

CONTACT: Mike Skory
517-230-9190 mobile
mike.skory@gmail.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LANSING JAZZFEST ANNOUNCES HEADLINERS

Lansing, Mich. (July 1, 2011) – Lansing JazzFest, held Friday, August 5 and Saturday, August 6 at the corner of Turner St. and E. Grand River Ave., announces 2011's headliners: Nicole Mitchell Quartet, Dr. E, and Straight Ahead.

Nicole Margaret Mitchell, a creative flutist, composer and bandleader, has been named "Top Flutist 2010" by Downbeat Magazine's Critic's Polls and also placed first as Downbeat Magazine's "Rising Star Flutist 2005-2010." She was awarded "Jazz Flutist of the Year 2010" by the Jazz Journalist Association and "Chicagoan of the Year 2006" by the Chicago Tribune. The founder of the critically acclaimed Black Earth Ensemble and Black Earth Strings, Mitchell's compositions reach across sound worlds, integrating new ideas with moments in the legacy of jazz, gospel, pop, and African percussion to create a fascinating synthesis of "postmodern jazz."

The soulful, open-hearted, raw-yet-refined talent of Dr. E, makes this Columbus, Ohio-based songstress a fast-rising jazz and soul star who shares her resonating soul with her audiences, leaving them with a sense of freedom, connectedness, and inspiration. Dr. E's eclectic musical influences have evolved into a style hallmarked by warm, bluesy tones, infectious rhythms, fiery fretwork, and caressing vocals soaked in soul. This former East Lansing resident's vocal range, versatility, and stage presence have been compared to artists such as Stephanie Mills, Patti LaBelle, Ladisi, and Chaka Kahn.

Straight Ahead – led by jazz performer and instructor Marion Hayden – pours its collective heart out to its audience. This five-member ensemble masterfully mixes a host of musical material with solid vocals. Straight from the heart of Detroit, they speak volumes through their instruments. "We pull from many different directions within the school of jazz like Latin and swing style, which incorporates a mix of straight jazz and funkier side of jazz," says Hayden.

- more -

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Terry Terry, *President*
Tom Cathey, *Secretary*
Kyle Schafer, *Treasurer*
Toni Alexander, *Member*
Glenna DeJong, *Member*
Mike Skory, *Member*

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Linda Burnham
Rebekah Cathey
Chiung Cheng
Cathy Dionise
Janet Fabiano
Edward Fountain
Rosy Goacher
Ben Hall
TC James
Katie Kiter
Nancy Lee
Jose Lopez
Kirby Milton
Linda Norris
Lee Petrovich
Carrie Quisenberry
Tina Ray
Therese Roth
Erin Slayter



MICHIGAN INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

1210 Turner Street Lansing, MI 48906 517-371-4600 Fax: 517-371-1454

old town



business & art development association

The Lansing JazzFest is a free community music festival, attracting attendees from across the city, state, and region. It is produced annually by the Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art (MICA), a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that serves as a catalyst for community development through quality arts programming. JazzFest is still accepting volunteers and sponsors. See www.jazzlansing.com or call 517-371-4600 for more information.

###

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Terry Terry, *President*
- Tom Cathey, *Secretary*
- Kyle Schafer, *Treasurer*
- Toni Alexander, *Member*
- Glenna DeJong, *Member*
- Mike Skory, *Member*

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

- Linda Burnham
- Rebekah Cathey
- Chiung Cheng
- Cathy Dionise
- Janet Fabiano
- Edward Fountain
- Rosy Goacher
- Ben Hall
- TC James
- Katie Kiter
- Nancy Lee
- Jose Lopez
- Kirby Milton
- Linda Norris
- Lee Petrovich
- Carrie Quisenberry
- Tina Ray
- Therese Roth
- Erin Slayter

Lansing JazzFest 2011 Schedule

Friday, August 5, 2011

MESSAGEMAKERS STAGE

4:30-6:30 pm Jeff Shoup Quartet featuring Tamara Mayers

7:30-9:00 pm Dave Sharp's Secret Seven

10:30 pm-12:30 am The Tyrone Johnson Funk Fusion Group

JACKSON NATIONAL STAGE

6:30-7:30 pm Lisa Smith

9:00-10:30 pm Dr. E

MICA STAGE

5:00-6:00 pm Dr. E Clinic

6:15-7:15 pm Elden Kelly Guitar Clinic

7:30-8:30 pm Maeve Gilchrist Trio

Saturday, August 6, 2011

MESSAGEMAKERS STAGE

2:00-3:00 pm Lanswingers & LCC Jazz Band

3:00-4:00 pm Ray Kamalay

5:00-6:00 pm Marcus Elliot Quartet

7:30-9:00 pm Nicole Mitchell Quartet

10:30 pm-12:30 am Los Gatos

JACKSON NATIONAL STAGE

4:00-5:00 pm Peter Nelson Quartet

6:00-7:30 pm Elden Kelly & the Global Roots Jazz Collective

9:00-10:30 pm Straight Ahead

MICA STAGE

1:00-2:00 pm Children's Ballet Theatre

2:00-3:00 pm Happendance's Community Dance Project

3:00-4:00 pm Jeff Shoup Drum Clinic

4:45-5:45 pm Nicole Mitchell Clinic

6:00-7:00 pm Marion Hayden Clinic

7:00-8:00 pm Cory Allen Guitar Clinic

8:00-9:00 pm Pete Siers Music Clinic

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Terry Terry, *President*
Tom Cathey, *Secretary*
Kyle Schafer, *Treasurer*
Toni Alexander, *Member*
Glenna DeJong, *Member*
Mike Skory, *Member*

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Linda Burnham
Rebekah Cathey
Chiung Cheng
Cathy Dionise
Janet Fabiano
Edward Fountain
Rosy Goacher
Ben Hall
TC James
Katie Kiter
Nancy Lee
Jose Lopez
Kirby Milton
Linda Norris
Lee Petrovich
Carrie Quisenberry
Tina Ray
Therese Roth
Erin Slayter