



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Mia Vlaar (970) 479-6146, vjf@vailjazz.org

**Jazz Goes to School Sextet Returns to Vilar Performing Arts Center
Musician/educators will perform two concerts for students on Monday, April 13**

April 7, 2009 – Vail, Colorado – Jazz Goes to School wraps up its eleventh year in Eagle County with two special jazz performances at the Vilar Performing Arts Center in Beaver Creek on Monday, April 13, 2009, featuring Tony Gulizia and the Jazz Goes to School Sextet.

The fourth and final session of the Jazz Goes to School educational program is entitled “A Tribute to the Giants of Jazz” and features a selection of tunes that have shaped the history of jazz in America. Local jazz musician and professional jazz educator, Tony Gulizia (keyboard and vocals), directs the Jazz Goes to School program. “The concert includes legendary works by Duke Ellington and Benny Goodman, Miles Davis, Dizzy Gillespie, and others”, said Gulizia. “The fifth graders go crazy when we perform a medley of their own compositions: the 12 Bar Blues, which the teachers help them compose for the concert”, said Gulizia.

Tony Gulizia’s brother Joey is also a professional jazz musician and educator (drummer), and he is joined on stage by Andy Hall (bass), Roger Neumann (saxophone), Kirk Garrison (trumpet) and Michael Pujado (congas and percussion). The sextet presents a dynamic, foot stompin’ show that pulls together all the concepts taught in the first three classroom sessions.

Jazz Goes to School is presented by the Vail Jazz Foundation (VJF), a 501 c3 charitable foundation dedicated to the perpetuation of jazz through performances and education, with a focus on young musicians and young audiences. The program educates over 1,000 fourth and fifth graders annually in the public schools of Eagle County, plus the Eagle County Charter Academy, Vail Mountain School, Vail Academy, Stone Creek Elementary School and St. Clare of Assisi. Jazz Goes to School has exposed over 10,000 school students to jazz music since inception.

Members of the community, including home-school families, are welcome to attend the concert at a cost of \$9 per person. “We welcome everyone to come out and enjoy the musicianship of this fabulous sextet

at the Vilar Center “, said VJF’s executive director, Mia Vlaar. Vlaar said seats are at a premium – so if you wish to attend, call the Vail Jazz Foundation office no later than 4pm on Friday, April 10 at 479-6146 to make a reservation.

Jazz Goes to School is sponsored in part by Alpine Bank, Vilar PAC Community Use Fund, City Market/The Kroger Foundation, Colorado Mountain Express (Official Transportation Provider), Eagle County RE-50J School District elementary school PTOs, PTOs of the private and charter schools, Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, Vail Valley Foundation, Vilar Center for the Arts Beaver Creek, Walmart Foundation, and numerous private donors.