



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CELEBRATE 31 YEARS OF JAZZ AND 31 DAYS OF ATLANTA WITH THE ATLANTA JAZZ FESTIVAL**

*Atlanta Jazz fuses art, music and culture with Atlanta's hottest neighborhoods to bring the best festival yet!*

**Atlanta, GA, April 11, 2008** – This year marks the 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Atlanta Jazz Festival, celebrating another year of electrifying performances and exhilarating events that Atlantans hold so dear. “By exploring the beauty of Atlanta, says Camille Russell Love, Director of the City of Atlanta Office of Cultural Affairs, “the Atlanta Jazz Festival is taking full advantage of what the city has to offer and has submerged every corner of Atlanta in magnificent music and the arts.”

The theme of this year's festival is 31 Years | 31 Days | Atlanta. Following this theme, the City of Atlanta Office of Cultural Affairs has created a precursor to the festival, the Neighborhood Jazz Series, which highlights the explosion of culture in four of Atlanta's eclectic neighborhoods over four weekends in May. Neighborhood Jazz enhances each neighborhood's cultural experience by connecting people through music, art and festivity

The highlighted neighborhoods are Castleberry Hills, Virginia Highlands, Midtown and will culminate over Memorial Day Weekend, May 24th -26th, in downtown Atlanta at Robert W. Woodruff Park. The Neighborhood Jazz Concert schedule is as follows:

**May 3rd | Castleberry Hill**

7pm – 10pm

LOFT @ Castleberry Hill – *featuring Phillippia*

170 Northside Drive, Atlanta 30313

**May 10th – Virginia Highlands**

8pm – 10pm

*An Evening of Jazz under the Stars featuring The Michael Dana Group*

Jimmy Carter Presidential Library

441 Freedom Pkwy, Atlanta 30307

**May 16th – Midtown**

5p - 10p

*Friday Jazz at the High featuring Melvin Jones*

High Museum of Art - Robinson Atrium, Stent Family Wing

1280 Peachtree Street, NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30309

\$18 per person; Free for High Members

A full 2008 Atlanta Jazz Festival artist line-up and schedule of events will be announced soon.

**ABOUT THE ATLANTA JAZZ FESTIVAL**

The Atlanta Jazz Festival, an annual musical showcase, celebrates jazz legends and up-and-coming jazz greats in venues throughout metro Atlanta during the month of May and culminates in a 3-day music festival on Memorial Day Weekend. It is the mission of the Atlanta Jazz Festival to expose and entertain a diverse audience of jazz aficionados, young jazz enthusiasts and musical artists to the rich heritage and variety of jazz as an authentic form of traditional music. The 2008 Atlanta Jazz Festival builds on the success and heritage of previous festivals by continuing its expansion with a 31-day schedule. Sponsors of this year's festival are: Anheuser Busch Companies, BET J, Coca Cola Company, Coca-Cola Enterprises, Publix Super Markets, Inc., Central Atlanta Progress, MARTA, Brand Atlanta, Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau, JazzTimes, Spelman College, 91.9 WCLK, Gibson Guitars, EphiPhone, SmartMusic, JW Pepper, Sheraton Atlanta Hotel, Smooth Atlanta, TD Entertainment, Upscale, and Premier Events.

For more information on the Atlanta Jazz Festival, please call the information hotline at 404.853.4234 or visit the website at [www.atlantafestivals.com](http://www.atlantafestivals.com).

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