

NEWS RELEASE

THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL EVENTS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 14, 2009

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Hot Ribs, Cool Jazz, New Location: 2009 Jazz & Rib Fest Presented by Columbus Recreation and Parks Department

COLUMBUS, Ohio — This summer the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department's Jazz & Rib Fest will celebrate 30 years as one of the most anticipated events in downtown Columbus and the Midwest with a move to the city's premier entertainment destination, the Arena District. The aroma of hot ribs and sounds of cool jazz will fill the air on July 24 and 25 from 11 a.m. - 10 p.m., and July 26 from 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Admission is free.

Through the generous support of sponsors, this year's festival will offer jazz connoisseurs over 60 hours of live performances from musicians descending on Columbus from all over the United States and the world. In addition to the 40 bands scheduled to perform, 22 award winning rib-burners representing 10 states and Canada will also fire up their BBQ-filled grills along Spring and Long Streets to compete for "Best Ribs" bragging rights.

The American Electric Power stage in McFerson Commons and the North Bank Park stage will anchor the event with featured performances by Grammy Award Winner Norman Brown's Summer Storm starring Alex Bugnon, Eric Darius & Gail Johnson (due to a recent injury, Patti Austin will not be performing with Norman Brown's Summer Storm as previously announced); Mindi Abair; Lou Donaldson Quartet; The Dirty Dozen Brass Band; Stefon Harris & Blackout; and the Columbus Youth Jazz Orchestra with Herlin Riley.

New this year, the Jazz Café at North Bank Pavilion, will showcase local and regional jazz artists on an intimate riverfront stage set against the city skyline. The Jazz Café will offer covered seating on the back patio of the North Bank Pavilion facing the stage and will be adjacent to rib judging activities held within the Pavilion.

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

*Headlining Performer

American Electric Power Stage
(McFerson Commons)

North Bank Park Stage

Jazz Café
(Riverfront at North Bank Pavilion)

Friday, July 24			
11:30am	Maggie Green Quintet	New Orleans Funk Orchestra	Magically Delicious
4:00pm	The Oli Rockberger Band with Christian Howes		
4:30pm		High Street Stompers	Bird Shack
6:00pm	Brian Simpson Quartet*		
6:30pm		Donald Harrison*	fo/mo/deep
8:30pm	Stefon Harris & Blackout*	The Dirty Dozen Brass Band*	Arnett Howard & Friends Jazz Extravaganza

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Saturday, July 25			
11:30am	Yumbambé	Blue Hour	J is for Jazz presented by Becky Ogden & JAG
2:00pm	Pete Mills & Erik Augis Quartet	MojoFlo	Otis Davenport Trio with Frisky London
4:00pm	Mike Wade and the Ambassadors		
4:30pm		Rolando Matias & The Afro-Rican Ensemble	Tenor Madness by Tom Carroll with Bryan Olsheski, Randy Mather, Gene Walker & Chase Potter
6:00pm	Pucho and the Latin Soul Brothers*		
6:30pm		Wess "Warmdaddy" Anderson performing Bird with Strings *	Kim Pensyl Trio
8:00pm	Grammy Award Winner Norman Brown's Summer Storm 2009 starring Alex Bugnon, Eric Darius, and Gail Johnson *		
8:30pm		Lou Donaldson Quartet*	Kathy Wade
Sunday, July 26			
11:30am	Linda Dachtyl B3 Quartet	Joe Hunter Quartet	Minan Dya
1:30pm	Urban Jazz Coalition		
2:00pm		Mark Flugge Sextet	Vocal Impact
4:00pm	Byron Stripling Quartet*	Etienne Charles Quintet*	Dwight Lenox & the Lenox Avenue Express
5:30pm	Best Ribs Awards Announced	Best Ribs Awards Announced	
6:30pm	Mindi Abair *	Columbus Youth Jazz Orchestra with Herlin Riley*	David Wells

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Brian Simpson Quartet

Already a familiar and exciting force on the contemporary jazz scene as keyboardist and musical director for superstar saxophonist Dave Koz, Brian Simpson is praised for his compelling acoustic piano melodies, bright jazz improvisations and spirited funk grooves. (<http://www.bsimpsonmusic.com/>)

Donald Harrison

In the classic jazz genre, saxophonist Donald Harrison is the originator of the nouveau swing style, which merges acoustic swing with modern R&B, second-line, hip-hop and reggae rhythms.

(<http://www.donaldharrison.com/>)

Stefon Harris & Blackout

Vibraphonist-composer Stefon Harris' passionate artistry, energetic stage presence, and astonishing virtuosity have propelled him into the forefront of the current jazz scene. Widely recognized and praised by both his peers and jazz critics alike, Harris is committed to both exploring the rich potential of jazz composition and blazing new trails on the vibraphone. (<http://www.stefonharris.com/>)

The Dirty Dozen Brass Band

For nearly thirty years, the Dirty Dozen Brass Band has defined and re-defined the New Orleans sound. In the course, the Dirty Dozen has bridged the traditions of brass bands stretching back a century with the most modern of musical ideas taken from jazz, funk, bebop and even classical formats.

(<http://www.dirtydozenbrass.com/>)

Pucho and the Latin Soul Brothers

Conguero, timbalero and bandleader of the Latin Soul Brothers, Henry "Pucho" Brown, was among the architects of Latin soul, pioneering the boogaloo sound which mixes jazz, Latin, R&B, funk and soul.

(<http://www.puchobrown.com/>)

Wess "Warmdaddy" Anderson performing Bird with Strings

Recognized by his distinctive sound, a mix of traditional New Orleans jazz and a sweeping blues style, saxophonist Wess "Warmdaddy" Anderson will perform Charlie Parker's classic composition, *Bird with Strings*, accompanied by a full strings section. (<http://www.wesswarmdaddyanderson.com/>)

Grammy Award Winner Norman Brown's Summer Storm 2009 starring Alex Bugnon, Eric Darius and Gail Johnson

The innovative and original guitarist, Norman Brown, has been at the forefront of the fast evolving fusion of pop, R&B and jazz that has captured the imagination of true music aficionados across the country and around the world. Summer Storm 2009 will showcase keyboardist Alex Bugnon, saxophonist Eric Darius along with vocalist and keyboardist Gail Johnson. (<http://www.normanbrown.com/>)

Lou Donaldson Quartet

Lou Donaldson is revered as one of the most respected jazz saxophonist with a career spanning over a half a century performing bebop, hard-bop and soul jazz. The Lou Donaldson Quartet features Randy Johnston on guitar, Akiko Tsuruga on organ, and Fukushi Tainaka on drums. (<http://loudonaldson.com/>)

Byron Stripling Quartet

With a contagious smile and captivating charm, trumpet virtuoso, Byron Stripling, has ignited audiences internationally. Currently, Stripling serves as artistic director and conductor of the highly acclaimed Columbus Jazz Orchestra. His quartet features Bobby Floyd on piano, Chris Berg on double bass and Bob Brightthop on drums. (<http://www.byronstripling.com/>)

Etienne Charles Quintet

From the Calypso and Caribbean steel pan grooves of his native Trinidad, to sophisticated swing firmly rooted in the jazz tradition, Etienne Charles deftly incorporates a multitude of styles while maintaining continuity, freshness and maturity in his sound. (<http://www.etiennecharles.com/>)

Mindi Abair

Saxophonist/singer/songwriter Mindi Abair has not only set sonic trends, but has broken all the boundaries as she continues to define the less traditional future of jazz. Her own brand of pop meets jazz adds a refreshingly unique voice to an exciting new generation of crossover artists who are, like her, powerful instrumentalists as well as thought-provoking singer/songwriters. (<http://www.mindiabair.com/>)

Columbus Youth Jazz Orchestra with Herlin Riley

The result of collaboration between the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department and the Jazz Arts Group, the Columbus Youth Jazz Orchestra (CYJO) is comprised of premier players in grades 9-12 from Central Ohio and beyond. Seasoned jazz drummer, Herlin Riley, will join the CYJO during this special performance. (<http://herlinriley.com/>)

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Event sponsors will provide a variety of activities, giveaways and information to Jazz & Rib Fest attendees. Visit www.hotribscooljazz.org for a complete list of activities. A few highlights include:

Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom Adventure Tour

Get up close and personal with nature's most exciting and exotic animals - in their natural habitats. This unique simulated environment is touring the country as part of Mutual of Omaha's long-time commitment to bringing adventure and education to families everywhere.

Shire ROADHD TRIP

The nationwide mobile ADHD awareness initiative will offer free adult ADHD self-screenings and an opportunity to talk to a local healthcare professional or a representative of the National Attention Deficit Disorder Association.

The Other White Meat Tour

Not only are they sharing the secret of the grill this summer, but America's pork producers are also giving back to local communities. When you visit The Other White Meat Tour and enter the Pork's #1 Fan contest, 10 pounds of pork will be given to feed those in need through local food banks - that's equivalent to 50 meals per entry.

Great American BBQ Tour

The Kansas City Barbeque Society's Great American BBQ Tour will feature BBQ tips and information, recipes, and access to the pros. There will be multiple grilling demonstrations and opportunities to sample great BBQ throughout the day.

RIB BURNERS

Armadillo's <i>Youngstown, Ohio</i>	Famous Dave's Legendary Pit Bar-B-Que <i>Plymouth, Minnesota</i>	Porky-N-Beans BBQ <i>Port St. Lucie, Florida</i>
Bad Wolf Barbecue <i>Toronto, Ontario, Canada</i>	Jack on the Bone Rib Team <i>Massillon, Ohio</i>	Schmidt's of German Village <i>Columbus, Ohio</i>
BBQ Masters <i>Stockbridge, Georgia</i>	Joey's Texas Thunder <i>Burr Ridge, Illinois</i>	Smokin' Joe's Ribs <i>Columbus, Ohio</i>
Big Boned BBQ Co. <i>Malta, Illinois</i>	Johnson's BBQ <i>Chesapeake, Virginia</i>	Texas Outlaw BBQ <i>Elizabethtown, Kentucky</i>

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Butch's Smack Your Lips BBQ <i>Mt. Laurel, New Jersey</i>	Lawshea's Southern Ribs <i>Columbus, Ohio</i>	The King of Bar-B Que Ribs <i>Mansfield, Ohio</i>
Chicago Barbecue Company <i>Burr Ridge, Illinois</i>	Mojo's Rib Shack <i>Cleveland, Ohio</i>	Willingham's BBQ <i>Annandale, Minnesota</i>
Cowboy's BBQ & Rib Co. <i>Weatherford, Texas</i>	Open Hands Catering <i>Columbus, Ohio</i>	
Desperado's BBQ & Rib Co. <i>Hinckley, Ohio</i>	Pigfoot BBQ Co. <i>West Salem, Ohio</i>	

BEST RIBS AWARDS

Who is your favorite rib burner? Cast your vote for the best BBQ on the block. Complete an event survey and vote for the **People's Choice Award**. Ballots are available at the **Smooth Jazz WJZA** and **The CW on WWHO-TV** booths, as well as Information, First Aid and all soft drink tent locations. Professional rib judges will choose winners for **Critic's Choice**, **Critic's Hometown Choice** and **Best Sauce**. Festival sponsors, media personalities and VIP judges will select the Big Whig's Pig Award winners. Winners in all categories will be announced and trophies awarded at the **American Electric Power Stage on Sunday at 5:30 p.m.**

Calendar Information – 2009 Jazz & Rib Fest

Date & Time: Friday, July 24, 11 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Saturday, July 25, 11 a.m. – 10 p.m.
Sunday, July 26, 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Location: The Arena District: North Bank Park, McFerson Commons, and Spring & Long Streets in downtown Columbus.

Description: Hungry for Jazz? Satisfy your craving! Join us downtown for hot ribs and cool jazz at the 30th annual Jazz & Rib Fest. Admission is free!

Information: <http://www.hotribscooljazz.org> or (614) 645-3800

Jazz & Rib Fest is produced by the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department. Sponsorship is provided by American Electric Power, Bud Light, Smooth Jazz WJZA 103.5, The CW on WWHO-TV, Pepsi, The Other White Meat Tour, Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom Adventure Tour, Adult ADHD Mobile Awareness Tour, Nintendo Wii, Kansas City Barbeque Society, Pepcid Complete, M&M's Ice Cream, SunnyD Hip Hop Tour, Laughing Cow Cheese, Fruit₂O Essentials, FastTrack Airport Parking, Crowne Plaza, T-Mobile, The Arena District, Sunbelt Rentals, Shearer's Food Inc., Columbus Young Professionals Club, Cintas, Tech Art Productions and ASCAP.

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