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Contact: Jessica Fagan, Director of Communications
Phone: 614.294.5200, x 110
Email: jfagan@jazzartsgroup.org
Electronic images available upon request.

CJO SWINGS IN THE SEASON WITH “HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS”

Classic Peanuts music to be featured as part of annual holiday show

Columbus, Ohio— The Columbus Jazz Orchestra’s 2006-07 *Swingin’ at the Southern* series continues November 29 – December 3 with *Home for the Holidays*, featuring guest artist Dave Powers, under the direction of Byron Stripling.

The Columbus Jazz Orchestra’s annual holiday-themed show swings and rings with the jazzy sounds of the season. This year, *Home for the Holidays* features the jazz classics written for “A Charlie Brown Christmas.” An undisputed part of the holiday soundtrack for generations of Americans, the tunes that accompanied the Peanuts gang in their search for the true meaning of Christmas came from jazz pianist Vince Guaraldi.

Though network executives predicted “A Charlie Brown Christmas” would flop, and couldn’t fathom pairing a jazz soundtrack with an animated special for children, the special became a huge critical and commercial success. The show an Emmy and a Peabody award and spawned sixteen more network specials, all of which featured the music of Guaraldi.

Guaraldi’s nostalgic tunes, with their deceptively simple melodies, engaging harmonies and infectious rhythms, will be performed by pianist Dave Powers. Powers is one of Columbus’ most active jazz musicians, whose vast repertoire and incredible skill on piano, keyboard and vocals has him performing most nights in some of Columbus’ finest restaurants and at countless private and corporate events.

Though the annual holiday show began only a few years ago, it has quickly become one of Columbus’ most popular holiday traditions. By changing the repertoire each year and mixing in new surprises, Byron Stripling and the CJO keep *Home for the Holidays* fresh, fun and entertaining for audiences who attend year after year.

The CJO’s Saturday evening performance of *Home for the Holidays* will be broadcast live on WOSU-FM, Classical 89.7.

The Columbus Youth Jazz Orchestra (CYJO) will perform at 1:00pm on Sunday, December 3, prior to the matinee performance of *Home for the Holidays*. The CYJO performance is free for all Sunday matinee ticket holders.

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Single tickets (\$30-48) for the November 29 – December 3 concerts are available for purchase online at jazzartsgroup.org or from the Jazz Arts Group ticket office, (614.294.5200, x 3). Student Rush \$10 tickets (valid college ID required) and Be-Bop Balcony \$5 tickets (ages 6-18) are available at the door.

Home for the Holidays is sponsored by Grange Insurance, with media support from The Columbus Dispatch, WCBE 90.5 FM, WOSU 89.7, Time Warner Cable and WBNS 10TV.

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The Columbus Jazz Orchestra (CJO) is the flagship ensemble of the Jazz Arts Group (JAG), America's oldest not-for-profit arts organization dedicated to producing, performing and promoting jazz. The CJO—which performs nearly 50 concerts each season—is considered one of the finest jazz orchestras in the world and consists of musicians who are nationally and internationally known as performers and educators.

The Jazz Arts Group receives ongoing support from the Ohio Arts Council, the Greater Columbus Arts Council, and The Columbus Foundation.