

The Jazz Foundation of America announced today that Dr. Rolando Toyos of Toyos Clinic in Memphis Tennessee will receive an award at their annual concert and benefit. The event will be held at the Apollo Theater in New York and will be hosted by Bill Cosby and Danny Glover.

Dr. Toyos opened his clinic to all Hurricane Katrina victims, offering free medical and surgical eye care. Some of these patients were displaced jazz musicians. Dr. Toyos stated, "I am honored that the Jazz Foundation of America is giving me this award. Our clinic is always open to anyone that needs our help. It was our privilege to take care of the Katrina victims including the many musicians who came our way. I am sharing this honor with my whole staff who truly deserve most of the credit."

"When I heard that Dr. Toyos was going to operate on Stephen Foster's eyes for free, I said, 'That's incredible!' Mr. Foster is one of the great New Orleans musicians who taught so many of the next generation of jazz in his school, which was lost in the storm. He has been doing service his entire life and needed this operation in order to see. We are proud to have Dr. Toyos stand and be acknowledged at our concert for his service to the people of New Orleans who suffered from Katrina, making him an example of what is best in humanity."

The Jazz Foundation of America was the first organization to provide emergency assistance and long term support to veteran jazz and blues musicians across the country. Since Katrina, in the past 2 years alone, the Jazz Foundation assisted over 3,500 emergency cases and created housing and employment for over 1,000 musicians in crisis.

Toyos Clinic specializes in medical and surgical eye care, including lasik and cataract surgery. Founded by Dr. Rolando Toyos, a board certified Ophthalmologist, in 2001 in Memphis, Tennessee, the clinic has been chosen one of the 500 fastest growing companies in the United States by INC Magazine and one of the 50 fastest growing companies in Tennessee by Tennessee Business Magazine.