

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - August 31, 2015

Community Building at the Heart of Second Montavilla Jazz Festival

Portland, OR—The Montavilla Neighborhood Association's second annual Montavilla Jazz Festival was a smashing success on August 15 and 16 as it showcased thirteen (13) bands whose prowess demonstrates the deep talent pool that is Portland's creative jazz community. Ranging from headliner Darrell Grant's All 4 Naught and elder statesman of jazz, David Friesen, to pioneering jazz educator Alan Jones, the pyrotechnic piano of George Colligan and the 12-piece Portland Jazz Composers' Ensemble, the festival did not disappoint.

By the Numbers and Beyond: At more than 650 persons, MJF's attendance doubled from last year. 56 businesses donated more than \$30,000 in money and in-kind goods and services to make the festival happen. More than 70 volunteers helped out. Numbers tell only half the story, as MJF 2015 was equally about community-building, which was on display in the large proportion of volunteers drawn from the Montavilla neighborhood, the fact that many sponsors and partners are neighborhood businesses, and the new Montavilla Schools Music Fund, which will earmark a portion of festival revenue to support music education in Montavilla's four public schools. MJF 2015 also dedicated 20 festival passes for free distribution to low-income neighborhood residents, and featured an outdoor student stage that showcased the Portland area's up-and-coming young jazz talent.

Get Involved and Learn More: Montavilla Jazz Festival wants and needs greater community involvement. Volunteers, sponsors and partners, and the interest of artists who want to perform at MJF 2016 are all desired. For more information, please visit: montavillajazzfest.com.

To schedule interviews or speak to festival organizers, please contact:
Fritz Hirsch, Managing Director, at fritz@montavillajazzfest.com, 971-407-6744.

Montavilla Jazz Festival is a project of the Montavilla Neighborhood Association, and is fiscally sponsored by SE Uplift, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and coalition of 20 Portland neighborhoods.

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