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DC Jazz Festival Presents *Jazz on the National Mall*

Celebrated Jazz Artists Featured in a Spectacular Free All-Day Concert

May 24, 2011, Washington, D.C. - The [DC Jazz Festival's](http://www.dcjazzfest.org) (DCJF) signature, free all-day extravaganza, [*Jazz on the National Mall*](#), returns after a one-year hiatus, announced Executive Producer Charles Fishman. Sponsored by Microsoft's [Bing](#), the marathon concert, held Sunday, June 12 at the [Sylvan Theater](#), will feature a diverse line-up of internationally acclaimed artists: [Toby Foyeh](#) & Orchestra Africa, Chilean vocalist [Claudia Acuña](#), French harmonica virtuoso [Frédéric Yonnet](#), [Roy Hargrove's](#) RH Factor, and the [Eddie Palmieri](#) All-Star Salsa Orchestra.

"*Jazz on the National Mall* is the largest free jazz concert in the nation's capital city," said Fishman. "We're very proud and excited to present -- in partnership with Bing -- another spectacular, unforgettable concert in the magnificent setting of the Washington Monument that will be an entertaining and enriching experience for the thousands of people of all ages and backgrounds who attend. These artists -- from Nigeria, Chile, France, the U.S., and Puerto Rico -- are a representation of the jazz world's most innovative and influential artists. This concert on our National Mall exemplifies the global reach, influence and impact of jazz."

The *Jazz on the National Mall* marathon will feature:

- The DCJF's perennial "Energizer Bunny," Grammy Award-winning trumpeter Roy Hargrove returns to the festival with his hip-hop/jazz collective, the RH Factor, whose performance will include material from their groundbreaking recordings, *Hard Groove* and *Strength*.
- Solidly steeped in the roots of blues and jazz, Frédéric Yonnet incorporates jazz, country, reggae, gospel, hip-hop and classical music, showcasing his innovative and virtuosic harmonica skills in a refreshing performance. Yonnet has recently recorded and toured with Prince, and has also recorded with Stevie Wonder.
- Chilean vocalist Claudia Acuña, hailed by the *LA Times* as an "instrument of wonder," will perform a fusion of Latin and jazz music, drawing upon the

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culture of her homeland.

- Nigerian composer, and multi-instrumentalist Toby Foyeh and Orchestra Africa will feature traditional African instruments juxtaposed with guitar and flute with unique interpretations of traditional and contemporary jazz music.
- Nine-time Grammy Award winner, Puerto Rican pianist/composer Eddie Palmieri and his 11-piece All-Star Salsa Orchestra will close the concert with his signature exciting blend of jazz and Latin rhythms. Palmieri and legendary saxophonist/composer/arranged Jimmy Heath will be presented with the DCJF's Lifetime Achievement Award during the all-day spectacle.

Jazz on the National Mall is not the only free event DCJF will host this year. For more information about free events hosted by DCJF, please visit www.dcjazzfest.org

***Jazz on the National Mall* presented by [Bing](#)**

Sunday, June 12 at 1:00 p.m.

[National Mall / Sylvan Amphitheater](#)

Other highlight festival not-to-be missed concerts include 10-time Grammy Award winner [Bobby McFerrin](#), performing with Howard University's Afro Blue Reunion Choir (June 11, [Warner Theatre](#)); and [A Night in Treme: The Musical Majesty of New Orleans](#), the festival's closing concert at the Kennedy Center, with artists from the HBO's highly popular series Treme, including lead actor Wendell Pierce, the Rebirth Brass Band, Donald Harrison, Dr. Michael White, James Andrews, and Big Sam Williams.

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, WPFM; 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. 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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