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Jazz Education – the Heart of the Festival

Kicking back with friends, sipping wine under the summer sun, listening to real jazz in the Wine Country – this is what most people remember, or look forward to, when they think of the Healdsburg Jazz Festival. But for hundreds of young people in Sonoma County, the memories are much different, and much more rewarding: the actual presence of jazz musicians in their classrooms, opening young minds to the stimulation and magic of jazz.

The Jazz Education Program has always been a cornerstone of the Healdsburg Jazz Festival organization, both in goals and planning. “We want to bring this music into the classroom so the next generation can discover what jazz is for themselves,” Artistic Director Jessica Felix says. “It’s important music, because it’s America’s own music – this is something that didn’t come from Europe, or even from Africa. This is ours!”

In the after-hours music rooms at many area secondary schools, including Westside, Geyserville, Foss Creek, Healdsburg Elementary and St. John’s, **OPERATION JAZZ BAND** will once again open young ears to the structure and purpose of jazz. Last year’s 5th grade students remember bassist **WALTER SAVAGE** and pianist **GLEN PEARSON** explaining the interplay of a rhythm section; trumpeter **KHALIL SHAHEED**, saxophonist **RICHARD HOWELL** and trombonist **ANGELA WELLMAN** showing off their brassy horns with blues chords and melody; or **BABATUNDE LEA** and **DAVID FRASIER** demonstrating the importance of drums and percussion. Many of these same artists will again take part in Operation Jazz Band, to take place this spring before the Festival.



An exciting part of the Jazz Education Program is the opportunity for young musicians to sit in with accomplished pros like Khalil Shaheed, shown in a November show at Felix & Louie’s.

Most students learn by doing, and the after-school **PERCUSSION, SONG AND DANCE WORKSHOPS**, led by **TACUMA KING**, are an ideal way to expand the role of education to add Rhythm to the 3 R’s of traditional learning. Classes begin April 20th and are held after school for ages 6-10 and 11-14 (see details on page 2).

Recently we have added a new program, **EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS**, to help support music students in their pursuits of jazz skills. So far two local students have benefited from this program, bassist Shon Gordon (taking lessons from **TREVOR KINSELL**) and vocalist Erin Hernandez (who had a private lesson with Bay Area favorite **FAYE CAROL**).

Other projects of the Jazz Education Program are also planned for the spring months, with an eye toward building up enthusiasm and understanding for the Sixth Annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival, scheduled for June 5-13, 2004. These include instruction with members of the **OAKTOWN JAZZ WORKSHOP** for players in the Healdsburg High School Jazz Band; a special jazz performance at Healdsburg Junior High; and free concerts for students with headlining Jazz Festival musicians, to be held during Festival week.

Jazz education may well be the most important contribution of the Healdsburg Jazz Festival. With its mental discipline, heartfelt emotion, creative improvisation and firm grounding in classic songs and musical structures, jazz is what American music is all about. Share the joy and rewards of jazz with your children by joining the Healdsburg Jazz Festival in supporting the Jazz Education Program in your area schools. ☑

Background photo: Tacuma King returns to teach a fifth year of children’s percussion, song and dance.

SIXTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL

JUNE 5-13, 2004

Percussion, Song & Dance Workshop for Children

Wednesdays April 20 - May 25

Bay Area music instructor Tacuma King returns to teach two classes for new and returning students ages 6-14. Classes take place after school at Healdsburg Jr. High's band room (note the new location). This six-week, 1½-hour class costs only \$40, with a limited number of scholarships available.

Tacuma's students will join in Healdsburg's Future Farmers of America parade on May 27. Kelly Ebling, Chair of the Education Committee, points out this is the fifth year of bringing the jazz experience into local schools.

For workshop or scholarship information call the Festival office at 433-4633. 📞

NEA Grant Awarded

When the phone rings at the Festival office, it's usually good news, but a call in early December was even better. On the line was Dana Gioia of Windsor, a past attendee at Jazz Festival events, and the current chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts.

He called to personally tell us the NEA had just awarded the Festival an organizational grant of \$10,000 for our 2004 Festival, our first-ever NEA grant. It's a small percentage of the \$103 million the Endowment will give out over the next year, but it places the Festival in the elite company of the country's finest arts organizations.

The NEA has recently broadened its support of jazz artists, especially through their Jazz Masters Fellowships. We are proud to be among the groups this prestigious national organization has recognized, and look forward to applying again this year and continuing this valuable relationship. 📞

Mark your calendars! Call your friends! Tell the world! The Healdsburg Jazz Festival has announced dates for its sixth annual series of concerts. The Festival will start on **SATURDAY, JUNE 5**, and continue through the following **SUNDAY, JUNE 13**. The nine days of musical events will include a gala benefit dinner and concert, the return of the popular "Movie Night" with rare films from the jazz world, free events related to the Jazz Education Program in area schools, and internationally known jazz artists performing in small local clubs and relaxed open-air venues. Get ready for a treat.

Efforts are well underway to create another exciting line-up. Keep an eye on the Festival website, www.healdsburgjazzfestival.com for the latest word on Festival bookings, ticket sales and more. 📞

Healdsburg Jazz Festival and the Hotel Healdsburg present

THE SUNDAY JAZZ SERIES

A series of concerts, each sponsored by a different Sonoma County winery

Featuring food by Dry Creek Kitchen
Lobby of the Hotel Healdsburg 25 Matheson Street 707/431-2800
Performance 6 to 9 pm No Cover Charge



February 29

The John Santos Quartet

John Santos – multi-percussion
Orestes Vilató – timbales & bongos
Marco Diaz – piano
Saul Sierra – bass

Sponsored by Rodney Strong Vineyards

Grammy nominee John Santos (Machete Ensemble) brings this stellar Latin jazz quartet to Healdsburg for an evening of sizzling rhythm and intricate improvisations. Don't miss your chance to catch these exhilarating performers in an intimate setting!

Sound by In the Pocket Productions

Festival Planning Meeting Thursday, February 19

Dates have been set for the Sixth Annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival (June 5-13, 2004), so the work begins in earnest now. Planning and running the Festival is a big job, and all volunteer help is welcome, especially in the areas of hospitality, office management, telephone support, ticket sales, event planning and publicity. Bring your skills and enthusiasm to find out how you can be a part of this great event!

The first general meeting of the year will be at 6:30 pm on **Thursday, February 19** in the meeting room at the new **Alliance Medical Center**. The address is 1381 University Avenue in Healdsburg, but the entrance is off Prentice Street behind the hospital. Please call the Festival office at 707/433-4633 for additional information on volunteering or other ways to participate. 📞

A Message from Jessica

I know my little message each newsletter is probably not the first thing you read, but once again I need to remind you how important your support is to the Healdsburg Jazz Festival. As you have learned in this issue, we do much more than just put on a week of music in June; our Jazz Education Program touches every school in our district, we have entertaining quarterly concerts and occasional Jazz Masters performances, too.

Your support is crucial if you want these activities and events to continue. Ticket sales represent only 25 percent of our income, so it is very important that we build a strong membership base as well – sign up now! We have also initiated a new program called the **Healdsburg Jazz Festival Business Partnership**, if your business would like to help sustain the Festival. Please feel free to call me at 707/433-4633 to discuss any questions, or e-mail me at info@healdsburgjazzfestival.com.

Jessica Felix, Artistic Director

BECOME A FESTIVAL MEMBER!

Mail your completed form to: Healdsburg Jazz Festival, Post Office Box 266, Healdsburg, CA 95448

Or fax your completed form to: 707/431-8371

Or join online at: www.healdsburgjazzfestival.com

For more information: contact the Festival Office at 707/433-4633, or email us at info@healdsburgjazzfestival.com.

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MEMBERSHIP LEVEL \$30 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1,000 \$ _____

CHECK ENCLOSED (PAYABLE TO HEALDSBURG JAZZ FESTIVAL) TODAY'S DATE _____

PLEASE CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____

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PLEASE CONTACT ME ABOUT SPONSORSHIP. MY COMPANY _____

PLEASE CONTACT ME ABOUT BECOMING A CONTRIBUTING OR DISCOUNTING MERCHANT.

I'D LIKE TO VOLUNTEER. MY AREA(S) OF INTEREST:

- EVENT COORDINATION EDUCATION
- HOSPITALITY FUNDRAISING
- STAGE PRODUCTION MEMBERSHIP
- MARKETING OTHER _____
- NEWSLETTER _____

We don't like it when our names get sold to people we don't know, so we promise not to sell or trade your personal information. Ever. We want to keep you all to ourselves!

"We have also initiated a new program called the **Healdsburg Jazz Festival Business Partnership**... to help sustain the Festival!"

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

[per year]

\$30 per year includes –

- 3 coupons for wine or non-alcoholic beverage at the Sunday Jazz Series and select Festival events (one coupon per event; Event Sponsor wine only)
- Merchant discounts (see list below)

\$50 per year

- 5 drink coupons total for the Sunday Jazz Series and select Festival events (see limits above)
- Merchant discounts (see list below)

\$100 per year

- 5 drink coupons total for the Sunday Jazz Series and select Festival events (see limits above)
- Early entry to all paid Jazz Festival events
- Free jazz CD
- Merchant discounts (see list below)

\$500 per year

Includes all of the above, plus:

- 5 additional drink coupons (10 coupons total)
- A second free jazz CD

\$1,000 per year

Includes all of the above, plus:

- Reserved seating at all paid indoor events
- Invitation to any special events related to the Festival (e.g., the private End-of-Festival Party)
- Personal introductions to musicians

LOCAL MERCHANT DISCOUNTS

All members receive the following discounts and benefits from our supporting businesses:

ART AND ALL THAT JAZZ 119 Plaza Street, Healdsburg

- 10% off sterling silver jewelry designs by Jessica Felix
- 10% off jazz CDs

LEVIN & COMPANY 306 Center Street, Healdsburg

- 10% off jazz CDs or jazz books

RODNEY STRONG VINEYARDS

11455 Old Redwood Highway, Healdsburg

- 10% discount on regularly priced wine or gift items at the tasting room.

CHRIS FOLEY FINE LEATHER

433-B Healdsburg Avenue, Healdsburg

- 10% discount on merchandise

Want to give more? If you'd like to become a Patron Saint, Sponsor or a Contributing Merchant, please contact us at 707/433-4633, or e-mail the Festival at info@healdsburgjazzfestival.com.



Dates for the Sixth Annual Healdsburg Jazz Festival inside!

Post Office Box 266
Healdsburg, CA 95448
707/433-4633

Nonprofit
Organization
US Postage Paid
Healdsburg, CA
Permit No. 29

Jessica Felix : Artistic Director

See **JOHN SANTOS**
February 29, 6-9 pm
Hotel Healdsburg lobby

www.healdsburgjazzfestival.com

Be a Festival Volunteer!

Want to help bring great live jazz to Sonoma County? Become a volunteer with the Healdsburg Jazz Festival, and you can be a part of this valuable – and fun! – group. We need enthusiasts all year for a variety of tasks, in the following committees:

- Event Coordination
- Hospitality
- Stage Production
- Marketing
- Newsletter
- Education
- Fundraising
- Membership

Let us know how you'd like to help by calling 707/433-4633, or by e-mail to info@healdsburgjazzfestival.com.

Want to receive this newsletter by e-mail?

Just give us your address. Do you know someone else who'd like to receive the electronic version? Let us know, and we'll put them on the list. Our e-mail address is info@healdsburgjazzfestival.com.

The Grapevine Rag

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New Jazz Festival Members, October thru December 2003

\$30 per year

Yvonne Campbell
Ralph Champlin
Marybeth Granger
Patricia Lewis
Gia Passalacqua
Hemraj Sodhi
Bert Villemare
Mary Villemare

\$50 per year

William Baker
Mickey Fernandez
Krassimira Rector
David & Lola Safer

\$100 per year

William Boyd
John Mihalik

\$1000 per year

Anonymous

