
FLORIDA MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

N E W S R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MELTON MUSTAFA JAZZ FESTIVAL INTRODUCES “SOUNDS OF A NEW ERA”



Melton Mustafa (above) is pictured at a jam session during a high-energy performance.

MIAMI GARDENS, FL [JANUARY 10, 2008] – Music lovers around the world are gearing up to experience “Sounds of a New Era in Jazz,” which will serve as the theme of this year’s annual Melton Mustafa Jazz Festival. Now in its twelfth consecutive installment, Florida Memorial University will sponsor the energetic symposium of rhythm and sound taking place on Friday, February 1, 2008 and Saturday, February 2, 2008. Scheduled events highlighting the festival include the following:

Friday, February 1, 2008

Time: 9:00 am to 9:30 pm (NOTE: Registration begins at 8:00 am.)

Event: Musical seminars and workshops will be held with Melton Mustafa and special guest artists.

Location: Lou Rawls Center for the Performing Arts at Florida Memorial University (15800 NW 42nd Avenue, Miami Gardens, FL 33054)

Time: 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Event: Free Meet & Greet with the Artists

Location: Lou Rawls Center for the Performing Arts (Florida Memorial University, 15800 NW 42nd Avenue, Miami Gardens, FL 33054)

Saturday, February 2, 2008

Time: 7:00 pm

Event: Melton Mustafa Jazz Concert

Special guests include Melton Mustafa (trumpet), Jesse Jones, Jr. (saxophone), Orin Evans (piano), Winard Harper (drums), Bobby Watson (saxophone), Curtis Lundy (bass) and more! Special Performance by the Melton Mustafa Orchestra.

Location: Julius Littman Performing Arts Theater (17011 NE 19th Avenue, North Miami Beach, FL 33162)

The highly-anticipated festival bears its name from internationally-known Miami-based trumpeter Melton Mustafa, who leads the Melton Mustafa Orchestra and directs Florida Memorial University's Jazz Studies Program. The theme "Sounds of a New Era in Jazz" heralds promising and emerging musicians and promotes the recruitment initiative for the University's fully-accredited music program. "While we seek to entertain, this festival serves to encourage talented, up and coming music students to pursue careers in jazz performance and music education," stated Mr. Mustafa. "We are proudly working to continue the tradition of jazz by inviting serious musicians to share their talents with these students to inspire their dreams," he continued.

General admission tickets for the concert are on sale for \$25.00 and students are charged a discounted rate of \$15.00. 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 Meet and Greet event scheduled for Friday, February 1st. Tickets can be purchased from the Florida Memorial University "Lion Shop & Cafe" Bookstore; the phone number is (305) 626-3636. All proceeds from the concert will benefit the University's Jazz Studies Program. For more information, please contact Dr. Dawn K. Batson-Borel at dbatson@fmuniv.edu and (305) 626-3128, or Joyce R. Forchion at jforchio@fmuniv.edu or (305) 626-3624.

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About Florida Memorial University:

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 historically Black University, it is widely recognized for being the birthplace of the Negro National Anthem, "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" and the home of Barrington Irving, Jr., the first and youngest pilot of African descent to fly solo around the world. For more information, please contact the Office of Public Affairs at (305) 626-3624.