

March 15, 2007

**10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF  
BETTY CARTER'S JAZZ AHEAD  
Kennedy Center Jazz Residency April 3-14, 2007**

**Young Jazz Artists Perform Free  
Millennium Stage Concerts April 11-13 at 6 p.m.**

***Vocalists:* Stephen McLean, Mavis Poole**

***Harpist/Vocalist:* Ritzpah Lowe**

***Guitarists:* Brian Betz, Jacob Hanlon, Luigi Masciari**

***Bassists:* Gregory Chaplin, Christian Dashiell, Lauren Falls, Nathan Goheen**

***Saxophonists:* Benjamin Britton, Dustin Drews, Grace Kelly, Alex Lopez**

***Trumpeters:* Bryson Barnes, Pablo Masis, Kevin Woods**

***Trombonists:* Shawn Bell, Eric Miller**

***Drummers:* Larry Draughn, Evan Howard, Bodek Janke, Martin Urbach**

***Pianists:* Justin Kauflin, Christopher Pattishall, Christian Sands, Gideon van Gelder**

**Residency Leaders: George Cables, Nathan Davis, Curtis Fuller,  
Winard Harper, Chip Jackson, Carmen Lundy**

Now in its 10th year, Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead—the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts national jazz residency program for emerging artists—includes a week of intense training in performance, composing, and arranging led by saxophonist Nathan Davis (residency director), bassist Chip Jackson, trombonist Curtis Fuller, drummer Winard Harper, pianist George Cables, and vocalist Carmen Lundy. The 2007 graduates will perform three free concerts on the Millennium Stage Wednesday, April 11, Thursday, April 12, and Friday, April 13 at 6 p.m. The three Kennedy Center performances, culminating events for the Jazz Ahead program, will be broadcast live on the Internet at <http://kennedy-center.org/millennium>. In cooperation with the City of Wilmington, Delaware, the ensemble will also perform a free concert Saturday, April 14 at 1 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew, 719 Shipley Street, Wilmington.

Dr. Billy Taylor, Artistic Advisor for Jazz to the Kennedy Center, invited the late, great jazz singer Betty Carter to bring her Jazz Ahead program to the Center in 1998. Twenty-eight young artists were selected for the tenth annual residency by audition application that considered both composition and performance skills. The panel of judges included jazz artists Nathan Davis, Carmen Lundy, Winard Harper, and Curtis Fuller. 2007's group of participants includes emerging musicians from the U.S., Canada, Italy, Poland, Bolivia, and the Netherlands.

## About Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead

Betty Carter founded Jazz Ahead as a vehicle to bring new life into jazz and teach the most promising fledgling artists what she knew. She originally developed the program in 1993 at 651, an arts center in Brooklyn, and the first concert was presented at the BAM Majestic Theater. In 1997, the Kennedy Center and Dr. Billy Taylor invited Carter to bring Jazz Ahead to Washington, D.C. On April 15, 1998, a delighted audience in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall heard the results of Carter's intense week of work with a group of 20 young jazz artists. Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead had a new home and Carter was filled with hope for the future of the program. After Carter's death in September 1998, Dr. Billy Taylor and the Kennedy Center decided to continue her legacy by making the Jazz Ahead program, with the principles Carter laid down as the foundation, an annual event. Betty Carter Jazz Ahead alumni include Cyrus Chestnut, Jason Moran, Jacky Terrasson, Aaron Parks, Lage Lund, Andre Hayward, Marco Panascia, Ameen Saleem, Miri Ben-Ari, Daniela Schaechter, and more.

For more information about the program, please visit <http://kennedy-center.org/jazzahead>.

**PERFORMANCES:** Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead at the Kennedy Center  
Millennium Stage, Wednesday, April 11, 2007, at 6 p.m.  
Millennium Stage, Thursday, April 12, 2007 at 6 p.m.  
Millennium Stage, Friday, April 13, 2007, at 6 p.m.

Betty Carter's Jazz Ahead in Wilmington, Delaware  
Saturday, April 14, 2007, at 1 p.m.

**ADMISSION:** FREE: No tickets are required.

### **PRESS ONLY, PLEASE CALL:**

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*Please do not publish contact information.*

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION:**

**(202) 467-4600; (800) 444-1324**

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The program's presentation in Delaware is made possible, in part, by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency committed to promoting and supporting the arts in Delaware.

**2007 Betty Carter Jazz Ahead Participant Information**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Hometown</b>	<b>Instrument</b>	<b>School</b>
Bryson Barnes	Saratoga Springs, NY	Trumpet	University of Miami Frost School of Music
Shawn Bell	Nappanee, IN	Trombone	Western Michigan University
Brian Betz	Toms River, NJ	Guitarist	Rowan University
Benjamin Britton	Odenton, MD	Saxophonist	Eastman School of Music
Gregory Chaplin	Hopedale, MA	Bassist	Milford High School
Christian Dashiell	Greenville, NC	Bassist	J.H. Rose High School
Larry Draughn	Greensboro, NC	Drummer	NC A&T State University
Dustin Drews	Houston, TX	Saxophonist	University of Northern Colorado
Lauren Falls	Toronto, Ontario	Bassist	Humber College
Nathan Goheen	Topeka, KS	Bassist	Manhattan School of Music
Jacob Hanlon	Dartmouth, Nova Scotia	Guitarist	University of North Texas
Evan Howard	St. Louis, MO	Drummer	Manhattan School of Music
Bodek Janke	Warsaw, Poland	Drummer	City College of New York
Justin Kauflin	Virginia Beach, VA	Pianist	William Patterson University
Grace Kelly	Brookline, MA	Saxophonist	Brookline High School
Alex Lopez	Stevens Point, WI	Saxophonist	University of Nevada Las Vegas
Rizpah Lowe	Detroit, MI	Harpist/Vocalist	Texas Women's University
Luigi Masciari	Portici, Italy	Guitarist	Licinio Refice Conservatory of Music
Pablo Masis	Appleton, WI	Trumpeter	University of New Orleans
Stephen McLean	Newark, NJ	Vocalist	Arts High School
Eric Miller	Huntington Station, NY	Trombone	Walt Whitman High School
Christopher Pattishall	Durham, NC	Pianist	Florida State University
Mavis Poole	Durham, NC	Vocalist	North Carolina Central University
Christian Sands	Orange, CT	Pianist	Amity Senior High School
Crystal Torres	Philadelphia, PA	Vocalist	William Patterson University
Martin Urbach	Santa Cruz, Bolivia	Drummer	Manhattan School of Music
Gideon van Gelder	Amsterdam, Netherlands	Pianist	Amsterdam Conservatory
Kevin Woods	Spokane, WA	Trumpeter	University of Colorado, Boulder