A BENEFIT CONCERT
BUILDING TECH CAREERS FOR U.S. VETERANS

TERENCE BLANCHARD + FRIENDS

APRIL 07, 2015

8:00 P.M. CONCERT
MORTON H. MEYERSON SYMPHONY CENTER
DALLAS, TEXAS

HOSTED BY
NPOWER, 7-ELEVEN AND PEPSICO
NPower is a nonprofit with operations across North America. Our mission is to mobilize the tech community and provide individuals, nonprofits and schools opportunities to build tech skills and achieve their potential.

We pursue this mission through two signature programs:

**TECHNOLOGY SERVICE CORPS** builds brighter futures for young adults and veterans by providing free technology and professional skills training, mentoring, internships and employment services. More than 80% of our alumni are employed or pursing higher education within one year of graduating our program.

**THE COMMUNITY CORPS** is a skills-based volunteering program connecting technology professionals with high impact nonprofits and innovative education partners via our online program.

“After returning home, I found out that no one was interested in an ex-PATRIOT Missile System Officer. Because of NPower, I received my A+ certification and ServiceNow Administrator training and now I am a full-time employee at AmerisourceBergen.”

Frederen Wimberly
Former Military Rank: 1st Lieutenant, U.S. Army
Technology Service Corps North Texas, Class 2 Graduate
Service Desk Analyst for AmerisourceBergen
Tonight will be a powerful evening, not only because it’s the first public performance in Dallas by Grammy Award-winning trumpeter Terence Blanchard, but also because of the impact each of us will make on the lives of our hometown heroes.

Did you know that there are more than 30,000 new U.S. Armed Forces veterans entering the job market each year? Nearly 1,400 veterans in the greater Dallas area are interested in benefiting from NPower’s free IT training program (Technology Service Corps), yet the current program only has capacity to serve 100 veterans annually. This talent pool coupled with the demand for bright, disciplined people with a high tech skill set is a tremendous source for building new career opportunities.

By joining NPower at this benefit concert tonight, you are giving back to our veterans for all they’ve given to our country.
NPower’s Building Tech Careers for U.S. Veterans benefit concert will be Terence Blanchard’s first public performance in Dallas. Terence told us, “I have performed in every corner of the world from Russia, Turkey, Israel, Africa, Brazil, just to name a few but I cannot believe that this will be my first Dallas performance. I guess there is a first time for everything and I look forward to seeing some New Orleans people in the audience.”

We’ve collaborated with Terence for many years on similar events to help bring attention to populations we serve through our two programs (Technology Service Corps and The Community Corps). His performances have been so important to our work. “Jazz has a way of connecting people and it has been an incredible experience to perform at previous NPower events and witness all of these tech leaders coming together to give back and support free technology education and skill building for young adults and veterans. I am proud to have my music assist in building the future workforce.” Terence also added, “Veterans embody hard work and leadership and my biggest motivation for supporting NPower is that it builds on their strengths. NPower provides them with a springboard to ensure a smooth transition back into the work force.”

Terence Blanchard has established himself as one of the most influential jazz musicians and film score masters of his generation, a member of a jazz legacy that has shaped the contours of modern jazz today. With more than 30 albums to his credit, as a musician Blanchard is a multi-Grammy Award-winner and nominee.

As a film composer, Blanchard has more than 50 scores to his credit, most recently, Kevin Costner’s Black or White.
“BLANCHARD’S SUPERB QUINTET DRAWS MUSICAL IMPRESSIONS AS AFFECTING AS THE TRAGEDY THEY RECALL.”

People Magazine

He received a Golden Globe nomination for Spike Lee’s *25th Hour*. Other film music written by Blanchard includes Kasi Lemmons’ *Eve’s Bayou*, Oprah Winfrey’s *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Tim Story’s *Barbershop* and George Lucas’ *Red Tails*. Blanchard also contributed on Disney’s *The Princess and the Frog* as the musical voice of Louis the Alligator.

As a guest lecturer and artist in residence, Blanchard works with students in the areas of artistic development, arranging, composition and concert programming. He also participates in master classes around the world as well as local community outreach activities in his beloved hometown of New Orleans.

“This moment must be seen,” says Blanchard. “Has to be seen by those people around the world who don’t know what has happened here. What is happening here. Yes. Still.”
Veterans provide an immense talent pool to the technology community. We salute the service of all our North Texas-based veterans and believe that any organization they join becomes stronger because of the unique experiences and leadership qualities our NPower graduates bring to the workforce.

“I served on U.S. Navy vessels and learned about communications, technology, and core values. NPower showed the same types of values I feel are essential to make a program work to help other veterans in the future.”

**Roger Nunez**

Former Military Rank: Petty Officer 2nd Class, U.S. Navy
Technology Service Corps North Texas, Class 1 Graduate
Client Support Analyst for TEKsystems
“While attending the NPower program, I was able to obtain my CompTIA A+ certification and take the ServiceNow Administration course. NPower helped me to get a paid apprenticeship with United Surgical Partners International. I was hired by them immediately afterwards.”

JOHN LAGMAY
Former Military Rank: Petty Officer 2nd Class, U.S. Navy
Technology Service Corps North Texas, Class 2 Graduate
IT Support Specialist for United Surgical Partners International

“About 4 months after graduating from NPower, I was offered and accepted a position with Citi. This is why I use every opportunity I can to give back to the program.”

MICHELLE V. BRICK
Former Military Rank: Petty Officer 3rd Class, U.S. Navy,
Technology Service Corps North Texas, Class 2 Graduate
Infrastructure Analyst for Citi

“The Marine Corps was tough, transitioning into Corporate America was tougher. This was a transition to Corporate America boot camp, for me. Thanks to NPower I was able to successfully train in a new career field, sharpen my professional/soft skills, network, and secure a career with a great company”.

STEPHANIE DEASON
Former Military Rank: Staff Sergeant, U.S. Marine Corps
Technology Service Corps North Texas, Class 2 Graduate
Functional Consultant with Excers Technologies
Whatever magical powers have historically been ascribed to it, tonight’s music will help NPower change the lives of those we serve every day.

**MANY, MANY THANKS TO...**

The Musicians - TERENCE BLANCHARD: TRUMPET · BRICE WINSTON: SAX FABIAN ALMAZAN: PIANO · JOSHUA CRUMBLY: BASS · JUSTIN FAULKNER: DRUMS who have given their time and talent in support of NPower’s mission to provide skills training and meaningful IT career paths to veterans and young adults.

NPower Jazz Dallas Co-Hosts Wes Hargrove and Robert Dixon – your commitment to our work and those we serve is nothing short of extraordinary and deeply meaningful to all of us at NPower.

Mort Meyerson and the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center – What an honor to know you, Mort, and to hold our event at your stunning namesake venue.

Robert Dethlefs, Avery Wright and the Evanta team – Evanta’s partnership with NPower and participation in the success of the event has been and will remain invaluable.

The NPower Jazz Dallas Leadership Circle – Kunjar Bhaduri - Cognizant, Nellson Burns - The HollyFrontier Companies, Tammy Gilbert – Trinity Industries, Deborah Kerr - Sabre, Loren Long - DartPoints, Ed Robben - Fossil, Joanna St. Angelo – Sammons Center for the Arts, Randy Sloan – Southwest Airlines and Diane Swartz - Textron

The NPower Jazz Dallas Team – Annette Couch, Lauren D’Angelis, Lori Francis, Nancy Litner, Jessica McKenzie, Jeff Melkus, Bob Nicholson – just a fabulous team and such an honor to be on the receiving end of your talent and generosity.

D-Jam for your advocacy and support of NPower Jazz Dallas.

The Addison Team and PrintingYourNameOnIt.com Team – for making us look fabulous!

The American Legion (especially Phil Anderson) for their continued support and unforgettable crawfish boil fundraiser!

The Greater Dallas Tech Community – your expertise, volunteerism and support is greatly appreciated by NPower and every veteran who has graduated from our program.

The veterans who participate in our programs and volunteered for our event this evening.
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Whether you donate your time, talent or treasure, join NPower in strengthening communities across Texas as well as across the nation. Our programs and services are made possible through the generous support of individual donors, foundations and corporations.

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  a Corporate Sponsor

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  a Technology Service Corps apprentice or host a site visit

- **REFER**
  veterans (21-40 yrs old) to apply to our Technology Service Corps program

- **MENTOR**
  a student or group of students

- **VOLUNTEER**
  your expertise via The Community Corps

- **TELL**
  your local nonprofit or school to register with The Community Corps

- **DONATE**
  go to bit.ly/NPowerOrgDonate

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or contact Shannon.Gibbons@npower.org
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