



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 10, 2015

- WHAT:** Eddie Palmieri and his Salsa orchestra
WHEN: Saturday, February 28, 8 p.m.
WHERE: Fine Arts Center Concert Hall
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>

EDDIE PALMIERI BRINGS HIS SALSA ORCHESTRA TO UMASS FINE ARTS CENTER

"This is music so vital and joyous...a totally celebratory sound, bouncing, shuffling, weaving and grooving along on a beat so mesmeric and soul-wrenchingly right that you want it to go on forever."

--Linton Chiswick, Time Out London

In a half-century career that includes 36 albums, 10 Grammy Awards and hundreds of lively concerts, Eddie Palmieri — "the Miles Davis of Latin jazz" — has been bringing audiences to their feet with unparalleled energy and effusive musicianship. Named a Jazz Master by the National Endowment for the Arts in 2013, Palmieri will bring his trademark energy and exuberance to the UMass Fine Arts Center Concert Hall when he plays with his famous Salsa Orchestra on Saturday, February 28th at 8 p.m. The audience is also invited to a pre-performance Q&A with Eddie Palmieri at 4:30 p.m. in the Concert Hall. This concert is part of the 17th 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 Palmieri's orchestra at 7:30 p.m. that evening.

"From start to finish, Palmieri (has) the audience dancing in their seats, delighting in the jubilation of the jazz master and his band," says the Washington Post. "I love to see people dance," says Palmieri. "I love to be happy and make people happy." Known for his charismatic

power and bold innovative drive, Eddie Palmieri has a musical career that spans over 50 years as a bandleader of Salsa and Latin Jazz orchestras. A true powerhouse of brilliance, known for his astute arranging skills and historic compositions, Mr. Palmieri has shown that time is infinite with respect to his repertoire as he continues to thrill audiences throughout the world with his legendary style.

Palmieri is driven to experiment and challenge even as he honors and preserves the core of the Latin orchestral tradition. He admires the great musicians from the heyday of Latin jazz and cites Tito Puente, among others, as influences.

Palmieri has been awarded ten Grammy Awards, from 1975's "The Sun of Latin Music" (the first Grammy awarded in the Latin field), through "Palo Pa ' Rumba" (1984), "Obra Maestra/Masterpiece" in collaboration with Tito Puente (2000) to "Listen Here!" (2005) and 2006's "Simptico", a collaborative effort with trumpet master Brian Lynch. Palmieri's myriad honors for his life's work in music and culture include the Eubie Blake Award, Yale University's Chubb Fellowship (an award usually reserved for international heads of state), the Alice Tully African Heritage Award, and induction into both the Bronx Walk of Fame and the Chicago Walk of Fame. In 2002, he received the National Black Sports and Entertainment Lifetime Achievement Award. Other inductees with him were Roberto Clemente, Count Basie, Max Roach, Billie Holiday and Dinah Washington.

At the 1998 Heineken Jazz Festival in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Berklee College of Music paid tribute to his contributions as a bandleader in bestowing on him an honorary doctorate. In 1988, the Smithsonian Institute recorded two of Palmieri's performances for their catalog of the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C a rare public honor. "Caliente," a radio show hosted by Mr. Palmieri on National Public Radio, has been a tremendous success, being picked up by more than 160 radio stations nationwide.

Tickets for Eddie Palmieri's Salsa orchestra are \$40, \$35, \$20; Five College, GCC and 17 and under \$10. For tickets call the Box Office at 545-2511, toll-free at 800-999-UMAS, or purchase online at fineartscenter.com. The Fine Arts Center's season is sponsored by Baystate Health and Health New England, with additional event support coming from NEPR 88.5, Hotel UMass, El Sol Latino and United Personnel.

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CALENDAR LISTING

UMass Fine Arts Center presents

EDDIE PALMIERI SALSA ORCHESTRA

Saturday, February 28, 8 p.m., Fine Arts Center Concert Hall, Chamber Seating

Ten-time Grammy Award winner Eddie Palmieri is renowned for his charismatic power and bold innovative drive, and a musical career that spans over 50 years as a bandleader of Salsa and Latin Jazz orchestras. A true powerhouse of brilliance, Palmieri has shown that time is infinite with respect to his repertoire as he continues to thrill audiences throughout the world with his

legendary style.

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Audience members are invited to a pre-performance Q&A with Eddie Palmieri at 4:30 p.m. in the Concert Hall.

Season Sponsors: Baystate Health/Health New England. Event Sponsors: El Sol Latino, 88.5 NEPR, Hotel UMass, and United Personnel.

Visit www.fineartscenter.com for 2014-15 Season details, directions, and more.

High-resolution photos are available at www.fineratscenter.com/pressroom