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**5TH ANNUAL CITYWIDE "FALL INTO MUSIC"**  
**INSTRUMENT DRIVE KICKS OFF ON 11/11**

Schools and nonprofits serving hundreds of children in Central Texas will benefit.

**Austin, TX—November 8, 2017—**The Hispanic Alliance and KMFA Classical 89.5 announce the fifth annual Fall Into Music citywide instrument drive, taking place November 11-18. The drive will collect new and gently-used instruments, books, and accessories which will then be used by students in The Hispanic Alliance's Austin Soundwaves program and other music education programs throughout Austin. Austin Soundwaves reaches hundreds of children, including many who have no other opportunity for learning to play music. Nearly 2,000 instruments, books, and accessories were collected over the past four years and organizers hope to collect another 500 items during this year's drive.

"It is amazing to see the transformation that happens once these instruments make it into the hands of local students," said Patrick Slevin, Austin Soundwaves Program Director. "Exposure to music education opens the door to an incredible spectrum of new learning experiences, and we see our students begin to excel across the board as a result of this program."

The experience of giving away instruments is an important one for donors as well, many of whom have recently lost loved ones who played music or have stopped playing music themselves. When asked why she brought in her cello, one donor says, "Since my mother was a music teacher for 40 years I would like this instrument to go to either a music school that will

take care of it or somebody that will be grateful to get it.” In this way, the Fall Into Music Instrument Drive allows donors to reconnect with their love of music, become an active part of the broader community, and support the future of Austin music.

In addition to Austin Soundwaves, other beneficiary schools and organizations this year include the Austin Independent School District, AllRhythms, Anthropos Arts, Austin Achieve Public Schools, Beyond the Grade, and Recorders Without Borders.

Accepted donations include string, brass, percussion, and woodwind instruments, electronic keyboards, and accessories such as drumsticks and amplifiers. Music, books, and cash donations to help with repairs are also accepted. Donations are tax-deductible and tax receipts will be provided.

Donations will be accepted at drop-off locations throughout Austin, including KMFA 89.5, Armstrong Community Music School, Blue Owl Brewing, The Long Center, and more. For more details, please visit [www.fallintomusic.org](http://www.fallintomusic.org).

***The Hispanic Alliance** is a Texas 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 2010 to expand creative learning opportunities for underserved and minority youth throughout Central Texas. In 2011, The Hispanic Alliance launched Austin Soundwaves, an El Sistema-inspired program that provides high-quality music education to over 350 youth in Central Texas before school, during school, and after school.*

***KMFA Classical 89.5** is the independent classical radio station of Austin, founded in 1967 to inspire and restore the human spirit through classical music. The station serves approximately 100,000 listeners each week and features both locally produced shows as well as nationally distributed programming. KMFA encourages arts education, supports the Central Texas community, and strives to enhance the region’s cultural ecosystem.*