

I'm writing to let you know that my personal experience with JPEC was a wonderful one. During the months of August and September I had the opportunity to perform 3 times at the Diwan Restaurant and was able to employ 4 other musicians via JPEC's jazz series. These offers of engagement came at a time when essentially no live music was being hosted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In a season where I would normally be performing approximately 25 times a month, the pandemic had left us musicians with essentially no work. It was an extremely gratifying and reassuring experience to be hired to perform on the patio of the Diwan, with all the necessary safety precautions in place. The respect and artistic freedom afforded to us by the JPEC team and the staff of the Diwan/Aga Khan Museum was delightful. On behalf of my fellow musicians, we sincerely thank

the entire team for hosting us during such a trying time. The appreciation was not lost on the restaurant guests either, who made it very clear that they were extremely grateful to hear live music once again after many months of isolation.

We sincerely hope that in the upcoming season you will have the resources available to continue hosting performers at the Diwan and be able to compensate them fairly for their travel, preparation, rehearsal and performance time. As I'm sure you'd agree, this contribution to the arts and culture scene of Toronto is essential to its preservation and survival. As the economy will hopefully begin moving into a recovery phase and things will begin returning to normal, the support of JPEC are more crucial now than ever before.

My deepest gratitude to you and JPEC for all your support. Sincerely,  
Anthony

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**Anthony D'Alessandro**  
**Pianist, Composer, Bandleader (647) 823-6928 [anthony.dalessa@gmail.com](mailto:anthony.dalessa@gmail.com)**  
**[anthonydalessandro.ca](http://anthonydalessandro.ca)**