



For Immediate Release

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**DUKE ELLINGTON JAZZ FESTIVAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ELECTS OFFICERS
DC's Annual Jazz Festival to Benefit from Experienced Leadership**

WASHINGTON, DC, (December 17, 2007) – Festivals DC, Ltd. announced today that Claude Bailey, Esq., Dana Bryson and Angela Fox have been elected to serve as officers of the Duke Ellington Jazz Festival board of directors. Mr. Bailey will serve as Chairman; Ms. Bryson will serve as Vice Chair; and Ms. Fox as Secretary. The new officers join Charles Fishman, President, and Dwight Crawford, Treasurer, who have served in this capacity since the inaugural festival in 2005.

“Over the past three years, the Duke Ellington Jazz Festival has focused on expanding its programming and partners, as well as its stature and impact, for the benefit of the city,” said Fishman, who also serves as the festival’s executive producer. “As we move into our fourth year and plan future festivals, Claude, Dana and Angie will play an instrumental role in leading this organization’s efforts and will help take the festival to a new level.”

The fourth annual Duke Ellington Jazz Festival will be presented throughout Washington, DC, October 1-6, 2008. For more information about the Duke Ellington Jazz Festival, visit www.dejazzfest.org.

About the Board Officers

Claude Bailey is a partner at Venable LLP, a 600-plus law firm based in Washington, DC. Most recently, Mr. Bailey’s work positively impacted Washington, DC’s tourism and economic growth when he served as general counsel to the D.C. Sports and Entertainment Commission. His accomplishments include steering legal and political efforts related to the development of the Washington Nationals Baseball Stadium, the Verizon Center and the Washington Convention Center.

“I’ve been a long-time believer in this festival and the benefits it can bring to Washington, DC in terms of tourism, economic development and cultural enrichment. I look forward to working with Dana, Angie, Dwight, Charlie and the rest of the board to lead the DEJF to greater heights,” said Bailey.

Dana Bryson is Vice President, Business Development in the Washington, DC office of San Francisco-based MacFarlane Partners. With more than 10 years of public and private sector

experience in both the Bay Area and the District, she most recently served as chief of staff to former City Administrator for the District of Columbia Robert C. Bobb. As a member of Mayor Anthony A. Williams' senior leadership team, Ms. Bryson helped formulate and execute the District's \$7.5 billion annual budget. In addition, she served as the acting director of the District's Center for Innovation and Reform.

"I know firsthand how a world class festival such as the DEJF can enhance a city's offerings to both its local residents and visiting international tourists," said Bryson. "I'm honored to have a leadership position with the festival, and committed to lending my expertise and support to enhancing the District's largest music celebration."

Angela Fox serves as the first President/CEO for the Crystal City Business Improvement District, in Arlington, VA. Ms. Fox brought with her more than 15 years of strategic leadership, marketing, and project management expertise. Prior to joining the BID, Ms. Fox served as executive director and chief executive officer for Cultural Tourism DC, where she expanded the capacity, visibility, viability, and reach of the organization.

"Washington has a rich jazz history of which too many people aren't aware. This festival is helping put Washington back on the map in terms its contributions to jazz and, more importantly, is creating its own history in the process," said Fox.

Also on the DEJF board are: Paige Bishop, Principal, BishopEmory; Paul Cohn, Senior Executive Officer, Capital Restaurant Concepts, Ltd.; William Hanbury, President & CEO, Washington, DC Convention and Tourism Corporation; Conrad Kenley, Partner, LCG Systems, LCG Inc; and, Ann Walker Marchant, CEO, Walker Marchant Group.

About DEJF

The DEJF premiered in 2005, with the support of the Government of the District of Columbia, national and local sponsors and Congressional Resolution 501. The annual celebration is named in honor of musical genius and native Washingtonian Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington. NEA Jazz Master and Grammy Award winner Paquito D'Rivera serves as artistic director.

The festival is committed to celebrating Washington, DC's rich jazz history and native son Duke Ellington and to adding to Washington, DC's contributions to jazz worldwide. It does this by fulfilling its mission to make jazz accessible to the broadest demographic; to further enhance Washington, DC's rich jazz legacy; to honor jazz legends; and to use jazz as a foundation of arts education.

Approximately 40,000 Washington, DC metropolitan-area residents, dignitaries and tourists attended the 2007 festival's robust program of more than 100 performances and programs. The festival was presented in over 35 venues throughout the city, including jazz clubs along the U Street Corridor, national cultural institutions such as the Kennedy Center and the Smithsonian, and the historic Lincoln Theatre.

The Duke Ellington Jazz Festival is a project of Festivals DC Ltd., a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization. It is funded in part with a grant from the Government of the District of

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