

THE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
**DUKE ELLINGTON**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. | **JAZZ FESTIVAL**



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**DUKE ELLINGTON JAZZ FESTIVAL'S FREE JAZZ 'N FAMILIES FUN  
DAYS PROGRAM HOSTED AT THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION JUNE 6-7**

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**Part of Festival's Education Outreach and Annual  
Dupont-Kalorama Museum Walk Weekend**



CELEBRATING  
NEW ORLEANS

**[May 28, 2009, Washington, D.C.]** – In partnership with the Phillips Collection, the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Duke Ellington Jazz Festival presents its unique, free family-friendly music and arts education program, *Jazz 'n Families Fun Days*, June 6-7. The weekend festival celebrates the synergy between jazz and the visual arts and is part of the annual Dupont-Kalorama Museum Walk Weekend.

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Duke Ellington Jazz Festival (DEJF) celebrates the unique rich and diverse musical heritage of New Orleans June 5-15 and features renowned artists from the "birthplace of jazz" including Irma Thomas, Buckwheat Zydeco, Terence Blanchard, Harry Connick, Jr., the Marsalis musical family, Rebirth Brass Band and many others. Highlights of the festival include two free *Jazz on The National Mall* concerts June 13-14; the return of the popular *Jazz in the 'Hoods and Brunchin' in the 'Hoods*, which features performances at over 35 restaurants, clubs, hotels and art galleries across the city; and the free educational activities including student concerts and the two free all-day extravaganzas at the Phillips Collection June 6-7.

Charles Fishman, Founder/Executive Producer of the DEJF, created *Jazz 'n Families Fun Days* as a key event to introduce young people to jazz and as an anchor of its strong education program, DEJF Jazz on Education. Education outreach is led by Sunny Sumter, managing director of the DEJF, and a well-known former jazz vocalist. Sumter explains, "Our educational partnership with the Phillips Collection is exciting and enhances the fun music programs we've done for families in the past with visual art. Musicians will interpret art through improvised sound, and involve the children directly. Our goal is to introduce young people to jazz, engage their creative thinking and give families a wonderful experience. Through this program and our other education initiatives, we're now reaching over 2000 children a year and creating new jazz fans."

At *Jazz 'n Families Fun Days*, families will interact with instruments in the instrument petting zoo, listen to jazz geared toward younger listeners, enjoy a lively storyteller, and dabble in a hands-on art-making workshop. Participants also will encounter superb works of art in an intimate setting and enjoy the Young Artists exhibition, which features photographs and collages created by students after exploring Jacob Lawrence's *The Migration Series*.

Thomas Hale Boggs, Jr.  
*Honorary Co-Chairman*

Walter Isaacson  
*Honorary Co-Chairman*

Marc H. Morial  
*Honorary Co-Chairman*

Sheila C. Johnson  
*Honorary Chairman of  
the Ovation Society*

Claude E. Bailey  
*Chairman of the Board*

Charles Fishman  
*Executive Producer*

Sunny Sumter  
*Managing Director*

Paquito D'Rivera  
*Artistic Adviser*

Musicians scheduled are as follows:

**Saturday, June 6. 10am-5pm.** Deal Middle School Band, Antonio Parker Quartet, Janelle Gill, Alona Lee and the Reginald Cyntje Trio.

**Sunday, June 7. 11am-6pm.** Felix Contreras Trio, Julian Hipkins, Chuck Redd and the Brian Settles Trio.

**FREE. The Phillips Collection is at 1600 21<sup>st</sup> Street NW, Washington, DC. Metro: Dupont Circle. For more information, call 202.387.2151 or visit [www.dejazzfest.org](http://www.dejazzfest.org)**

**DEJF ON JAZZ EDUCATION.** In addition to *Jazz 'n Families Fun Days*, there are other educational programs planned during the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Duke Ellington Jazz Festival running June 5-15. Says Sumter, "Our objective is to involve educational, cultural and government agency partners across the District in support of arts integration, highlighting the unique advantages of jazz as an educational tool to engage students, encourage creative thinking and build confidence". DEJF has set a goal of reaching 2,000 students in the city a year. Other programs during this year's festival include:

FREE Education Concerts\*

- **June 5 – DC Writers Corp Spoken Word: Poet Brian Gilmore presents *Kalamu ya Salaam of New Orleans @ Duke Ellington School of the Arts.* 2pm. 3500 R Street NW. 202.298.1777.** DC Writers Corps is a not-for-profit community service organization whose mission is to use the reading, writing, and performance of literature and media arts to get DCPS students to read and write beyond the classroom. Born and raised in New Orleans, Kalamu ya Salaam is an editor/writer, filmmaker, educator, producer and arts administrator who founded and runs the Neo-Griot Workshop, a New Orleans-based Black Writers' Workshop. He's also co-director of Students at the Center, a writing program in the New Orleans public schools.
- **June 6 – *Jazzin' @ The Sitar featuring Sitar Art Center's Saints Band and Origem.* 1:30pm. 1700 Kalorama Road NW. 202.797.2145.** Origem is one of the premier Latin jazz groups in the DC area and performs a variety of musical styles from the Southeast and Northeast regions of Brazil such as samba, bossa nova, forro, afoxe and maracatu for more than 15 years. Led by dynamic drummer, Alejandro Lucini, Origem will perform and guide students in a hands-on percussion workshop. Origem is the recipient of a DC Commission on the Arts grant, and group founders/brothers, Leonardo and Alejandro Lucini, have been nominated for Best Latin Musician by the Washington Area Music Association (WAMA).
- **June 12 – *Jazz Meets Hip Hop with W.E.S. Group @ THEARC.* 10:30am. 1901 Mississippi Avenue SE. 202.889.5901.** The W.E.S. Group is composed of musicians who have years of experience playing with many jazz greats but have also been brought up in the hip-hop tradition of live instrumentation with drum machines, samplers, synthesizers, and DJs. *William Smith (saxophones), Khalif (K-Juice) Bobatoon (MC), Baye (Straightforward) Harrell (MC), Eric Wheeler (bass), Nathan Jolley (drums) and Noble Jolley (keyboards and piano).*

**For more information on these events and on the full schedule for the 5<sup>th</sup> Duke Ellington Jazz Festival, please visit [www.dejazzfest.org](http://www.dejazzfest.org).**

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Duke Ellington Jazz Festival: With over 100 performances in nearly 50 venues across the city, the Duke Ellington Jazz Festival is the largest music festival in Washington, DC, and is a highly anticipated cultural event in the nation's capital. It has received widespread praise for its impressive mix of local, nationally and internationally-known artists and its presentation of programs and performances at diverse venues in different neighborhoods of the District. Signature events at the festival include free, all-day concerts on the National Mall, which last year attracted more than 40,000 people. The festival's mission is to provide enriching and entertaining programs that attract the broadest possible demographic to jazz; use jazz as a form of arts education; honor the enduring legacy of DC's own Duke Ellington and other jazz greats; and add to the city's rich jazz history, further enhancing the nation's capital city as a premier cultural destination. [www.dejazzfest.org](http://www.dejazzfest.org)

Phillips Collection. Encounter superb works of modern art in an intimate setting at The Phillips Collection, an internationally recognized museum in Washington's vibrant Dupont Circle neighborhood. The Phillips Collection opened to the public in 1921 and is America's first museum of modern art. The museum produces a vigorous, award-winning program of educational outreach that serves more than 6,000 students and teachers a year. The Phillips Collection is a private institution that is not a part of the federal government. [www.phillipscollection.org](http://www.phillipscollection.org)

Dupont-Kalorama Museum Walk Weekend. Now in its 26th year, the Dupont-Kalorama Museum Walk Weekend encompasses ten museums in the historic Dupont Circle and Kalorama neighborhoods. The event offers free admission and activities for the whole family. [www.dkmuseums.com](http://www.dkmuseums.com)

WWW.DEJAZZFEST.ORG

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