



Cross Timbers Youth Orchestra

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HURRICANE KATRINA BRINGS CROSS TIMBERS YOUTH ORCHESTRA A GIFTED VIOLINIST

New Orleans student relocated to McKinney joins CTYO

MCKINNEY, TEXAS – October 6, 2005 -- Jordan Johnson is a 10 year old, newly enrolled fifth grader at Burks Elementary in McKinney. Hurricane Katrina brought him and his mother to McKinney. When they arrived in McKinney, they had only the bare essentials. His Mother is an office administrator and hopes to begin a new life in McKinney. Prior to Hurricane Katrina, Jordan began learning the violin three years ago at his elementary school in New Orleans. His interest in strings began with his Mother's nudge but after listening to classic music he quickly decided he liked the sound of the violin and began lessons.

Cross Timbers Youth Orchestra (CTYO) learned of Jordan's interest in continuing the violin through Burks Elementary School's music specialist, Dellan Gibson. CTYO arranged for him to receive a scholarship and instrument to participate in the CTYO Elementary Strings program. "CTYO is fun. I get to play new songs each week and meet new people," says Jordan. Now his mother says Jordan "nudges" her each Monday about attending CTYO ES class.

Editor's note: Interviews and photos can be arranged.

BACKGROUND: Cross Timbers Youth Orchestra (CTYO) is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to enriching lives through music for youths in North Texas. CTYO is a focused program designed to foster musical understanding and cultural appreciation in a fun yet challenging atmosphere. For audition dates and more information, please visit www.ctyo.org or call 972-658-4227.

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