



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Pianist donates talents to hospital**

Celebrated pianist and recording artist, Alan Hobbins has been a content citizen of Markham for almost 35 years—a big chunk of his life. He loves the diversity of his community, the outgoing and friendly people and the nicely planned out city with its excellent infrastructure.

On Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup> he is giving a concert at the Flato Markham Theatre, benefiting Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation under the patronage of Wayne Emmerson, Chairman and CEO of York Region.

“I live 60 seconds away and pass it every day,” he says of the hospital where his youngest child was born. “It is only natural that I want to contribute my talents to its benefit as we all go there at various stages of our lives. They do remarkable work there. With this concert I would like to give something back and at the same time make the community aware of what I do.”

“Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation is proud to be the beneficiary of Alan Hobbins’ concert. Hospitals must rely on community support to drive innovation and enable growth. Government can’t fund all capital and equipment needs. In Markham we are so fortunate to have such amazing support from community members like Alan Hobbins—support that ensures Markham Stouffville Hospital is ready to meet the challenges of the future and serve the ever-evolving health care needs of our still growing community,” says Allan Bell, Director, Community Relations & Corporate Partnerships.

Hobbins, a graduate of the prestigious Juilliard School, has recorded 4 sets of CDs and, performed concerts in Toronto, London, Waterloo, Ottawa, New York City and his native Jamaica. He was awarded the Chopin Medal of recognition from the Frederic Chopin Society of Canada for his debut CD. He is also a well-respected piano teacher and examiner for The Royal Conservatory of Music. Hobbins is currently the co-president of the Markham Stouffville branch of the Ontario Registered Music Teacher’s Association.

“I am telling everyone to postpone opening their cottages and to stay home and do their gardening on the Saturday and Sunday, and then come to the hospital benefit,” says Hobbins, whose concert falls on the Victoria Day long weekend. The money I raise will help bring cutting edge technology equipment into the newly expanded hospital.”

“I am playing repertoire which is easy for the audience to enjoy, even if they have never heard it before. I am also hoping to bring something unique, a part of me, to the music so it feels fresh for those who are already familiar with this repertoire.

His 2-hour concert will feature works by Chopin, (which Hobbins has an affinity to) including the A-flat major Polonaises and B-flat minor Scherzo, Schumann’s Symphonic Etudes, Liszt’s Widmung and Mephisto Waltz and Toccata in G major by Bach. Tenor Colin Yip, joins Alan after the intermission, and they will together perform works by Schubert, Verdi and Léhar.

Tickets are only \$35 and available through the Flato Markham Theatre’s box office at 905.305.7469 (SHOW) or [www.markhamtheatre.ca](http://www.markhamtheatre.ca)

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