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**For Immediate Release**

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**DC Jazz Festival Announces Honorary Chairs  
Rodney E. Slater, DeMaurice Smith and Katharine Weymouth**

**May 11, 2010: Washington, D.C.** – The DC Jazz Festival (DCJF), formerly the Duke Ellington Jazz Festival, today announced the honorary chairs who will be hosting its sixth annual festival from June 1- 13.

The honorary chairs include the Honorable Rodney E. Slater, former Secretary of Transportation, and a partner at Patton Boggs LLP; DeMaurice Smith, Executive Director of the NFL Players Association; and Katharine Weymouth, Chief Executive Officer of The Washington Post Media Group and publisher of The Washington Post.

Slater is a native of Arkansas and an avid jazz enthusiast. He was the first African American Director of the Federal Highway Administration before he was appointed Secretary of Transportation in 1997 during the Clinton era. As a partner at Patton Boggs, Slater currently heads the firm's transportation practice and works on projects related to transportation infrastructure.

Prior to his appointment as Executive Director of the NFL Players Association, Smith was the chair of Patton Boggs' Government Investigations and White-Collar Practice Group. In 2007, Smith was hailed as one of the "The Top Fifteen Black White-Collar Criminal Defense Attorneys" by the Corporate Crime Reporter newspaper. He received his law degree from the University of Virginia in 1989.

Granddaughter of the late Washington Post Company Chairman, Katharine Graham, Weymouth was named CEO of the Washington Post Media Group and publisher of its namesake newspaper, The Washington Post, in 2008. A graduate of Harvard College and Stanford Law School, prior to joining The Washington Post, she practiced law at Williams & Connolly.

The honorary chairs will jointly host the DC Jazz Festival Opening Gala, co-sponsored by the Mandarin Oriental, Washington, D.C. on June 9. The evening at the Mandarin Oriental's Garden Terrace will feature special performances by the Dizzy Gillespie All-Stars, Roy Hargrove, Roberta Gambarini, and DCJF co-Artistic Director Paquito D'Rivera.

Highlights of the 2010 DC Jazz Festival include an All-Star tribute to NEA Jazz Master James Moody at the Lincoln Theatre, with the Dizzy Gillespie™ All-Stars Kenny Barron, Regina Carter, and special guests on June 10; Jazz Under the Stars at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre featuring Colombian harp sensation Edmar Castaneda and the Poncho Sanchez Latin Jazz Band on June 11; Jazz at The Lisner Auditorium (George Washington University) -- a free matinee concert featuring Brazilian trumpeter Claudio Roditi, and the Eddie Palmieri Latin Jazz Band, and a ticketed evening concert with vocalist Dianne Reeves, and the Roy Hargrove Big Band, with Special Guest Roberta Gambarini on June 12; and an NEA American Masterpieces-commissioned World Premiere concert, Paquito D'Rivera and the Jelly Roll Morton Latin Tinge, at the Kennedy Center's Terrace

Theater on June 13,

Additionally, the DCJF will present two free days of activities at Jazz 'n Families Fun Day at the Phillips Collection on June 5 and 6; free student concerts and master classes; and the return of the popular Jazz in the 'Hoods and Brunchin' in the 'Hoods, June 1-13, with programs at more than 25 restaurants, clubs, hotels and art galleries across the city.

Additional resources:

Full DCJF [performance schedule](http://www.dcjazzfest.org/content.cfm/schedule_and_special_events)

([http://www.dcjazzfest.org/content.cfm/schedule\\_and\\_special\\_events](http://www.dcjazzfest.org/content.cfm/schedule_and_special_events))

DCJF [sponsor list](http://www.dcjazzfest.org/content.cfm/sponsors) (<http://www.dcjazzfest.org/content.cfm/sponsors>)

[DCJF All Access Weekend Package:](http://www.marriott.com/specials/mesOffer.mi?marrOfferId=481371&displayLink=true)

[www.marriott.com/specials/mesOffer.mi?marrOfferId=481371&displayLink=true](http://www.marriott.com/specials/mesOffer.mi?marrOfferId=481371&displayLink=true)

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### **2010 DC Jazz Festival: "KEY" Events**

- June 1: **Jazz on the Potomac:** Kennedy Center Millennium Stage with Trinidadian trumpeter Etienne Charles (Free)
- June 2: **Jazz on the Potomac:** Kennedy Center Millennium Stage with the Berklee World Jazz Nonet (Free)
- June 1-13: **Jazz in the 'Hoods: Over 80 shows in 30+** clubs, restaurants, and hotels
- June 3: **Jazz at the Smithsonian American Art Museum:** featuring saxophonist Marshall Keys (Free)
- June 3: **Phillips After Five:** featuring pianist Janelle Gill at the Phillips Collection
- June 4: **Jazz in the Garden:** (National Gallery of Art) featuring the Berklee World Jazz Nonet (Free)
- June 5-6: **Jazz 'n Families Fun Days:** co-presented with and at The Phillips Collection featuring George V. Johnson, Janelle Gill, Victor Provost, the DC Jazz Collaborative, Noble Jolley, Brad Linde, and others. (Free)
- June 8: **Rising Star** concert at the [6th and I Historic Synagogue](#), "A Tribute to Oscar Peterson" featuring pianist Marian Petrescu with Special Guest, guitarist Andreas Öberg"
- June 9: **Rising Star** concert at the [WDC Jewish Community Center](#) featuring saxophonist Uri Gurvich
- June 10: **NEA Jazz Masters Live Concert** at The Lincoln Theatre: An All-Star tribute to NEA Jazz Master James Moody featuring NEA Jazz Masters Kenny Barron and Paquito D'Rivera with Roy Hargrove, Roberta Gambarini, Regina Carter and other guest artists.
- June 11: **Jazz at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre:** featuring jazz harpist Edmar Castaneda and the Poncho Sanchez Latin Jazz Band.
- June 12: **Jazz at the Lisner Auditorium (George Washington University):** The Claudio Roditi Quartet and the Eddie Palmieri Latin Jazz Band (matinee/Free); and Dianne Reeves, and the Roy Hargrove Big Band with special guest Roberta Gambarini (evening).
- June 13 **Kennedy Center Terrace Theater Paquito D'Rivera and The Jelly Roll Morton Latin Tinge Project with Akua Dixon and Quartette Indigo, Michael Philip Mossman, Music Director, a commissioned National Endowment for the Arts American Masterpieces concert.**
- June 5-9: **DCJF Master Classes/Student Concerts:**

Enriching educational Programs at the THEARC Performing Arts Center in Anacostia, the Sitar Arts Center in Adams Morgan, and the Atlas Performing Arts Center on the H Street

corridor for more than 1,000 DCPS and DC charter school students.

Following the tremendous success of last year's events, the DC Jazz Festival was re-branded to highlight the national and international impact of this significant cultural offering in the nation's capital. To date, proud sponsors and partners include: Patton Boggs, LLP; Microsoft Corporation; the National Endowment for the Arts; Renaissance Dupont Circle Hotel; Sage Communications; ABC-TV/WJLA; *The Washington Post*; the Washington Convention and Sports Authority; Michael and Linda Sonnenreich; the Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation; National Education Association Foundation; the Phillips Collection; the Dupont Hotel; *Washington City Paper*; Georgetown University Hospital; Radio One; Coors Foundation, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities; Bacardi; WMATA, Washington Informer, Dworbell, and Amtrak, among others.

#### **About the DC Jazz Festival**

With more than 100 performances in dozens of venues across the city, the DC Jazz Festival is the largest music festival in Washington, D.C. and has become one of the most highly-anticipated cultural events in the nation's capital. The Festival presents year-round music programs and performances by local, national and internationally-known artists, promotes music integration in school curricula and actively engages in community outreach to expand and diversify the audience of jazz enthusiasts. For more information about the DC Jazz Festival and our upcoming programs, visit [www.dcjazzfest.org](http://www.dcjazzfest.org).

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