

Sept. 9, 2015

## MSUFCU Jazz Artist in Residence program swings into third year with expanded lineup

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**EAST LANSING, Mich.** – Stars will align for the third consecutive year as the MSU College of Music welcomes a brilliant array of jazz performers to teach, mentor, and perform from October through March through the MSUFCU Jazz Artist in Residence program.

Made possible by a \$1 million endowment from the MSU Federal Credit Union, the innovative residency program continues to attract high-level talent and serve as a model for jazz studies programs nationwide. The 2015-16 program features an expanded lineup that sizzles with legendary and critically acclaimed musicians from the jazz scene, including **Brian Lynch, Jimmy Cobb, Kenny Barron, and Tim Warfield, Jr.**

“The unparalleled gift from the MSU Federal Credit Union puts MSU on the map as a center of jazz education, innovation, and study,” says James Forger, dean of the MSU College of Music. “The Credit Union’s generosity and vision helps ensure that American Jazz will thrive and be a treasured, living art form for generations to come.”

Trumpeter Brian Lynch will be the first of four scheduled artists for residencies this academic year, and will be with MSU jazz studies from Oct. 5-11. Lynch is a vital force in hardcore, straight ahead, and Latin Jazz communities, as well as a respected teacher of jazz. While at MSU, Lynch will mentor College of Music students and perform for the public. **Lynch performs with MSU Jazz Orchestras I, II and III on Oct. 9, 8:00 p.m., at Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium.** He will also visit high schools, art academies, and community colleges statewide, accompanied by MSU Jazz Orchestra I, the College’s premier student jazz ensemble.

Following Lynch, Drummer **Jimmy Cobb**, Pianist **Kenny Barron**, and Saxophonist **Tim Warfield, Jr.** will roll into town to heat up the winter and spring through three separate, weeklong residencies. The star-studded lineup provides students and the community a rare opportunity to listen to and learn from legendary greats who have contributed to landmark recordings and been recognized as Jazz Masters by the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as from contemporary forces who are shaping the world of jazz.

“Every where I go and everyone I meet asks how we are doing what we’re doing,” says Director of Jazz Studies Rodney Whitaker. “The gift from the MSU Federal Credit Union makes it possible for us to bring in amazing talent and attract the best and the brightest students and faculty. It’s a gift that keeps on giving, and allows our program to model excellence.”

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## **MSU Jazz Artist in Residence expands third-year lineup (cont.)**

The MSUFCU Jazz Artist in Residence program represents the largest-ever investment in the College's curriculum and provides one-on-one instruction, collaboration, and performance opportunities with some of the world's best jazz musicians. In the first year of the program from 2013-14, the College welcomed guest artists Antonio Hart, saxophone; Jon Faddis, trumpet; and Jeff Hamilton, drums. In the second year, 2014-15, the College hosted an equally impressive lineup of Christian McBride, bass; Robin Eubanks, trombone; Peter Bernstein, guitar; and Michigan icons Vincent Bowens, saxophone; and Tim Froncek, drummer. The combined weeklong residencies of the eight artists included student workshops, concerts, events, and outreach to more than 13,500 students and adults in communities across Michigan.

“Arts and culture are key components of strong, vibrant communities where people want to live, work, and play,” says April Clobes, president and CEO of the MSUFCU. “This gift to the College of Music helps build that framework, and provides exceptional opportunities for students and our community to experience jazz—one of our nation's greatest artistic treasures.”

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## **MSU Jazz Artist in Residence expands third-year lineup (cont.)**

### **Artist Schedules**

#### **Jazz Artist in Residence: Brian Lynch**

##### **Residency Schedule Overview**

**Oct. 5 – 11, 2015**

Trumpeter Brian Lynch is a vital force and legend within the hardcore, straight ahead, and Latin Jazz communities. Lynch will visit and perform with MSU Jazz Orchestra I at schools, colleges, and arts academies in Byron Center, Ludington, and Detroit, Mich.

- Monday, Oct. 5, Press Day, MSUFCU Blue Monday
- Tuesday, Oct. 6, Rehearsals and Workshops at MSU
- Wednesday, Oct. 7, El-Shabazz Academy, Lansing Michigan
- Thursday, Oct. 8, Byron Center High School
- Friday, Oct. 9, MSU Fairchild Theatre
- Saturday, Oct. 10, West Shore Community College, Scottville
- Sunday, Oct. 11, Carr Center, Detroit

#### **Jazz Artist in Residence: Jimmy Cobb**

##### **Residency Schedule Overview**

**Nov. 30 – Dec. 6, 2015**

Legendary jazz drummer Jimmy Cobb is the elder statesman of all the Miles Davis bands. Cobb's inspirational work with Davis, John Coltrane, and Cannonball Adderley and Co. spanned from 1957 to 1963 and included the masterpiece "Kind of Blue." In 2009, Cobb was named a Jazz Master by the National Endowment for the Arts. He will visit, teach, and perform with MSU Jazz Orchestra I at schools, colleges, and arts academies in Kalamazoo, Ann Arbor, Traverse City, and Detroit, Mich.

- Monday, Nov. 30, Press Day, MSUFCU Blue Monday
- Tuesday, Dec. 1, Rehearsals and Workshops at MSU
- Wednesday, Dec. 2, Hackett Catholic Central High School, Kalamazoo; joined by Western Michigan University
- Thursday, Dec. 3, Ann Arbor Pioneer/ Huron High School/Southeastern Music Academy at Ann Arbor Pioneer
- Friday, Dec. 4, MSU Fairchild Theatre MSU
- Saturday, Dec. 5, Traverse City West High School, Traverse City
- Sunday, Dec. 6, Carr Center, Detroit

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## **MSU Jazz Artist in Residence expands third-year lineup (cont.)**

### **Jazz Artist in Residence: Kenny Barron**

#### **Residency Schedule Overview**

#### **Feb. 8-14, 2016**

Honored by The National Endowment for the Arts as a 2010 Jazz Master, Kenny Barron mesmerizes audiences with his elegant playing, sensitive melodies, and infectious rhythms. Barron will visit, teach, and perform with MSU Jazz Octets I and II at schools, colleges, churches, and arts academies in Oxford, East Lansing, Fowlerville, Hastings, and Detroit, Mich.

- Monday, Feb. 8, Press Day, MSUFCU Blue Monday
- Tuesday, Feb. 9, Rehearsals and Workshops at MSU
- Wednesday, Feb. 10, Oxford High School, Oxford
- Thursday, Feb. 11, East Lansing High School, Fowlerville High School
- Friday, Feb. 12, Williamston Middle School, MSU Fairchild Theatre
- Saturday, Feb. 13, First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, Hastings
- Sunday, Feb. 14, Carr Center, Detroit

### **Jazz Artist in Residence: Tim Warfield, Jr.**

#### **Residency Schedule Overview**

#### **Feb. 29-March 6, 2016**

Tim Warfield, Jr. began studying the saxophone at age 9 and placed third at the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Saxophone Competition in 1991. He has appeared on television and the stage, and played on several Grammy-nominated recordings. Warfield, Jr. will visit, teach, and perform with MSU Jazz Orchestra I at schools, colleges, and arts academies in Royal Oak, Spring Lake, Alma, and Detroit, Mich.

- Monday, Feb. 29, Press Day, MSUFCU Blue Monday
- Tuesday, March 1, Rehearsals and Workshops at MSU
- Wednesday, March 2, Royal Oak High School, Royal Oak
- Thursday, March 3, Spring Lake High School, Spring Lake
- Friday, March 4, MSU Fairchild Theatre
- Saturday, March 5, Alma High School, Alma
- Sunday, March 6, Carr Center Arts Academy, Detroit

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## MSU Jazz Artist in Residence expands third-year lineup (cont.)

### Artist Bios

#### Brian Lynch

Grammy Award-winning trumpeter Brian Lynch has emerged as a vital force and legend within the hardcore, straight ahead, and Latin Jazz communities through his long tenures with Afro-Caribbean pioneer Eddie Palmieri and bebop maestro Phil Woods. Lynch is an honored graduate of two of the world's most distinguished jazz academies: Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers and the Horace Silver Quintet. He has collaborated with jazz artists such as Benny Golson, Toshiko Akiyoshi, and Charles McPherson; Latin music icons Hector LaVoe and Lila Downs; and pop luminaries such as Prince. Lynch is professor of jazz trumpet at the Frost School of Music, University of Miami, and conducts clinics, residencies, and workshops worldwide. Lynch has released 19 critically acclaimed CDs, received multiple Grammy© nominations, and has received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, Chamber Music America, and Meet the Composer.

#### Jimmy Cobb

Legendary jazz drummer Jimmy Cobb, a superb, mostly self-taught musician, is the elder statesman of all the Miles Davis bands. Cobb's inspirational work with Davis, John Coltrane, and Cannonball Adderley and Co. spanned from 1957 to 1963, and included the masterpiece "Kind of Blue"—the most popular jazz recording in history. He also played on "Sketches of Spain," "Someday My Prince will Come," "Live at Carnegie Hall," "Live at the Blackhawk," "Porgy and Bess," and many other watershed Miles Davis recordings. Cobb has worked extensively with a range of artists including Dinah Washington, Pearl Bailey, Clark Terry, Cannonball Adderley, Dizzy Gillespie, John Coltrane, Sarah Vaughan, and Billie Holiday. In 2008, Cobb received the Don Redman Heritage Award and received the National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters award in 2009.

#### Kenny Barron

Honored by The National Endowment for the Arts as a 2010 Jazz Master, Kenny Barron mesmerizes audiences with his elegant playing, sensitive melodies, and infectious rhythms. *The Los Angeles Times* named him "one of the top jazz pianists in the world" and *Jazz Weekly* calls him "The most lyrical piano player of our time." Barron is recognized the world over as a master of performance and composition and consistently wins the jazz critics and readers polls, including *Downbeat*, *Jazz Times* and *Jazziz* magazines. His many honors include a Lifetime Achievement Award from Spanish ceramist Lladro in 2012, honorary doctorates from his alma mater SUNY Empire State in 2013 and Berklee College of Music in 2011, and the Living Legacy Award from Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation in 2009. He was inducted into the American Jazz Hall of Fame and won a MAC Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005. Barron is a six-time recipient of Best Pianist by the Jazz Journalists Association.

#### Tim Warfield, Jr.

Tim Warfield, Jr. began studying the saxophone at age 9 and placed third at the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Saxophone Competition in 1991. He has appeared on television and stage, including the Today Show and Ted Turner's Trumpet Awards, and with such notables as Donald Byrd, Michelle Rosewoman, Marcus Miller, Marlon Jordan, James Williams, Christian McBride, Winard Harper, Dizzy Gillespie, Johnny Coles, Leslie Burrs, Isaac Hayes, Peter Nero, Shirley Scott, Jimmy Smith, and Kenny Barron. Warfield, Jr. has played on several Grammy-nominated recordings. His latest release, "Spherical: Dedicated to Thelonious Sphere Monk," came out in March 2015 on the Criss Cross label. A native of York, Pennsylvania, Warfield, Jr. serves as artist-in-residence at Messiah College, and as adjunct music faculty member at Temple University in Philadelphia. He recently joined the Jazz Orchestra of Philadelphia under the direction of Terrell Stafford.

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