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**EARTH DAY TEXAS AND TEXAS MUSIC PROJECT PRESENT EDTx RISING STARS
TALENT SHOWCASE AND MUSIC COMPETITION**

Texas nonprofit organizations use music and education to inspire, bring people together

DALLAS (March 21, 2014) – [Earth Day Texas](#) (EDTx) and [Texas Music Project](#) (TMP) are proud to announce the inaugural Earth Day Texas Rising Stars Music Competition and Talent Showcase. Musicians between the ages of 13 and 19 will compete for a chance to perform at Earth Day Texas 2014. The annual event will take place April 26 and 27 at historic Fair Park in Dallas.

“Music and education are extremely important to EDTx,” said Michael Cain, executive director of EDTx. “As our organization grows, we’re always looking for new ways to inspire people to make a difference. The EDTx Rising Stars Music Showcase is a great way to celebrate young talent and show event attendees that no matter how young you are, you can make a difference in this world.”

Texas teens can enter the competition as a performer or songwriter by visiting www.facebook.com/TexasMusicProject. Fans will vote for their favorite contestants on Texas Music Project’s Facebook page. On the second day of the music showcase, five performer finalists will take the stage to play for a panel of judges composed of music industry professionals. Winners will receive recording time, a video of their performance, gigs, industry consultation, and other prizes.

TMP is a nonprofit organization that encourages kids to follow their dreams through music. TMP partners with industry professionals, including Willie Nelson and T-Bone Burnett, to develop music-education programs for students, schools and the community.

“We’re honored to be able to produce the music showcase for EDTx 2014,” said Michael Clay, executive director and co-founder of TMP. “Entertainment is the perfect instrument to bring people together. We believe that music has the power to connect and inspire people, and this year’s event will provide the perfect stage for us to do just that.”

EDTx is a free two-day event featuring entertainment, education and engagement for the whole family. As it moves into its fourth year, Earth Day Dallas, founded by Trammell S. Crow, has educated, entertained and engaged over 150,000 attendees. This year’s Eco Expo, which will boast almost 900 hands-on exhibits, is the largest of its kind.

EDTx 2014 and the organization’s ongoing community outreach efforts would not be possible without the generous support of its 2014 partners including BMW, NBC 5, The Home Depot, Samsung, DART, Radio Disney, Sewell Automotive, U.S. Trust and many others. For more information about Earth Day Texas 2014, visit www.EarthDayTX.org.

To learn more about the EDTx Rising Stars Talent Showcase and Music Competition, please visit www.facebook.com/TexasMusicProject.

About Earth Day Texas

Earth Day Texas (formerly Earth Day Dallas), a nonprofit organization, hosts an annual indoor/outdoor event and seeks to elevate awareness and influence the way Texans think, live and work. Each year, the event showcases the world's largest public exhibition of environmental initiatives of businesses, environmental nonprofits, schools and colleges and government agencies. Earth Day Texas also provides eco-friendly family activities, presents enlightening talks and hands-on workshops provided by environmental leaders and much more.

About Texas Music Project

The Texas Music Project (TMP) is a 501(c)(3) organization whose primary mission is to develop and produce music education programs for at-risk kids and children of military families. TMP is a grassroots resource for students, schools and the community through partnerships with a network of music industry professionals. For the past 10 years TMP has brought educational programs and performance opportunities to those who would not otherwise have access to these experiences. TMP has created over \$2 million of music education awareness campaigns, contributed over \$500,000 to Texas schools and reached over 750,000 students. We believe music has the transformative power to connect, inspire and heal. For this reason we create educational programs that inspire young people to follow their dreams through music.

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