

# THE CHICAGO | JAZZ | ENSEMBLE

in residence at Columbia College Chicago since 1965

**For Immediate Release / April 8, 2011**

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*Digital Images Available*

## **CHICAGO JAZZ ENSEMBLE with CPS STUDENTS & EDUCATORS HOST 2011 LOUIS ARMSTRONG LEGACY PROGRAM AND CELEBRATION AT CHICAGO CULTURAL CENTER, MAY 26 and 27**

**CHICAGO, IL** - The Chicago Jazz Ensemble (CJE) is pleased to announce the fourth annual **Louis Armstrong Legacy Program Celebration (LALPC)**, two days of performances by **Chicago Public School ensembles**. These programs run from 10 am-1 pm and feature performances by four elementary school bands and six high school bands. The event is free and open to the public and offers a wonderful opportunity to support the city's young musicians and to celebrate music in the schools.

LALPC is a CJE music education initiative which utilizes Louis Armstrong's body of work as a means to encourage and inspire the interest, creativity, and talent of aspiring young musicians in Chicago public schools. LALPC is open to committed students in selected schools located throughout the city, and the Spring 2011 session is serving approximately 170 students in four elementary schools and six high schools. This year's CJE mentors are saxophonists **Rob Denty, Pat Mallinger, and Jarrard Harris; trumpeter Pharez Whitted, CJE Music Director and drummer Dana Hall, and CJE Education Director and saxophonist Darius Hampton.**

Over the course of a semester, students and faculty work toward the common goal of learning selected Armstrong scores. Students and teachers collaborate with CJE band members, who act as mentors to both groups. Students also participate in master classes and receive one-on-one assistance from their assigned mentors, who visit the schools several times per month and also serve as important role models as musicians making a living in their profession. At the end of the semester, the Celebration gives student ensembles an opportunity to showcase their progress at an adjudicated public performance in the majestic Chicago Cultural Center.

The CJE is pleased to host the Celebration in collaboration with **the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs at the Chicago Cultural Center**, 78 E. Washington Street. Performances will take place in the 294-seat Claudia Cassidy Theater. The Chicago Cultural Center is the nation's first and most comprehensive free municipal cultural venue. Every year, the Chicago Cultural Center presents hundreds of free international, national, regional and local artists, musicians and performers, providing a showcase where the public can enjoy themselves and expand their knowledge of the arts.

The Chicago Jazz Ensemble is **DANA HALL**, Music Director and drums; **DAN NICHOLSON** and **JARRARD HARRIS**, alto saxophone; **PAT MALLINGER** and **ROB DENTY** (also clarinet), tenor saxophone; **TIM McNAMARA**, baritone saxophone; **ANDY BAKER, TIM COFFMAN, TRACY KIRK,**

and **THOMAS MATTA**, trombone; **MARK OLEN**, **LARRY BOWEN**, **ART HOYLE**, and **PHAREZ WHITTED**, trumpet; **JEREMY KAHN**, piano; **JEFF PARKER**, guitar; **DAN ANDERSON**, bass; and **BOBBI WILSYN**, vocals.

The CJE is proud to have been **in residence at Columbia College Chicago since 1965**. CJE's 2010-11 performance season is made possible in part by grants from the MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince, the Fanny R. Wurlitzer Foundation, and the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. The Chicago Jazz Ensemble's educational programs, including the Louis Armstrong Legacy Program and Celebration, are supported in part by the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation, ASCAP, Citi Foundation, the Crown Family, and the Polk Bros. Foundation. The Chicago Jazz Ensemble (CJE) is proud to be sponsored by *Downbeat* Magazine and WDCB 90.9FM.

For more information about the CJE, visit [www.chicagojazzensemble.com](http://www.chicagojazzensemble.com) or call (312) 369-6250. For more information about **Columbia College Chicago**, visit [www.colum.edu](http://www.colum.edu).

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