

N E W S R E L E A S E

*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

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**11TH ANNUAL MELTON MUSTAFA JAZZ FESTIVAL CELEBRATES A NEW GENERATION OF
JAZZ EXCELLENCE**

MIAMI GARDENS, FL [JANUARY 2, 2007] – South Florida music enthusiasts should prepare themselves for a spectacular weekend of sensational jazz! On Friday, January 19, 2007 and Saturday, January 20, 2007, Florida Memorial University will host the 11th Annual Melton Mustafa Jazz Festival in the Lou Rawls Center for the Performing Arts on the university campus (15800 NW 42nd Avenue, Miami Gardens, FL 33054). The theme of this year's event is "A New Generation of Jazz Excellence," which is geared toward recruiting aspiring musicians to join Florida Memorial's celebrated, fully-accredited music program in hopes of pursuing careers in jazz performance and music education. "We are proudly working to continue the tradition of jazz by inviting serious musicians to share their talents with other students and the public at large," stated Melton Mustafa, festival coordinator and music professor at Florida Memorial University. The festival schedule is as follows:

Friday, January 19, 2007

9:00 AM to 2:30 PM

Musical seminars and workshops will be held with Melton Mustafa, Obed Calvaire, Kenny Drew, Jr., Curtis Lundy, Ralph MacDonald, and Bobby Watson. Workshops cost \$20.00 for adult participants.

NOTE: Registration begins at 8:00 AM!

Saturday, January 20, 2007

7:00 PM

Jazz Concert

Jam to the electrifying tunes of Melton Mustafa (trumpet), Obed Calvaire (drums), Kenny Drew, Jr. (piano), Curtis Lundy (bass), Ralph MacDonald (percussion), Bobby Watson (alto saxophone), and other special guests!

General admission tickets for the concert are on sale for \$25.00. A limited number of VIP tickets are available for \$50.00, which includes access to all musical workshops, entry into the concert, premiere seating during the concert, and admission into an exclusive reception immediately following the performance. Tickets can be purchased from the following three locations: Blue Note Records (305-940-3394), Music Art Entertainment (954-581-2203), and the Florida Memorial Bookstore (305-626-3636). All proceeds from the concert will benefit the university's Jazz Studies Program. For more information on the concert, please contact Melton Mustafa at mmustafa@fmuniv.edu and (305) 623-8219, or Dawn K. Batson at dbatson@fmuniv.edu and (305-626-3150).

Located in the City of Miami Gardens, Florida Memorial University is a private, historically Black institution offering 41 undergraduate degree programs and 4 graduate degree programs to a culturally diverse student body. Since its inception in 1879, the university has upheld a commitment to providing a solid foundation for thousands of young people and opening doors to educational opportunities that may have otherwise been closed to them. As South Florida's ONLY Black university, it is widely recognized for being the birthplace of the Negro National Anthem, "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing." For more information, please contact the Office of Governmental and Public Affairs at (305) 626-3624.