



## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## THE TENTH ANNUAL VAIL JAZZ FESTIVAL CULMINATES WITH THE LABOR DAY WEEKEND PARTY

AUGUST 3, 2004 – VAIL, CO – The Vail Jazz Foundation's (VJF) twelve-week long summer jazz festival wraps up with the Tenth Anniversary Celebration of the Vail Jazz Festival's Labor Day Weekend Friday September 3-6, 2004. This internationally acclaimed event features the world's greatest jazz musicians in over 24 hours of music over Labor Day Weekend. Hosted at the Vail Cascade Resort & Spa, the Labor Day Weekend Party brings together the best jazz musicians in the intimate, cabaret-style setting of the Cascade's Centennial Ballroom for a blend of jazz music not found anywhere else.

This year's Party will continue the tradition of presenting an extraordinary lineup of great musicians – living legends and the young lions on the jazz scene today – in a unique format that is truly a "party". In order to celebrate this very special anniversary year, the Party will include a Saturday evening Dinner, Dance and Show and a Sunday evening salute to the music and life of the great Billy Strayhorn with rare film clips of Billy, Duke Ellington and his orchestra shown between sets. In addition, to highlight the accomplishments of past VJF Workshop students, five of them will return to Vail to be featured at the Party as the VJF Alumni Band. With over twenty-four hours of performances throughout the weekend (morning, noon and night), the audience and musicians are connected in a manner that consistently inspires great performances. This year's line-up features:

The 10th Annual Vail Jazz Festival Labor Day Weekend Party

Clayton Brothers Quintet: John Clayton, Jeff Clayton, Terrell Stafford, Bill Cunliffe, Lewis Nash

Cobb's Mob featuring Eric Alexander: Jimmy Cobb, Eric Alexander, Richard Wyands, John Webber, Peter Bernstein

Bill Cunliffe's Salute to Billy Strayhorn

Mile High Chapter Choir

Hilton Ruiz Latin Jazz All-Stars featuring Dave Valentin: Hilton Ruiz, Dave Valentin, Geoff Brennan, Steve Berrios, Mike Mossman

VJF Alumni Band: Gerald Clayton, Matthew Weber, Obed Calvieri, Tim Green, Keyon Harrold

John Altman

Dena DeRose

Barbara Morrison

Ann Patterson

Wally "Gator" Watson

Matt Wilson

Reuben Wilson

Sessions are scheduled as follows in the Cascade Centennial Ballroom:

September 3 - Friday 7:30 pm

September 4 - Saturday 12 Noon

September 4 – Saturday 6:00 pm\*

\*Anniversary Dinner, Dance & Show

September 4 - Saturday 8:30 pm

September 5 - Sunday 10:00 am

September 5 - Sunday 1:00 pm

September 5 - Sunday 8:00 pm

September 6 - Sunday 12:00 Noon

In addition, the VJF will once again organize its Vail Jazz Workshop for young jazz musicians. Twelve scholarships have been granted to high school students who have distinguished themselves in their respective music programs at some of the best known high school jazz programs located throughout the United States. Each year Workshop students are featured performers, along with their instructors, at the annual Labor Day Weekend Party. Their attendance at the Party not only provides them with multiple performance opportunities but the opportunity to see, hear and interact with the world renowned jazz artists who perform at the Party. This unique, intensive music residency is one of the country's leading jazz education programs.

The 2004 Vail Jazz Workshop Scholarship recipients will perform as the Vail Jazz All-Stars at the following times during the 10th Annual Vail Jazz Festival:

- Saturday, September 4 at the Labor Day Weekend Party, Vail Cascade Resort and Spa at 3:30 pm – Cascade's Centennial Ballroom

- Sunday, September 5 at the Labor Day Weekend Party, Vail Cascade Resort and Spa at 4:30 pm – Cascade's Centennial Ballroom

Tickets for the Labor Day Weekend Party – a variety of ticketing options are available as follows:

Patron's Pass \$300

Includes priority seating and access to all performances and functions Friday, September 3, through Monday, September 6, 2004 including: 10th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, September 4, 2004 beginning at 6 pm – cocktails, buffet dinner with entertainment and dancing, plus Saturday's Evening Performance; Friday's Opening Night Performance and Sunday's Gospel Prayer Meetin'.

Full Weekend Pass \$250

Includes priority seating and access to all performances and functions Saturday, September 4, through Monday, September 6, 2004 including: 10th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, September 4, 2004 beginning at 6 pm – cocktails, buffet dinner with entertainment and dancing, plus Saturday's Evening Performance; Friday's Opening Night Performance and Sunday's Gospel Prayer Meetin'.

Individual Sessions

Tickets may be purchased for any session Friday, September 3 through Monday, September 6, 2004. Session tickets prices are as follows:

Evening performances – Friday, September 3 and Sunday, September 5, 8:00 pm - \$40; Saturday evening, September 4 (performance only) - \$50.

10th Anniversary Celebration – Saturday, September 4, 6:00 pm - \$100; cocktails, buffet dinner with entertainment and dancing, plus Saturday's Evening Performance.

Morning and Afternoon performances – September 4 at 1:00 pm, September 5 at 10:00 am & 1:00 pm and September 6, at 12 Noon - \$35.

The 10th Annual Vail Jazz Festival is sponsored by Alpine Bank, BBE Sound, Inc., City Market/The Kroger Foundation, Colorado Council on the Arts, Colorado Mountain Express - Official Transportation Provider, Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, KKCH Choice FM 92.3, KUVU 89.3 FM, KVBA TV 8, National Endowment for the Arts, Town of Vail, Vail Daily, and Yamaha.

The festival is presented by the Vail Jazz Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization (tax exempt under Sec. 501(c)(3) IRC) dedicated to the education and perpetuation of jazz.

**For more information, contact:**

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