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#### For Immediate Release

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## DC JAZZ FESTIVAL TO HONOR THOMAS HALE BOGGS JR. WITH THE DCJF JOHN CONYERS JR. ADVOCACY AWARD

### *Top D.C. Lawyer to Be Recognized for Jazz Contributions in the Nation's Capital*

**September 16, 2010: Washington, D.C.** – The DC Jazz Festival (DCJF) announced today that Thomas Hale Boggs Jr. will receive the 2010 DCJF John Conyers Jr. Jazz Advocacy Award the festival's annual benefit dinner on Tuesday, October 5, 2010 at the Embassy of Italy. The evening will be hosted by H. E. Giulio Terzi di Sant'Agata, Ambassador of Italy to the United States, and Ms. Antonella Cinque.

The John Conyers Jr. Jazz Advocacy Award is presented each year to an individual or organization that has actively supported jazz, and specifically the DC Jazz Festival. Past honorees include the Government of the District of Columbia (2009); Dana Gioia, former chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts (2008); and Congressman John Conyers Jr. (2007).

A New Orleans native with deep ties to Louisiana, Thomas Hale Boggs Jr., recognized as one of America's top lawyers by the *National Law Journal*, is chairman of Washington, D.C.-based law firm Patton Boggs LLP. Patton Boggs is a founding and major sponsor of the DCJF and has supported the festival since its inception in 2004. Emmy Award-winning journalist and senior news analyst for National Public Radio (NPR), Cokie Roberts, Boggs' sister, will speak in honor of her brother's tribute during the award ceremony.

With Louisiana Senator Mary Landrieu as Honorary Chairwoman, the evening will feature a special performance by Grammy and Tony Award-winning vocalist Dee Dee Bridgewater. A Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, Bridgewater is a recipient of two Grammy Awards, the Laurence Olivier Award, and the Victoire de la Musique, France's most prestigious music honor.

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

The DCJF is the largest music festival in Washington, D.C., and one the country's fastest-growing music festivals — with more than 100 performances at some 50 venues throughout the nation's capital city. The Festival has garnered widespread media acclaim and has quickly become recognized within the global jazz community. Originally named the Duke Ellington Jazz Festival, the recent name change specifically identifies the Festival's location and expanded vision. The DC Jazz Festival further enhances the city's reputation as one of the world's most prominent tourist cultural destinations.

For more information about the DC Jazz Festival and its Education Program Initiatives, visit [www.dcjazzfest.org](http://www.dcjazzfest.org).