



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 5, 2014

- WHAT:** KENNY GARRETT QUINTET  
**WHEN:** Saturday, April 5, 8 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Bowker Auditorium  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
**TICKETS:** Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or go online to <http://www.fineartscenter.com/>  
**IMAGES:** To download images relating to this press release please go online to <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/PressImages>

### JAZZ MASTER KENNY GARRETT COMES TO UMASS' BOWKER AUDITORIUM

The UMass Fine Arts Center presents the eight-time and current DownBeat Magazine Poll-winning alto saxophonist [Kenny Garrett](#) and his Quintet on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m. in Bowker Auditorium. Garrett is appearing as part of the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual High Jazz fest where aspiring high school jazz bands from throughout New England converge on the UMass Campus for a day of clinics, adjudication and competition. The winning high school band will open for Garrett's quintet at 7:30 p.m. that evening. Garrett's newest recording, [Pushing the World Away](#), was nominated for a Grammy for Best Jazz Instrumental Album. The quintet features Garrett on alto and soprano saxes and flute, Vernell Brown on piano, Corcoran Holt on bass; McClenty Hunter on drums and Rudy Bird on percussion.

Musician, composer and bandleader Kenny Garrett has been at the forefront of the modern mainstream of jazz for more than three decades. While many are quick to note his origins with the Duke Ellington Orchestra (led by Mercer Ellington) and his nearly five-year association with Miles Davis from 1987 -1991, his career didn't end with Miles. Nor was his ascension a function of conservatory training, but rather his extraordinary innate ability honed in the cauldron of the Detroit jazz scene of the 1970s, albeit after the vibrant years of the prior two decades that churned out an enormous number of jazz luminaries.

Garrett has performed and recorded with Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers, as well as with prominent trumpeters Freddie Hubbard and Woody Shaw. Throughout his distinguished career, he has explored and played a variety of music including dates with Sting and hip-hop artist Q-tip. He believes it is part of musical growth to experience myriad styles from home and around the globe.

In addition to leading his own band, Garrett remains in high demand. He won a Grammy® with Chick Corea's Five Peace Band in 2010 and 2012 Mack Avenue Records release as a leader, *Seeds from the Underground*, received Grammy® nominations in the Best Jazz Instrumental Album and Best Improvised Jazz Solo categories; and it won the German Phono-Academy's ECHO Award for Saxophonist of the Year. His 2013 release, *Pushing the World Away*, was nominated for the Best Jazz Instrumental Album Grammy® this past year.

Tickets for the Kenny Garrett Quintet are \$30 and \$15; Five College, GCC, STCC students and youth 17 and under are \$10. For tickets call the Box Office at 545-2511, toll-free at 800-999-UMAS, or purchase online at [fineartscenter.com](http://fineartscenter.com). The Fine Arts Center's season is sponsored by Baystate Health and Health New England, with additional event support coming from United Wealth Management, NEPR 88.5FM and the UMass Hotel and Conference Center.

#### **PHOTOS**

Hi-res photos available for download: <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/article/Images>.

#### **PRESS PASSES**

A limited number of press passes are available. Please contact Shawn Farley at 413-545-4159 or [sfarley@admin.umass.edu](mailto:sfarley@admin.umass.edu).

#### **ABOUT THE FAC**

The Fine Arts Center, located on the UMass Amherst campus, is a presenter of music, dance, theater and the visual arts, bringing hundreds of outstanding and provocative artists to the Pioneer Valley for over 35 years.

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