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Press Release

May 31, 2012

[MTA Headquarters](#)

IMMEDIATE

### 25 Performers and Groups Win Entry into MTA's Music Under New York

MTA Arts for Transit and Urban Design today announced that 25 individuals and groups had been accepted into the Music Under New York (MUNY) program after performing at the program's 25th annual auditions held on May 16 in Grand Central Terminal.

During the auditions, 64 acts performed live for a panel of judges of musicians, music and performing arts professionals, transit representatives and other to become part of the MUNY program. The acts were judged on the criteria of quality, variety, and appropriateness for the mass transit environment.

As a result of the judges' scores, these are the acts will become part of the MUNY roster:

Performer or Group	Genre
Acapella Soul	Male acapella
Afrikumba Utibe Drummers	Drum ensemble
Aria	Eclectic vocal & guitar duo
Petula Beckles	Gospel/ jazz singer songwriter
R. M. Bridgewell	Guitar, Mozart to Metallica
Allan Chapman	Guitar & vocals, originals & covers
Chicken Barn Heros	Bluegrass trio
Jason Cordero	Piano, romantic classical
Keith Dorgan	Vibraphone & bass duo
Melissa Elledge	Accordion, classics to originals
Holliewood Ft. Venor	Alternative hip hop duo
Emily Hopkins	Harp, classical to pop
Atsumi Ishibashi & Robin's Egg Blue	Guitar & duo, pop/folk
Richie Kaye Music	Jazz duo
Karikatura	Latin, gypsy, ska, reggae fusion band
Leah Laurenti	R&B/ jazz singer
Buster Marengo	Piano, classical
Mariachi Flor de Toloache	Female mariachi band
Jeff Masin	One man band
Caesar Passée	Steel drums
Matt Pless	Singer songwriter

Performer or Group	Genre
Ryutaro Shibuya	Guitar, contemporary jazz
Nadine Simmons	Pop / Gospel singer
Charles Tighe	Handpan player
Washington Square Winds	Wind quintet

Performances by Mariachi Flor de Toloache, Acapella Soul, Charles Tighe and others are visible on our video of the auditions, available here: <http://youtu.be/zDHDbfddk44>

Photographs of the auditions are available here: <http://flic.kr/s/aHsjzpKGfO>

MUNY has more than 350 individuals and groups on their roster, performing approximately 7,500 annual performances in about 25 transit locations around the City. Music Under New York is one of many visual and performing arts programs administered by MTA Arts for Transit and Urban Design to enhance the station environment for the customer. For more information, visit <http://www.mta.info/art>