



## NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Yvonne Mendez or David Picchi at (413) 545-3530

**For Immediate Release through June 25, 2013.**

Visit our website and pressroom at [www.jazzinjuly.com](http://www.jazzinjuly.com) to download photographs, news releases and artist bios.

### **Student Score Big when they participate in Jazz in July!**

### **Jazz in July Summer Music Programs accepting applications for the renowned program, in its 32nd Season!**

**July 8 - 19, 2013**

The Fine Arts Center is now accepting applications to the 32nd annual **Jazz in July Summer Music Programs** (July 8-19, 2013), 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 30 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. Musician and composer **Billy Taylor** also shared the stage with Jazz in July faculty and students. Our tradition of honoring the past by bringing it into the present continues in our 32nd year.

Students work with cutting-edge artists to hone their musical and performance skills through one-on-one sessions, lectures, group clinics, jazz theory and improvisation training, ensemble coaching, style explorations, jam sessions and performances in front of a live audience!

Jazz in July offers two intensive programs: Instrumental Ensembles, and Vocal Soloists With Trios. Originally modeled after New York's "Jazzmobile" program, the **Instrumental Ensemble Program** 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** 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.

### **Some impressive *notes* on Jazz in July:**

- There is no age limit. Jazz in July creates an atmosphere where music is the only unifying factor. It strives to eliminate age and cultural barriers. Students range in age from 15-65+ and attend from all over the country. Jazz in July educators believe that all students are on the same musical path.
- Jazz in July is rooted in the tradition of jazz and focuses on training the "nuts and bolts"—where students are taught how to apply basic skills to their own musical sense and style—taking the music where *they* want it to be.
- *Club Jazz in July* provides a "real world" experience for students. With a campus venue transformed into a night-club atmosphere, students attain experience performing for a ticket-buying audience. Jazz in July strengthens students' artistic abilities but also their ability to become "working/productive" musicians.

Our Faculty and student alums reflect the diversity of our program and include up-and-coming stars **Christian Sands**, who performs with Christian McBride, and **Evan Sherman**, who was a member of the 2010 and 2011 Grammy Awards Jazz Ensemble. They are now added to a long list of distinguished alumni students and faculty that 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 Kitchell, Yusef Lateef, Tsidii LeLoka, Jason Lindner, Tiger Okoshi, Max Roach, Avery Sharpe, Myron Walden, Paula West** and **Mark Whitfield**.

Our 2013 special guest faculty include **Luis Perdomo**, piano; **Helen Sung** piano and **Steve Davis**, trombone and **John Cammuck**, bass. Veteran Jazz in July faculty members include: **\*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; **Felipe Salles** saxophone (\*resident faculty).

Limited scholarships and Teaching Assistant positions are available! For more information, including an on-line application, faculty bios, events calendar, and much more, visit our website: [www.jazzinjuly.com](http://www.jazzinjuly.com); email: [jazzinjuly@acad.umass.edu](mailto:jazzinjuly@acad.umass.edu); or call: 413-545-3530.

-end-