

# MILTON TIMES

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## THIS JUST IN...



**Michael Roberson, left, and Kerby Louis Roberson**  
(Photo by Abdi Ali)

Two brothers from Milton have earned honors for their musical talents. Cellist and Tucker Elementary School fifth grader **Michael Roberson** and his brother **Kerby Louis Roberson**, a violinist and eighth grader at The Belmont Hill School, are two of 44 Project STEP, or String Training and Education Program, music students who were recently honored with the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. The award is the signature program of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

Project STEP offers year-round classical string training programs for under-represented minority students and invites them into a world of classical music that might not otherwise be available to them.

Prompted by concern over the historic underrepresentation of minority classical musicians, Project STEP was founded in 1982 by William Moyer, a now-retired Boston Symphony Orchestra personnel manager. As the first program of its kind, Project STEP's mission is to address this imbalance by identifying talented, motivated young minority students and providing them with access to the best string music training available.

Annually, the 44 students in Project STEP's core division receive private, weekly one-hour music lessons by teachers from the New England Conservatory, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Boston Conservatory and Boston University.

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