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10th Annual Freedom Jazz Festival

Jazz for a Change! **Music for a Brave New World!**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAILING ADDRESS----- **Freedom Jazz Festival, Inc.
PO Box 8981
Mpls, MN 55408**

TITLE OF EVENT----- **10th Annual Freedom Jazz Festival
Jazz for a Change – Music for a Brave New World!**

SITE OF EVENT----- **Minnehaha Falls Park – Band Stand
4801 Minnehaha Avenue South, Minneapolis**

DATES----- **SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2009**

TIMES----- **1:00 PM TO 7:30 PM**

ADMISSION----- **Free**

**PARTNERS, SPONSORS, VENDORS AND VOLUNTEERS
WELCOMED. FORMS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.FREEDOMJAZZFESTIVAL.ORG**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Freedom is the heart and soul of people and jazz is the expression of freedom and its creativity.

Freedom Jazz Festival, Inc is a 501(c)3 charitable organization



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Jazz for a Change: Music for a Brave New World

In the spirit of change, the Freedom Jazz Festival is introducing new musicians and future events. This year we present "Jazz for a Change – Music for a Brave New World! What stays the same are the sounds of jazz, blues, R&B, and hot rhythms that will have feet tappin' and fingers snappin' as the 10th annual Freedom Jazz Festival swings into summer on Saturday, August 1, 2009 at Minnehaha Park.

Jazz has been a revolutionary social force and the innovative soundtrack for the shared consciousness of America. The theme for this year's Freedom Jazz Festival is a reflection on the kindred nature of jazz and the struggle for America to find its collective identity.

Jazz, America's only original musical art form was created from the incandescent fusion of sorrow, anger, and triumph of the field songs of southern black slaves, cultivated by the call and response of gospel, the lyrical irreverence of the blues and the invention of improvisation. It is the history of Black America as told through music.

Jazz is in itself a musical consensus that mirrors the democratic process. It is created in a collective context, each performer supporting and recognizing the skill and talent of the other, each given equality and freedom of expression.

Jazz in America has been a musical cry for freedom, justice, equality, and transformation. It has always been music for and about change, change of heart, change of mind, and change in spirit.

We will honor this harmony as well as the hope for a new spirit of unity and cooperation in our communities as we present the 10th annual Freedom Jazz Festival. A celebration featuring some of the metropolitan Twin Cities' finest Jazz and Blues against the comfortable, scenic, and family-friendly backdrop of Minnehaha Falls.

For nearly a decade people from all walks of life have traditionally made the Freedom Jazz Festival a significant summer happening and have enjoyed great music and entertainment; the camaraderie, solidarity, and friendship of Jazz lovers; and historic performances by some of the area's premiere musicians.

"With this year's jazz festival we are looking forward to spotlighting the depth of the Twin Cities' jazz community," says FJF President, Lamarr Scott "there is an enormous amount of talent in this region." We have assembled probably the most comprehensive line-up ever featuring the Capri Big Band, Cornbread Harris, Dean Brewington, Morris Wilson, and many more going "back to the roots" with Be-Bop, R&B and Blues. The artists

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include young Jazz novices, community Jazz Workshops, and a rich line up of seasoned Jazz Masters. This collection of local Jazz artists is unmatched anywhere in the area.

We are creating a new generation of Jazz Lovers. Join us and be a part of the movement, witness history being made, and enjoy the best free outdoor Jazz concert in the Twin Cities. The festivities begin at 1:00 pm and last until 7:30 pm. Taste the tasty treats from our food vendors or enjoy a fine meal from the Sea Salt Restaurant. Seating is limited so arrive early!

(Major funding provided by the Minnesota State Arts Board Arts Across Minnesota Festivals Grant. Partners include the Dakota Foundation for Jazz Education, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, KFAI Radio, JazzInk, KBEMJazz88FM Radio, and Westport Properties).

About the Freedom Jazz Festival

The Freedom Jazz Festival (freedomjazzfestival.org), an annual musical showcase, celebrates jazz legends and up-and-coming jazz greats, highlights the historic, world wide contributions and innovations of African Americans/Blacks to jazz and features African American musicians in the Twin Cities.

The mission of the Freedom Jazz Festival is to expose and entertain a diverse audience of jazz aficionados, young jazz enthusiasts, musical artists and music lovers to the rich African American heritage and variety of jazz as America's original art form. The 2009 Freedom Jazz Festival hopes to continue building towards successful cultural based festivals and events.

Although small, the reputation of the Freedom Jazz Festival was built upon dedicated and talented musicians Sam Favors (d) and Gene Adams (d) who created the festival, but also because it is held at a beautiful location - Minnehaha Falls Park. Since 1999, the goal has been to provide an opportunity for African American musicians to play and showcase their musical talents outside of the nightclub scene.

The 2009 festival returns after a 1-year hiatus with newcomers and long time performers. The Freedom Jazz Festival always start with a "back-to-the-roots" approach with an African journey of drums, Blues, Gospel, R&B to straight-ahead jazz.

The reasons why the people return to the annual Freedom Jazz Festival are still here: the great music, culture, the friendly gathering, food, setting, and history. So look forward to future Freedom Jazz Festivals and other community arts and jazz endeavors.

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2009

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FREEDOM JAZZ FESTIVAL

2009

Jazz for a Change!



**SATURDAY,
AUGUST 1, 2009
1:00 - 7:30 PM**

www.freedomjazzfestival.org

Featuring the Twin Cities' own:

Capri Big Band, Cornbread Harris, Dean Brewington
Quintet (DBQ), McKissick Drum Troupe, McRae
Jazz Workshop, Morris Wilson Quartet, Public
NewSense, Urban Cadence...BeBop, Blues, Funk,
R&B, Straight Ahead, and more!

Minnehaha Park Band Shell

4801 Minnehaha Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN

Information (612) 827-2422



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Major funding provided by MN State Arts Board

Email: info@freedomjazzfestival.org. See: www.minneapolisparks.org

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ANNOUNCEMENT

CONTACT:

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Freedom Jazz Festival, Inc.
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Freedom Jazz Festival Returns to Minnehaha Park 10th Annual free, live, family friendly Jazz festival

The Freedom Jazz Festival, Inc. and Minnehaha Park (MPRB) invite the public to attend the 10th Annual Freedom Jazz Festival: Jazz for a Change – Music for a Brave New World from 1:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 1, 2009 at the Minnehaha Falls Park Band shell and Pavilion, located at 4801 Minnehaha Avenue South, Minneapolis. Artists, musicians and performers will provide free, live entertainment on the main stage. There will also be local artists, community groups, business exhibitors, food vendors and activities for kids.

For nearly a decade people from all walks of life have traditionally made the Freedom Jazz Festival a significant summer happening and have enjoyed the good music and entertainment; the camaraderie, solidarity, and friendship of Jazz lovers; and historic performances by some of the area's premiere musicians. This dedicated following is due to the high caliber entertainers who perform Jazz standards from cool and hot Jazz to R & B, down home blues and jazz spirituals. The concert will feature new and veteran hometown performers in this year of change such as Cornbread Harris, Morris Wilson and Public NewSense, a talented youth group.

Free jazz in the park is one of the necessities for presenting community cultural arts events, showcasing the legacy of African American life and times Jazz through art and music as a way to create and inspire a whole new generation of jazz lovers and performers of all ages. Jazz is the ultimate freedom of expression that is shared world wide.

The Freedom Jazz Festival is a unique event that brings a diverse group of people together to enjoy the comfortable atmosphere created by great music, good food and the company of fellow jazz enthusiasts where they can enjoy Jazz for a change.

Major funding for this event was awarded by the Minnesota State Arts Board Festivals Grant. Partners include Dakota Foundation for Jazz Education, JazzInk, KFAI Radio, Jazz88FM Radio, Mpls Park and Recreation Board and Westport Properties.

More information about the festival is available at www.freedomjazzfestival.org.

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