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Bobby McFerrin Headlines 2011 DC Jazz Festival

Multiple Grammy Award Winner Performs with Howard University's Afro Blue Reunion Choir at the Warner Theatre

June 7, 2011, Washington, D.C.— Adding to the remarkable array of celebrated artists who have been and are headline artists, the [DC Jazz Festival](#) (DCJF) proudly welcomes 10-time Grammy Award winner [Bobby McFerrin](#) to the nation's capital city. On Saturday, June 11 McFerrin will perform his acclaimed inspirational new recording, [VOCABuLarieS](#), accompanied by Howard University's [Afro Blue Reunion Choir](#) at the [Warner Theatre](#).

Best known for his global hit, "Don't Worry Be Happy," McFerrin is one of the world's most recognized vocal innovators and improvisers. A habitual rule-breaker when it comes to conventionalism, also a world-renowned classical conductor, he has absorbed and assimilated a host of musical genres, including jazz, R&B, classical, pop and world, music into his own art. In addition to his endless creativity as an artist, Bobby McFerrin is a passionate spokesman for music education.

"Bobby was an obvious choice as a headline artist this year because his artistry speaks to the core values of the festival—sharing the brilliance of jazz and educating others about music," said Michael Sonnenreich, Chairman and CEO of Kikaku America International and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the DC Jazz Festival. "He is constantly redefining the music with his unique diversity and range, and his latest album pushes his creative boundaries even further. This performance is not to be missed."

VOCABuLarieS, Bobby's first new recording in eight years, channels his wildly joyful creativity and expands into previously uncharted territory for the artist. A collaboration with musical director Roger Treece, the album was nominated for a Grammy Award as Best Classical Crossover Album and was named Outstanding World Music Album at the NAACP Image Awards. *Downbeat* magazine describes live performances of *VOCABuLarieS* as "an exhilarating experience... creating a legacy that is unmatched in the history of popular or art song." The show has earned rave reviews and standing ovations at sold-out theaters in cities around the world, including Munich, Prague, Vienna, San Francisco, London, New York,

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www.dcjazzfest.org

Montreal and Helsinki. Now Howard University's Afro Blue Reunion Choir will join Bobby to bring this groundbreaking new choral repertoire to Washington, D.C.

"I can't wait to be back in Washington, D.C.," said McFerrin. "I'm really looking forward to singing the music from *VOCAbuLarieS* with the Afro Blue choir."

Tickets for the Bobby McFerrin performance at the Warner Theatre are available for purchase at: http://www.livenation.com/event/15004685EAC45BA9?dma_id=377

Other ticketed performances at this year's festival include:

[A Night in Treme: The Musical Majesty of New Orleans](#)

Monday, June 13 at 7:30 p.m.

[The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts](#)

SOLD OUT

A performance featuring Wendell Pierce, the Rebirth Brass Band, clarinetist Dr. Michael White, trombonist Big Sam Williams, trumpeter James Andrews and saxophonist Donald Harrison.

[Bohemian Caverns](#)

[Tickets](#) (T)

Dazzling Cuban saxophonist Luis "Faife" Sanchez & *Puerto Cubano: The Afro-Cuban Experience*
Tuesday, June 7 at 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Consummate saxophonist **[Antonio Hart](#)** and his quintet

Wednesday, June 8 and Thursday, June 9 at 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

[The Legendary Heath Brothers](#) Quintet featuring NEA Jazz Master and saxophonist Jimmy Heath and celebrated hard bop drummer Tootie Heath

Friday, June 10 and Saturday, June 11 at 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

Ticketed events for the DC Jazz Festival and CapitalBop present ... the D.C. Jazz Loft Series include:

[Red Door](#)

[Tickets](#) (T)

The experimental and creative **[OOO \(Tri-O Trio\)](#)**

Friday, June 10 at 9:00 p.m.

The fiery, avant-garde **[Darius Jones Trio](#)**

Friday, June 10 at 10:00 p.m.

[Subterranean A](#)

[Tickets](#) (T)

The innovative **[JD Allen Trio](#)**

Saturday, June 11 at 9:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m.

Washington, D.C.'s own **[Elijah Jamal Balbed Quartet](#)**

Saturday, June 11 at 10:30 p.m..

Proud major sponsors and partners of the DC Jazz Festival, to date, include Bing; The Washington Post; ABC7/WJLA-TV and 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; Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber, Schreck LLP; Verizon; Microsoft; the Washington City Paper; American Airlines; LCG Systems; Dworbell; the Mayo Charitable Foundation; the NEA Foundation; Amtrak; WMATA (Metro); Bohemian Caverns,

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WWOZ FM, WPFW FM; Washington Marriott Wardman Hotel, Washington Informer, Whole Foods; Acadiana; ZGS Station Group, and the National Park Service, among others.

Additional Resources

- Complete line-up: http://www.dcjazzfest.org/content.cfm/schedule_and_major_events
- 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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