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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DC Jazz Festival Partners to Promote Music Education in the Nation's Capital

Bing Sponsors DCJF Education Programs and Jazz on the National Mall

May 16, 2011, Washington, D.C.—The [DC Jazz Festival](#) (DCJF) announced today that Microsoft's Bing will join the festival in presenting numerous music education programs in the nation's capital city. They will also jointly present the DCJF's signature free all-day [Jazz on the National Mall](#) concert on Sunday, June 12, featuring [Toby Foyeh & Orchestra Africa](#), [Frédéric Yonnet](#), [Claudia Acuña](#), [Roy Hargrove & The RH Factor](#), and the [Eddie Palmieri All-Star Salsa Orchestra](#).

"A strong grounding in the arts is an important part of a child's education," said Adam Sohn, Senior Director at Bing. "The DC Jazz Festival's *Roberta Flack Music Excellence Program*, providing greater access to arts education for DC students. We are proud to be a part of the festival's ongoing efforts to make quality arts education accessible and available to the youth of Washington, D.C."

Bing will sponsor education programs throughout the festival, including three master classes and a financial literacy workshop for professional musicians at the historic Bohemian Caverns, the DCJF's "official" club; Jazz Meets Hip Hop at the THEARC Performing Arts Center; a *VOCABuLarieS* workshop for DC Public Schools (DCPS) at Howard University; and the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington tent during the festival's *Jazz on the National Mall* extravaganza.

Bing also supports the DCJF's free year-round [Roberta Flack Music Excellence Program](#), offering free concerts, workshops, after-school programs, and master classes that serve thousands of young people each year. Programs are held in partnership with the DCPS, DC public charter schools, Sitar Arts Center, the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington, and the THEARC Performing Arts Center, among others.

"What's wonderful about DC Jazz Festival music education programs is that they are not exclusive to the 13-day festival," said Michael Sonnenreich, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the DC Jazz Festival, and Chairman and CEO of Kikaku America International and. "With programs like the *Roberta Flack Music*

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

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www.dcjazzfest.org

Excellence Program, we strive to expose a broad demographic of young people to jazz music year-round."

Student concerts include:

THEARC * Wednesday, June 8 * 10:30 a.m.

Jazz Meets Hip Hop Student Concert with The W.E.S. Group * FREE

Saxophonist, composer and educator **Dr. William E. Smith** will demonstrate the connections between jazz and hip hop music and give students and teachers an understanding of the unifying features of these cultural creations originating in the African American community.

Howard University: Ira Aldridge Theatre * Friday, June 10 * 10:00 a.m.

VOCABuLarieS Workshop * FREE

Roger Treece, a composer, arranger and producer whose recordings have earned him two Grammy Award nominations and Music Director of Bobby McFerrin's *VOCABuLarieS*, will talk about the art of vocal improvisation, and will engage the students in a circle-singing exercise. The students will also observe part of his rehearsal with Howard University's Afro Blue Reunion Choir, which will perform with **Bobby McFerrin at the Warner Theatre** on Saturday, June 11.

Master classes include:

Bohemian Caverns * Tuesday, June 7 * 10:30 a.m.

The Dizzy Gillespie™ All-Stars, with 'Tootie' Heath, Drums; John Lee, Bass; Yotam, Guitar * FREE

Bohemian Caverns * Thursday, June 9 * 10:30 a.m.

Saxophonist Antonio Hart * FREE

Bohemian Caverns * Friday, June 10 * 1:30 p.m.

Pianist Cyrus Chestnut * FREE

Proud major sponsors and partners of the DC Jazz Festival, to date, include Bing; *The Washington Post*; ABC 7-TV/WJLA/News Channel 8; Patton Boggs LLP; Sage Communications; the Washington Convention and Sports Authority; Linda and Michael Sonnenreich; the Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation; The Phillips Collection; Verizon; Microsoft; the *Washington City Paper*; American Airlines; LCG Systems; Dworbell; the Mayo Charitable Foundation; the NEA Foundation; Amtrak; WMATA (Metro); Bohemian Caverns, WWOZ FM, WPFW FM; and the National Park Service, among others.

Additional Resources

- Complete line-up: <http://tinyurl.com/26ds77p>
- Tickets: <http://tinyurl.com/4crcoo5>
- Twitter: @dcjazzfest
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/dcjazzfest>
- Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/dcjazzfest/>

About the DC Jazz Festival

With more than 100 performances in dozens of venues across the city, the DC Jazz Festival, a project of Festivals DC, Ltd., a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, is the largest music festival in Washington, D.C. and is one of the most highly-anticipated cultural events in the nation's capital.

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The DCJF presents year-round music programs with performances featuring locally, nationally and internationally acclaimed artists which promote music integration in school curricula, and actively supports community outreach to expand and diversify its audience of jazz enthusiasts. For more information about the DC Jazz Festival and upcoming programs, visit www.dcjazzfest.org.

The DC Jazz Festival® is sponsored in part with a grant from the Government of the District of Columbia, Vincent C. Gray, Mayor; and, in part, by awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, and the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

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