



# Duke Ellington

*school of the arts*

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## **ELLINGTON FUND ELECTS NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

Washington, DC – On September 26, 2007, the Ellington Fund, Inc. held its Annual Meeting at the Washington, DC offices of Dickstein Shapiro LLP. The Ellington Fund is one of four partners in DC’s Duke Ellington School of the Arts Project, along with the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The George Washington University, and DC Public Schools (DCPS).

The Fund strives to financially support various programs and activities at the Ellington School and to provide scholarship assistance to Ellington graduates. Supplementing the budget allocated by DCPS, the Fund has raised millions of dollars over the years for programs such as SAT preparatory programs, arts instructors, a summer arts camp, and math remediation, and hopes to raise further funds for programs such as AP tutoring, professional development for faculty, and this year’s upcoming monumental collaborative performance, *The Wiz*. Ellington prides itself in being one of DC’s top public schools.

At the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors elected officers and re-elected certain directors of the Fund. Robert D. Horvath, Jr. of Washington, DC, was elected President of the Fund. Mr. Horvath is the founder and principal of Kalorama Development LLC, a residential real estate development firm and also is a member of the District of Columbia Bar. Mr. Horvath previously served as the board’s Vice President and succeeded former president Virginia Mott Sullivan, who served on the Board for 12 years.

“I’m very excited about my new role with the Ellington Fund and the school,” said Mr. Horvath. “The board has enjoyed some tremendous fundraising successes—and as Ginny Sullivan steps down, I know I have some big shoes to fill. I’m looking forward to building upon her successes and on those of the Board and the Ellington Fund staff. It’s an honor to support this excellent arts and academic institution.”

Ari Q. Fitzgerald, a Partner in Hogan & Hartson LLP, and Daryl A. Libow, Managing Partner of the Washington office of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, were each elected Vice President. Alison Hooker of Ernst & Young was elected Secretary, and Christopher B. Cowen of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation was elected Treasurer.

Louis Everard, Michael Nannes and Alison Hooker were elected to new three-year terms as members of the Board. Dr. Michaele Christian and Sheryll Cashin were elected to new terms as the Fund’s representatives on the Duke Ellington School of the Arts Project Board.

The Fund’s Advisory Council is co-chaired by alumni Dave Chappelle and Denyce Graves and includes such icons as Stevie Wonder, Magic Johnson, Harry Belafonte, Barack Obama, and Rita Moreno. Prominent artists frequently visit the school to offer student master classes.

**Duke Ellington School of the Arts** is an accredited college preparatory public school of the District of Columbia offering pre-professional training in museum studies, literary media, visual arts, dance, theater, technical theater, instrumental and vocal music. Ellington offers students an educational experience that combines both academic studies and artistic development. Our vision is to meet the needs of talented students who are considering careers in the arts by providing intensive arts instruction of the highest quality and strong academic curriculum and to prepare students for post-secondary education and/or pre-professional careers. Ellington’s unique partnership with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The George Washington University, and DCPS provides significant opportunities to the students, faculty and staff.

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