHFA provides training and builds partnerships that creates more access to employment and community inclusion for autistic creatives.**

City **Culver City**

Street Address **10220 Culver Boulevard, ste 101**

State **CA**

Zip Code	90232
Phone	424-298-8702
Email	info@jazzhandsforautism.org
Current Occupation	

About your Nominee

Jazz Hands For Autism (JHFA) is an innovative and award nominated answer to an age old problem. As the foremost talent advocacy group for musicians on the autism spectrum, we are changing the way that neurodivergent individuals are taught and included in different communities, by leveraging the power of music and the influence of the music industry. We recognize that more than an aesthetic pleasure of life, music is a powerful tool for social connection and social mobility. Being that adults on the autism spectrum are 1) the most unemployed segment of our population and 2) have the least self determination of any other demographic group, we found ways to use music to empower them and change these dire stats.

Through our programs and our one-of-a-kind music library, we are creating access to expression and employment for an often forgotten but incredibly important part of our population.

Over the last 8 years, JHFA Jazz Hands For Autism has taken the power of music and turned it into over 30 customizable digital courses, constellation of supports and a one-of-a-kind music library that have helped adults with autism secure almost 200 community based work opportunities and make over \$19,000.

Jazz Hands For Autism has also established partnerships with the City of Culver City and Local businesses to bridge the gap between the senior population and the autistic population. Through monthly performances at Culver City based senior

care facilities, senior center event performances, performances at Fiesta La Ballonna, and partnerships with local non-public schools, Jazz Hands For autism has successfully created employment opportunities for several autistic adults and also meaningful experiences for Culver City seniors, residents and students.

Finally, Jazz Hands For Autism has also hosted events that bring together Culver City residents and business owners to celebrate mental health, neurodiversity and autism awareness.

Upload files. You can upload files containing the information instead of filling out the field above or to supply additional information in support of your nominee.

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[JHFA Poster 2019 \(1\).pdf](#)

[WHY HIRE OUR MUSICIANS REV.pdf](#)

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[JH Info Deck \(El Monte\).pdf](#)

Nominator Information

Your Name

Ifunanya Nweke

Street Address

10220 Culver Blvd Ste 101

City

Culver City

State

CA

Zip Code

90232

Phone

424-209-7190

Email

N.Nweke@jazzhandsforautism.org

Relationship to Nominee

Founder of the Organization