



August 29, 2025

Bashar Haroun
U-Ground Music Center - Music House Events
Syrian Arab Republic

Dear Bashar:

On behalf of UNESCO and the Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for your incredible contribution to International Jazz Day 2025. This year's celebration spanned over 1,000 events hosted across 196 countries—a record in our 14-year history and a testament to jazz's recognition as a truly universal art form.

The achievements of International Jazz Day 2025 fill me with profound optimism. Your unwavering commitment to Jazz Day's mission of promoting peace, dialogue, and unity through music continues to inspire me, and demonstrates the profound impact we can have when we come together as one family, which is the human family.

It was a true pleasure to connect personally with many of you during our two Zoom sessions leading up to this year's Jazz Day. Your enthusiasm and great questions reminded me of the extraordinary dedication and passion that continue to fuel our ever-growing Jazz Day family across all countries and corners of the globe.

I enjoyed seeing some of the concerts, programs, and community events you organized in your communities, some of which are featured on www.jazzday.com. Thank you for spreading the universal messages of jazz – harmony, listening to others, freedom of expression, and mutual respect – to new and returning audiences.

I am so grateful for your participation in this year's International Jazz Day. I hope you are thinking of new ideas to celebrate International Jazz Day next year for its 15th anniversary edition – I can't wait to see each of your creative programs. Let's make 2026 the biggest global Jazz Day celebration yet!

I'm also happy to invite you to another Zoom gathering this fall – stay tuned for details! In the meantime, I'd love to hear more about your 2025 events. If possible, please share a brief highlight video with us at outreach@jazzday.com – we want to feature some of your highlight reels during our call. Thank you so much!

Sincerely yours,

Herbie Hancock
UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador