February 2005

Dear Colleague:

The Ferguson Center for the Arts is experiencing a tremendous inaugural season. It is a pleasure welcoming the community to our beautiful venue and sharing the magic of live theatre, dance and music. Support is overwhelming and we look forward to bringing the finest artists and attractions in the world to the Hampton Roads community.

We are proud to be the new home of the Ella Fitzgerald Music Festival. For eight years Christopher Newport University, under the leadership of President Paul Trible, and the City of Newport News have joined forces to honor the life and music of jazz icon and Newport News native, Ella Fitzgerald.

As a member of the CNU family we want to make sure you are one of the first to see this year’s exciting line-up:

8th Annual Ella Fitzgerald Music Festival

Thursday, April 7
Ann Hampton Callaway
with the CNU Jazz Ensembles

Friday, April 8
Arturo Sandoval

Saturday, April 9
Kevin Eubanks

Now is your chance to purchase a Festival Pass before tickets go on sale to the general public. The pass gives you exclusive access to the best seats in the house for all three concerts. As a special benefit, CNU employees save an additional $10.00 off the already discounted price. That’s more than a 30% savings for three nights of sizzling jazz in the Ferguson Center’s beautifully intimate Music and Theatre Hall.

The Festival Pass is available for a limited time only on a first-come, first-served basis. Individual event tickets go on sale March 15, if available.

Be sure to join us for the hottest ticket in Hampton Roads, the 8th Annual Ella Fitzgerald Music Festival at the Ferguson Center for the Arts.

I look forward to seeing you at the show!

Warm Regards,

[Signature]

William R. Biddle
Executive Director
Ferguson Center for the Arts
Ann Hampton Callaway with the CNU Jazz Ensembles
Thursday, APRIL 7, 8:00pm
Multi-platinum and award-winning songwriter Ann Hampton Callaway is an inspiring maverick spirit in the entertainment world, dazzling audiences not only as a singer and pianist but also as a songwriter and actress. As one of the leading interpreters of the Great American Songbook, The New York Times declares that “no contemporary singer matches Ms. Callaway.” With the release of her new recording Slow, Ann Hampton Callaway further asserts herself as an exciting talent who stands in a class by herself. Joining Ms. Callaway for the festival opening are the award-winning CNU Jazz Ensembles.

Arturo Sandoval
Friday, APRIL 8, 8:00pm
Arturo Sandoval, the versatile protegé of legendary horn-player Dizzy Gillespie, blends passion and technical ability into an awe-inspiring piece of jazz perfection. Born in Cuba in 1949, Sandoval was 12 when he began classical horn studies that quickly led him to the sound of the Latin jazz world. Sandoval’s music eventually brought him international fame as a recipient of four Grammy® Awards and six Billboard Awards. He also received an Emmy Award for his instrumental underscore of the HBO film For Love or Country, a biographical film based on his own true-life journey. Arturo Sandoval is one of the most influential and energetic jazz instrumentalists of our time, giving thrilling performances for over 35 years.

Kevin Eubanks
Saturday, APRIL 9, 8:00pm
“Arguably one of the most accomplished guitarists of his generation.” JazzTimes
One of the most prolific jazz guitarists in the country, Kevin Eubanks has been a key member of The Tonight Show Band since May 1992, and he wrote the show's closing theme song, “Kevin’s Country.” On his rare nights off, Kevin heads out with the talent-packed Kevin Eubanks Group; a setting that allows Kevin’s jazz creativity to soar. Now recording on his own label, the group plays in the groove with a touch of sass while Kevin’s extensive knowledge of jazz guitar can be heard in his single-note lines and his chordal embellishments.

Presented by Christopher Newport University and the City of Newport News

CNU FESTIVAL PASS ORDER

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Please add me to the Ferguson E-Club to receive e-mail updates and special offers.
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