

NEWS RELEASE

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3 Decades of Jazz, One Unforgettable Summer!

Jazz in July Summer Music Programs 30th Anniversary July 11 - 22, 2011

The Fine Arts Center is now accepting applications to the 30th annual **Jazz in July Summer Music Programs** (July 11- 22, 2011), the renowned jazz education, performance and improvisation program held at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Jazz in July is a summer intensive workshop examining the technique, history and culture of jazz. Every summer for the last 29 years, the all-stars of jazz come together to school the next generation of up-and-coming jazz musicians. For many years, the legendary percussionist Max Roach taught on our faculty, sharing his knowledge about the music and musicians of the bebop era that he helped define. Our tradition of honoring the past by bringing it into the present continues in our 30th year.

Study, perform, and teach jazz improvisation within two exceptional programs of study: instrumental ensembles, and vocal soloists with trios. Our programs are complemented with performance/lectures, clinics, jam sessions, and faculty and student performances.

Open-to-the-public, our Jazz in July Artist Faculty concert series continues on Thursday, July 14th in Bowker Auditorium featuring: Arturo O'Farrill, Saunders Sermons, Rodney Whitaker, Winard Harper, and Marion Cowing. This year, please join us for the very special Jazz In July 30th Anniversary Bright Moments Celebration on Thursday, July 21st, a free, outdoor, afternoon concert featuring: Sheila Jordan, Steve Kuhn, Derrick Gardner, Avery Sharpe, and Steve Johns. Location TBA.

2011 faculty include: **Arturo O’Farrill** piano; **Steve Kuhn** piano; **Saunders Sermons** trombone; ***Bruce Diehl** saxophone; **Steve Johns** drums; **Winard Harper** drums; ***Bob Ferrier** guitar; ***Willie Hill** saxophone; ***Jeff Holmes** trumpet/piano; **Avery Sharpe** bass; ***Dr. Catherine Jensen-Hole** vocals; **Derrick Gardner** trumpet; **Sheila Jordan** vocals; **Rodney Whitaker** bass; **Marion Cowings** vocals; and **Felipe Salles** saxophone (*resident faculty).

Originally modeled after New York’s “Jazzmobile” program, the **Instrumental Ensemble Program** (July 11-22) emphasizes individual improvisation on all instruments. Participants are assigned to small combos (5 – 8 members) as well as the big band (9 – 22 members) coached by the artist faculty, and clinics according to applied instrument.

The **Vocal Jazz Soloists with Trios Program** (July 11-22) offers singers a relaxed and attentive environment to explore vocal improvisation, jazz phrasing and rhythms, as well as preparing lead sheets. Personal coaching and master classes combine with rehearsal and performance opportunities accompanied by our in-residence instrumental trios.

For more information, including an on-line application, faculty bios, events calendar, and much more, visit our website: www.jazzinjuly.com; email: jazzinjuly@acad.umass.edu; or call: 413-545-3530.

Faculty and student alums include: **Dr. Billy Taylor, Geri Allen, Trey Anastasio, Horace Boyer, Joanne Brackeen, Freddie Bryant, Jay Clayton, Paula Cole, Ted Dunbar, Nnenna Freelon, Hal Glaper, Russell Gunn, Dana Leong, Sonya Kittchell, Yusef Lateef, Tsidii LeLoka, Jason Lindner, Tiger Okoshi, Max Roach, Avery Sharpe, Myron Walden, Paula West** and **Mark Whitfield**.

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