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For Immediate Release

Full Compass Executives Head to Washington, D.C. to Advocate for Music Education

*Susan and Jonathan Lipp to visit the nation's capital to reinforce
importance of music education for all children*

Madison, WI – May 15, 2019 – Jonathan Lipp, Full Compass Founder and CEO, and Susan Lipp, Full Compass Chairman of the Board, will travel to Washington, D.C. next week to advocate for all children to have access to quality, comprehensive school music education programs.

The pair will join music industry leaders and artists as part of a delegation of music education advocates during the annual National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Music Education Advocacy D.C. Fly-In, May 20-23, 2019.

The issue takes on special importance as the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*, which specifies music as part of a well-rounded education, is implemented in states and local school districts under programs and funding available via the federal education law. The Lippes will meet with Members of Congress and other elected officials to advocate for the funding of school music programs across the nation and to discuss the multitude of benefits music education espouses such as increased brain function, focus and language development.

Susan Lipp explained the importance of this event. “We attend the NAMM Fly-In because we have a passion for kids and their education. They are the workforce of the future and an education that includes music makes them better students, better teammates and better leaders. Music education prepares children – the future leaders of our country - for success. I can think of no greater or more important cause.”

“This trip to our nation’s capital has become an annual event for us – we have flown to DC for the Fly-In for many, many years,” Jonathan Lipp shared. “It is an event we look forward to, much in part because we are helping the future of our country.”

The week of advocacy work will begin on Monday, May 20 with a Day of Service assisting a local school. On Tuesday the 21st, the Lippes will participate in a full day of advocacy training, as well as in developing a state-level advocacy program. The work continues on Wednesday the 22nd, with the Lippes and other music industry leaders heading to Capitol Hill for a series of meetings with Members of Congress, their staff and other elected officials and stakeholders in education policy.

The Lippes have been active contributors to NAMM’s music education programs over the decades, with Susan previously serving on the NAMM Board of Directors. As well, Jonathan and Susan Lipp actively work to keep

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music alive and thriving in our schools - both in the greater Madison area and beyond. Many of the Lipps' past trips to Washington, D.C. have been to work with Congress to fix "No Child Left Behind," as it must transform into a program that is friendly to arts and music education. The traditional idea that music is "extracurricular" is a mistake: music is integral to students developing life-changing skills.

About Full Compass

Founded in 1977 and one of the largest woman-owned businesses in the state, Full Compass is a national leader in professional audio, video, lighting and musical instrument sales. Offering more than 800 manufacturer brands and 100,000+ products, Full Compass boasts one of the largest showrooms at its headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin, in addition to a robust e-commerce system for online sales. The company also features an integrated parts department for old and new products as well as an in-house authorized repair center for most major brands.

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About NAMM

The [National Association of Music Merchants](#) (NAMM) is the not-for-profit association with a mission to strengthen the \$17 billion music products industry. NAMM is comprised of approximately 10,400 member companies located in 104 countries. NAMM events and members fund the NAMM Foundation's efforts to promote the pleasures and benefits of music, and advance active participation in music making across the lifespan.

For more information about NAMM, please visit www.namm.org, call 800.767.NAMM (6266) or follow the organization on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

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