

Subject: Ella Fitzgerald Music Festival

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From: Paul Tribble <ptrible@cnu.edu>

To: everyone@cnu.edu

On Tuesday, January 15th , we will publicly release this year's line-up of artists for CNU's fifth annual Ella Fitzgerald Music Festival. I wanted to share this exciting news with you and give you the opportunity to purchase tickets before they go on sale to the general public.

The Ella Fitzgerald Music Festival will run May 1-4 and, as in years past, some of the biggest names in jazz will be performing on our campus.

The festival will kick off on Wednesday, May 1st as we showcase the incredible talent that exists right here at CNU! Our own award-winning **Jazz Ensemble** under the direction of Bill Brown promises an exciting evening of big band music and jazz standards from the past to the present. The **CNU Vocal Jazz Ensemble** under the direction of Dr. Lauren Fowler will also perform, singing in a variety of styles from swing to bebop. Woody Beckner, CNU Adjunct Professor of Jazz Guitar, will also perform with the Jazz Ensemble.

Renowned jazz trumpeter and Grammy nominee **Terence Blanchard** will perform on Thursday, May 2nd. Voted Artist of the Year in Down Beat magazine's 2000 poll, Blanchard has become one of the most important musicians and composers of his generation. His influence can be strongly felt in the film industry as well, with no less than six pictures bearing his soundtrack work. Most recently, Blanchard has accepted an appointment as the Artistic Director for the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz. In his most recent release, Let's Get Lost, Blanchard's expressive horn is paired with the voices of today's jazz divas, including Diana Krall, Cassandra Wilson and this year's festival performer, Jane Monheit.

Hailed by the New York Times as the "cleanup hitter of postwar jazz piano," contemporary acoustic pianist **McCoy Tyner** will perform on Friday, May 3rd. Tyner began studying piano at 13 and has been performing professionally since the age of 15. He has performed with many jazz legends including the John Coltrane Quartet and has had a successful solo career, complete with numerous recordings and Grammy nominations. His most recent release is a new live album, McCoy Tyner Plays John Coltrane.

Twenty-three year old **Jane Monheit**, one of the most talked-about new jazz vocalists, will appear on Saturday, May 4th. At the age of 20, she placed second in the prestigious Thelonious Monk Institute International Vocal Competition and has since won rave reviews from the likes of The New York Times and The Los Angeles Times ("singing like a singer with decades of experience") as well as an audience of worldwide proportion.

All performances will be held at 8 p.m. in Gaines Theater. Tickets are \$35 each for Jane Monheit, McCoy Tyner and Terence Blanchard. Tickets for the CNU Jazz Ensemble and Vocal Jazz Ensemble performances are \$5 each. A 10% discount is available to anyone with a valid CNU ID and CNU students may purchase their tickets at half-price. Tickets will be available at the CNU Box Office on January 14th.

I look forward to seeing you at the Ella Fitzgerald Music Festival.