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Young violinist supports BIPAI

HOUSTON – (Dec. 12, 2007) – Violinist Aishu Venkataraman, 14 years old, is combining her musical talent with her dedication to helping children touched by HIV/AIDS in developing countries.

She is designating a portion of the proceeds from her second CD, “Bliss,” to the Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative. BIPAI works throughout Africa and other places around the globe in caring for and treating HIV/AIDS children and their families.

The young violinist began her musical training before she was 3 years old. With a focus on South Indian classical music, she recorded her first CD, “Divine Strings,” at the age of 9. At 13, she was accepted into the Berklee College of Music in Boston. She performs across the country.

Her interest in AIDS began with a seventh grade health class. She learned of BIPAI’s work from a National Public Radio segment on the program with BIPAI President Dr. Mark Kline, professor of pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine and chief of the retrovirology clinic at Texas Children’s Hospital.

“I am hoping to use my music to connect with the community,” she said. “I also hope that being a teenager will encourage more kids to listen and learn about AIDS.”

For more information, visit the website www.divinestrings.com.

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