



\*\*\*For Immediate Release: Friday, April 14, 2017\*\*\*

Media Contact:  
Jesse P. Cutler  
JP Cutler Media  
510.338.0881  
jesse@jpcutlermedia.com

**San Jose Jazz & San José State University Present  
Premier Northern California Programming for International Jazz Day on April 30**

**San Jose Hammer Theatre Center:  
Will Calhoun Tribute to Elvin Jones  
San José State University Jazz Orchestra with Tiffany Austin  
Film Screening of 1959: The Year That Changed Jazz**

**SJZ Boom Box Stage at Hammer Theatre Center Plaza:  
Howard Wiley & Extra Nappy  
FutureArtsNow!  
SJZ Progressions Ensemble  
SJZ High School All Stars U19s**

*San Jose, Calif.* -- For the second year in a row, San Jose Jazz is proud to offer premier International Jazz Day music programming in Northern California on Sunday, April 30 at the Hammer Theatre and Plaza. In partnership with the City of San Jose and San José State University, San Jose Jazz presents free all-ages entertainment showcasing a jazz documentary, two jazz concerts and other performing arts interactive entertainment at the Hammer Theatre and outdoors on the Plaza from noon to 8 pm.

Festivities kick off on the SJZ Boom Box Stage on the Paseo de San Antonio outside the Hammer Theatre Center with an afternoon hip-hop dance show and clinic by FutureArtsNow! (12-1:30pm); performances by SJZ Progressions Ensemble (1:45-2:15pm) and SJZ High School All Stars U19s (2:30-3:15pm); and Howard Wiley & Extra Nappy (3:30-4:45pm).

Hosted inside the Hammer Theatre Center, programming begins at 3 pm with a special screening of *1959: The Year That Changed Jazz*, a documentary that seeks to explore select musicians' achievements in social, political and musical context. The film is followed by two evening concerts: Will Calhoun performs a tribute to Elvin Jones from 5pm - 6:30pm and Grammy Award-winner Dr. Aaron Lington directs the San José State University Jazz Orchestra with Tiffany Austin from 7pm - 8pm.



International Jazz Day, p2

**Brendan Rawson**, Executive Director of San Jose Jazz, says, “The return of the Hammer Theatre is a fine example of how downtown San Jose never sits still. The Paseo on the grounds of the Hammer is the perfect outdoor space for interactive programming to enliven downtown on a Sunday afternoon. It's an accessible point in the city for creative community celebrations. For International Jazz Day, we're presenting a diverse array of music and arts, including hip-hop dancing, big band jazz, straight ahead, hard bop, funk, and youth performances. It will be a day to remember and we hope arts fans from far and wide will join in the fun!”

**Kerry Adams-Hapner**, Director of the Office of Cultural Affairs, adds, “The City of San Jose is proud to help present this exciting day of community programming celebrating the uniquely American art form of jazz. From world-class artists to talented students, there will be something for everyone at the Hammer Theatre Center and Plaza.”

Each year on April 30, International Jazz Day highlights the power of jazz as a force for freedom and creativity, promotes intercultural dialogue through respect and understanding, and unites people from all corners of the globe. Celebrate International Jazz Day in downtown San Jose, the culmination of Jazz Appreciation Month, on April 30!

San Jose Jazz and SJSU International Jazz Day programming at the Hammer Theatre Center is supported by the City of San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs.

### **San Jose Jazz - International Jazz Day Schedule - April 30, 2017:**

#### **Hammer Theatre Center**

101 Paseo De San Antonio, San Jose, CA 95113

Free admission

[sanjosejazz.org/jazzday](http://sanjosejazz.org/jazzday)

#### **Hammer Theatre Center Plaza (outdoors)**

SJZ Boom Box:

12-1:30pm - FutureArtsNow!

1:45-2:15pm - SJZ Progressions Ensemble

2:30-3:15pm - SJZ High School All Stars U19s

3:30-4:45pm - Howard Wiley & Extra Nappy

#### **Hammer Theatre (indoors)**

3:30-4:30pm - 1959: The Year That Changed Jazz film screening

5-6:30pm - Will Calhoun Tribute to Elvin Jones

7-8pm - San José State University Jazz Orchestra featuring Tiffany Austin



International Jazz Day, p3

### **About Will Calhoun**

Although he's best known as the hard-driving, groove-oriented drummer for the pioneering rock group Living Colour, Will Calhoun has played in a staggering variety of styles and traditions over the course of his eclectic career. He traces the roots of those various inspirations to one man: legendary drummer Elvin Jones. Originally from the Bronx, Calhoun's unique blend of improvisational and hard rock drumming can be found on each of Living Colour's four releases for Epic Records. As a member of Living Colour, he received Grammy Awards for Best Hard Rock Performance by a group and Best Hard Rock Performance.

In addition to his work with Living Colour, Calhoun has recorded and/or toured with diverse artists including B.B. King, Mick Jagger, Jaco Pastorius, Harry Belafonte, Pharoah Sanders, Jack DeJohnette, Paul Simon, Lou Reed, the Allman Brothers, Lauryn Hill, Marcus Miller, Dr. John, Carly Simon, Herb Alpert, Rolling Stones guitarist Ron Wood, Wayne Shorter (on the Grammy-winning *High Life*) and recorded with rappers Run-DMC and Public Enemy.

Calhoun's first jazz release as a bandleader, *The Will Calhoun Quintet: Live at the Blue Note*, is an adventurous journey through his approach to acoustic jazz, world and ambient music. His follow-up release, *Native Lands*, is described as jazz meets world, meets trance-inducing urban music. It features contributions from Pharoah Sanders, Mos Def, Buster Williams, Stanley Jordan, Kevin Eubanks, Marcus Miller, Wallace Roney and more.

### **About Tiffany Austin**

Vocalist Tiffany Austin's tradition-rooted yet totally modern style has established her as one of the fastest rising jazz stars in Northern California. Before earning a law degree at UC Berkeley, she'd performed on three continents—around her native Los Angeles while attending college, then for a year in England, and eventually for five and a half years in Tokyo. However, instead of taking the bar exam, she decided to devote her life to her first love—music. Austin's voice draws upon influences such as Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald, Nina Simone and Aretha Franklin, yet she also infuses songs with her own signature style that is precise, intelligent and soulful. In fact, her arrangements vary from classic swing to contemporary R&B à la Robert Glasper or José James.

### **About *1959, The Year That Changed Jazz***

In 1959, four important jazz albums were released, each a watershed moment for the genre that reflects its time. With rare footage and plenty of interviews with musicians and critics, this documentary seeks to explore their achievements in social, political, and musical context, as well as to touch on the enduring influence they have had in the intervening years. The film examines four albums: Miles Davis' *Kind of Blue*, Dave Brubeck's *Time Out*, Charles Mingus' *Ah Um*, and Ornette Coleman's *The Shape of Jazz to Come*.



International Jazz Day, p4

### **About Howard Wiley & Extra Nappy**

Tenor saxophonist Howard Wiley has been a major force on the Bay Area music scene since his teenage years in the mid-90s. A protégé of the dynamic Miss Faye Carol, he's steeped in a vast array of African-American idioms, from gospel, blues and jazz to R&B, funk and hip-hop. All of these currents flow into Extra Nappy, a loose and limber quartet that delivers improvisation-laced arrangements of classic songs. Featuring Alameda-raised drummer Thomas Pridgen, who spent three years touring and recording with El Paso rockers The Mars Volta, pianist/organist Lionel "LJ" Holoman and bassist Michael "Tiny" Lindsey, Wiley's quartet plays next-level grooves with such a deep pocket it's not just nappy, it's Extra Nappy.

Extra Nappy's band members have earned their stripes playing alongside some of contemporary music's finest voices, among them Lauryn Hill, Sheila E, Christian McBride, Alicia Keys, Steely Dan, Boyz II Men, Nas, the Mars Volta and Thundercat.

### **About FutureArtsNow!**

FutureArtsNow! fills the void left by vanishing school arts and programming giving youth an opportunity to learn the mediums of art, dance, music and video production.

### **About International Jazz Day**

In 2011, UNESCO officially designated April 30 as International Jazz Day in order to highlight jazz and its role of uniting people in all corners of the globe. International Jazz Day is the culmination of Jazz Appreciation Month, which draws public attention to jazz and its extraordinary heritage throughout April. More information at [jazzday.com](http://jazzday.com).

### **About SJSU Jazz Orchestra**

Directed by Dr. Aaron Lington, the San José State University Jazz Orchestra provides students with an opportunity to perform traditional and contemporary repertoire from an array of composers spanning over 50 years of jazz history. Students are selected for this ensemble by audition only.

### **About San Jose Jazz**

Founded in 1986, San Jose Jazz is a public benefit corporation celebrating jazz as a dynamic, evolving art form and is producer of the annual San Jose Jazz Summer Fest and Winter Fest. With its singular music programming and innovative educational offerings, San Jose Jazz preserves the jazz tradition while actively supporting the next generation of performers within the genre and beyond. For more information, please visit [sanjosejazz.org](http://sanjosejazz.org).

Interviews and hi-res images are available upon request.

Media Contacts:

Jesse P. Cutler, JP Cutler Media, 510.338.0881, [jesse@jpcutlermedia.com](mailto:jesse@jpcutlermedia.com)

Marina Harrison, JP Cutler Media, 650.947.9296, [marina@jpcutlermedia.com](mailto:marina@jpcutlermedia.com)

###