

**Beth Israel**

**Continuum Health Partners, Inc.**

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## **LOUIS ARMSTRONG CENTER FOR MUSIC & MEDICINE HONORS “WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD” AWARD WINNERS**

September 1, 2010 –Luminaries in the world of jazz will be on hand when The Louis Armstrong Center for Music and Medicine of Beth Israel Medical Center pays tribute to music legend Dave Brubeck, along with nurse Daphne Ridley, RN, MA; honor student Kimberley Sue, and the medical technology company CareFusion.

The honorees, recipients of the 2010 What A Wonderful World award, will be feted at a cocktail reception/silent auction on Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup> in the atrium of Beth Israel’s Phillips Ambulatory Care Center at Union Square in Manhattan.

Opening the program of the 5<sup>th</sup> annual awards ceremony will be members of the cast of the Broadway production of *Wicked*. The event celebrates health care advocates, music legends and patients. Dancer-choreographer Mercedes Ellington will preside as mistress of ceremonies.

Jazz pianist and composer Dave Brubeck, designated “A Living Legend” by the Library of Congress and a Jazz Master by the National Endowment for the Arts, has received numerous accolades, including a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, the Smithsonian Medal, and the Kennedy Center Honors. He has played for heads of state, royalty and the Pope. The Dave Brubeck Quartet and its signature work, the album *Time Out*, featuring *Blue Rondo a la Turk* and *Take Five*, has earned a spot in the Grammy Hall of Fame. But his work also has extended to composing for the American Ballet Theater and writing *The Real Ambassadors*, a musical theater piece that starred Louis Armstrong. Nearing 90, Brubeck continues to be one of the most active and popular musicians in the world.

Daphne Ridley is the nurse manager for orthopedics at Beth Israel Medical Center, Petrie Division. She has been a nurse for more than 40 years. A graduate of the Kings County School of Nursing, she also holds a BS in Nursing from Long Island University and an MA in Nursing Administration from New York University. In 2006, Ridley was named a Fellow of the NYU College of Nursing, Leadership Institute for Black Nurses. She is Past President of the Orthopedic Nurses of New York.

Kimberley Sue is a multi-talented singer, dancer, actress and honor student at the Martin Van Buren High School in Queens. A patient in the Louis Armstrong Center’s Asthma Initiative Program, the teenager has been taking acting and dancing classes for several

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years. In 2009, she successfully auditioned and participated in the musical theater training program at the Rosetta LeNoire Musical Theatre Academy -- Amas Musical Theatre, a non-profit, multi-ethnic theatrical organization, which culminated in a limited run off-off Broadway production.

CareFusion, the sponsor of the international CareFusion Jazz Festival Series, is a global corporation serving the health care industry with products and services that help hospitals measurably improve the safety and quality of care. The CareFusion Jazz Festival Series uses jazz to shine a light on medication safety and infection prevention. With the best and brightest musicians playing at some of the world's largest and oldest jazz festivals, the company's sponsorship has been able to increase awareness and raise funds about patient safety issues.

The evening will feature a silent auction of musical, sport, entertainment and travel packages that will benefit the Armstrong Center's clinical services to those in need, including musicians, infants in the NICU, children with HIV and asthma, as well as adults with cancer, COPD and heart disease.

The Louis and Lucille Armstrong Music Therapy Program at Beth Israel, established 17 years ago as part of the jazz legend's legacy, was the foundation for the expanded programs of The Louis Armstrong Center for Music & Medicine, created in 2005. The Center also provides specialty treatment for children with developmental disorders such as attention deficit and pervasive developmental delays.

The Louis Armstrong Center for Music & Medicine is made possible by a generous gift from the David B. Kriser Foundation and through the estate of John H. Slade, directed to Beth Israel from the late hospital trustee Richard Netter, and with additional support from the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation and the Heather on Earth Music Foundation. The Louis Armstrong Center is located at the Phillips Ambulatory Care Center, 10 Union Square East, between 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Streets in Manhattan.

For more information about What A Wonderful World Awards, the programs and services offered by The Louis Armstrong Center for Music & Medicine, please call 212-420-2704 or check out its website at [www.musicandmedicine.org](http://www.musicandmedicine.org).

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