

**PRESS RELEASE
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**OKLAHOMA JAZZ HALL OF FAME ANNOUNCES INDUCTEES FOR
OCTOBER 22 INDUCTION BANQUET GALA**

***Jazz Hall also celebrates 20th Year Anniversary and One-Year Anniversary in
The new Jazz Hall of Fame – “The Jazz Depot”***

Chuck Cissel, Chief Executive Officer of the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame, announced today the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame's induction ceremony that will take place for a special black-tie celebration to be held at the new Jazz Depot on Wednesday evening, October 22, 2008.

Board Chairman, Steve Alter, acknowledged, “We are pleased to announce our Honorary Chairpersons for this year’s anniversary Gala are the founder of the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame Senator Maxine Horner and CEO and entertainer, Chuck Cissel. It is quite appropriate for Senator Horner to serve in this capacity, given her all-out support of the Jazz Hall from its inception to this very day. “The Jazz Hall of Fame is her vision for honoring Oklahoma greats in the jazz, blues and gospel art forms,” says Jazz Hall board member Mac Finlayson. “Chuck Cissel came to the Jazz Hall in 2000 from New York City, and has worked diligently to raise the Jazz Hall’s profile over the past eight years, not only in Tulsa and throughout the state of Oklahoma, but nationally and internationally. Cissel also became a player in the Vision 2025 Project and led the charge to secure the Jazz Hall’s new home in Tulsa’s Old Union Depot Train Station. Both are committed to the Jazz Hall becoming an international destination for visitors around the world and for Oklahomans to learn of Oklahoma’s rich jazz, blues and gospel history, says Alter. The Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame Honorary Co-Chairs for 2008 are Mr. and Mrs. Doug Collins of Collins Associates. The Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame Board Co-Chairs are Steve Alter, Chairman of the Board, and Attorney Mac Finlayson, Preservation Committee Chair.

The Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame's 20th Annual Induction Banquet Gala will be held on Wednesday evening, October 22 in the Great Performance Hall of the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame. The black-tie fundraiser begins at 6:00 PM with a reception; 7:00 PM dinner and 8:00 PM Awards Ceremony and entertainment. Music for the Gala will be provided by Tulsa's own Jazz inductee, Donald Ryan and his trio (Arthur Thompson on drums, Tracy Kouns on bass), with special musical guests, fiddlers Jana Jae, Rick Morton, Shelby Eicher, Chuck Cissel and the Salsa Rhythm Project. Honorees Pam Van Dyke Crosby, Ray D. Rowe and Annie Ellicott will also perform. One can purchase tickets by calling the Jazz Hall at 918.596.1001. *The Joint will truly be Jumpin'!*

According to Cissel, “This star-studded night of music and glamour is a highlight of the year for the Jazz Hall, and for many in the community, this event is the most entertaining of the year. For 2008, the Jazz Hall will honor the illustrious Latin Jazz and Salsa icon, **EDDIE PALMIERI**, pianist, recording artist, writer/composer, bandleader and statesman. Mr. Palmieri is *the* distinguished international ambassador of the Latin jazz community and a 9-time Grammy Award Winner. He will receive the Jay McShann Lifetime Achievement Award for 2008, for his astounding career in the arts, and his outstanding musical contributions to Salsa and Latin Jazz in America and around the world. Last year’s recipient was jazz icon Dr. Billy Taylor.

Also to be honored is legendary jazz artist, **SLIDE HAMPTON**, an American jazz trombonist, composer and arranger. He was a 1998 Grammy Award winner for “Best Jazz Arrangement Accompanying Vocalist(s),” as arranger for “Cotton Tail” performed by jazz vocalist, Dee Dee Bridgewater. In 2005, the National Endowment for the Arts honored Slide Hampton with its highest honor in jazz, the NEA Jazz Masters Award. A masterly arranger and gifted trombone player, Hampton's career is among the most distinguished in jazz.

Cissel says, “We are so blessed to honor the genius of both *Eddie Palmieri and Slide Hampton*, and it is especially significant since we have the opportunity to celebrate our 20th anniversary with these jazz masters. These legendary artists will receive our highest honors.”

The Oklahoma Jazz Hall Of Fame will also pay tribute to the 2008 Jazz Inductee, **Bill Maxwell** who was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, but now resides in Los Angeles, Ca. Bill started playing drums professionally at the age of twelve. One of his first bands was with legendary blues guitarist and Oklahoma Jazz Hall inductee, Jesse Ed. Davis. Bill was a member of "The Third Avenue Blues Band" whose album was produced by T Bone Burnett in 1969. Bill moved to Los Angeles in 1972 as a member of Andrae' Crouch and the Disciples. He has produced 8 Grammy winning recordings for The Winans, Andrae' Crouch and others. Maxwell also formed the jazz group "Koinonia" with his dear friend Abraham Laboriel. Bill was the music director for the television shows, "The Jamie Foxx Show", "Martin", "Living Single", "For Your Love" "Amen", and many more. Bill has recorded with Cassandra Wilson, T Bone Burnett, Ray Charles, Billy Preston, Quincy Jones, The Crusaders, The Nappy Roots, Freddie Hubbard, Anita Baker, Luther Vandross and many more. Bill worked as a music producer and musician with the Coen brothers on their films "The Ladykillers" and "Romance and Cigarettes", and worked as a featured musician on the film "Walk The Line". Bill is thrilled to be a member of the new group "Open Hands" with Abraham Laboriel, Justo Almario and Greg Mathieson.

Also on tap is one of Tulsa's great blues singers, **Ray D. Rowe**, who will be honored as the Blues Inductee for 2008. Mr. Rowe was an original member of the GAP Band and has grown into one of Oklahoma's top blues vocalists. SPOT Music Award-nominee and one of Tulsa's top jazz vocalists, **Annie Ellicott** will receive the Legacy Tribute Award for 2008, while jazz vocalist and Tulsa Jazz Society president, **Pam Van Dyke Crosby**, will receive the first ever Director's Award for her outstanding contributions to the jazz scene in Tulsa. **Glenda Love**, executive director of the Ronald McDonald House will be honored with the Maxine Cissel-Horner Spirit of Community Excellence Award.

Special thanks to the corporate sponsors of the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame: Oklahoma Arts Council, National Endowment for the Arts, Clear Channel Broadcasting, Fox 23 News, SpiritBank, TulsaPeople Magazine, Osage Casino, Williams, American Airlines, Greater Tulsa Reporter Newspaper, Oklahoma Eagle Publishing Co., Oil Capitol Limousine, ONEOK, Inc., Performance Stage, Preview Magazine, Stem's Flowers, Upper Crust Catering, VIP Limousine, Maxine & Jack Zarrow Family Foundation, Anne and Henry Zarrow Family Foundation, Tulsa Technology Center, The Carson Foundation, Sharna and Irvin Frank Foundation, The Oxley Foundation, The Hille Family Charitable Foundation, The Grace and Franklin Bernsen Foundation, The Charles & Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, The Kerr Foundation, Inc., Ruth Kaiser Nelson Foundation, the Ronald McDonald House Charities, Inc., and The Raymond and Besse Kravis Foundation. The Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame is a statewide 501 (c) 3 organization dedicated to inspiring creativity and improving the quality of life for all Oklahomans through preservation, education, and performance of jazz - our uniquely American art form.

Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame Inductees 2008

EDDIE PALMIERI

Jay McShann Lifetime Achievement Award

Born in Spanish Harlem in 1936, Palmieri began piano studies at an early age, as did his celebrated older brother, the late salsa legend and pianist Charlie Palmieri. For Latin New Yorkers of Eddie's generation, music was a vehicle out of the barrio. At age 11, he made his classical debut at Carnegie Hall, a venue as far from the Bronx as he could imagine. Possessed by a desire to play the drums, Palmieri joined his uncle's orchestra at age 13, where he played the timbales. Says Palmieri, "By 15, it was good-bye timbales' and back to the piano until this day. I'm a frustrated percussionist, so I take it out on the piano."

Eddie Palmieri's musical career spans 50 years as a bandleader of Salsa and Latin jazz orchestras. His discography includes more than 30 titles. He has been awarded nine Grammy Awards, including the first presentation in the Best Latin Album category for his 1975 release *The Sun of Latin Music* and the following year for *Unfinished Masterpiece. Palo Pa' Rumba* won in 1984, *Solito* in 1985 and *La Verdad* in 1987. He was awarded the Eubie Blake Award by Dr. Billy Taylor in 1991 and he is among the few Latin musicians recognized by the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico and the New York State Assembly. In 1988, the Smithsonian Institution recorded two of Palmieri's performances for their catalog of the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C., a rare public honor.

He began his professional career as a pianist in the early '50s with Eddie Forrester's Orchestra. In 1955 he joined Johnny Segui's band. He spent a year with the Tito Rodriguez Orchestra before forming his own band, the legendary "Conjunto La Perfecta," in 1961. La Perfecta featured a trombone section (led by the late Barry Rogers) in place of trumpets, something that had been rarely done in Latin music, and which demonstrated the early stages of Palmieri's unconventional means of orchestration. They were known as "the band with the crazy roaring elephants" for the configuration of two trombones, flute, percussion, bass and vocalist. With an infectious and soaring sound, Palmieri's band soon joined the ranks of Machito, Tito Rodriguez, and the other major Latin orchestras of the day.

The 1998 Heineken Jazz Festival in San Juan, PR, paid tribute to his contributions as a bandleader, bestowing him an honorary doctorate degree from the Berklee College of Music. As a member of the New York chapter of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, he was instrumental in creating a new category for Latin Jazz in 1995. His 1994 album, *Palmas*, was among the nominees for the first award presented in that category in March 1995. In 1996, he was once again nominated for his album *Arete*.

Palmieri's influences include not only his older brother Charlie but Jesus Lopez, Chapotin, Lili Martinez and other Cuban players of the 1940s; and jazz luminaries Art Tatum, Bobby Timmons, Bill Evans, Horace Silver, Bud Powell, McCoy Tyner, Herbie Hancock and Miles Davis. Equally important were influences derived from Palmieri's curiosity and incessant search to unearth his family's roots and seek out the origins of the music that profoundly inspired him. Says Palmieri, "In Cuba, there was a development and crystallization of rhythmical patterns that have excited people for years. Cuban music provides the fundamental from which I never move. Whatever has to be built must be built from there. It's that cross-cultural effect that makes magnificent music." His solid interpretation of Afro-Caribbean music and its confluence with jazz is evident in Eddie Palmieri's astute arranging skills, which assemble those components in dramatic and compelling compositions. Congratulations to Eddie Palmieri – the Lifetime Achievement recipient for 2008.

SLIDE HAMPTON

Living Legend

Slide Hampton's distinguished career spans decades in the evolution of jazz. Born: April 21, 1932. At the age of 12 he was already touring the Midwest with the Indianapolis-based Hampton Band, led by his father and comprising other members of his musical family. By 1952, at the age of 20, he was performing at Carnegie Hall with the Lionel Hampton Band. He then joined Maynard Ferguson's band, playing trombone and providing exciting charts on such popular tunes as "The Fugue," "Three Little Foxes," and "Slide's Derangement."

As his reputation grew, he soon began working with bands led by Art Blakey, Dizzy Gillespie, Barry Harris, Thad Jones, Mel Lewis, and Max Roach, again contributing both original compositions and arrangements. In 1962, he formed the Slide Hampton Octet, which included stellar horn players Booker Little, Freddie Hubbard, and George Coleman. The band toured the U.S. and Europe and recorded on several labels.

From 1964 to 1967, he served as music director for various orchestras and artists. Then, following a 1968 tour with Woody Herman, he elected to stay in Europe, performing with other expatriates such as Benny Bailey, Kenny Clarke, Kenny Drew, Art Farmer, and Dexter Gordon. Upon returning to the U.S. in 1977, he began a series of master classes at Harvard, the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, De Paul University in Chicago, and Indiana University. During this period he formed the illustrious World of Trombones: an ensemble of nine trombones and a rhythm section.

Slide Hampton's countless collaborations with the most prominent musicians of jazz were acknowledged by the 1998 Grammy Award for Best Jazz Arrangement with a Vocalist.

The 1990's were spent doing an enormous volume of work. He continued to develop the Slide Hampton Quartet and Quintet, toured the world with the Dizzy Gillespie Alumni All-Stars, was a special advisor and arranger for the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band and arranged numerous recording projects around the world.

2006 saw the debut of Slide's own Big Band..."*Slide Hampton: Ultra Big Band.*" Slide's arranging talents were acknowledged again when he received the 2005 Grammy Award for Best Instrumental Arrangement. A charismatic figure, master arranger, and formidable trombonist, Slide Hampton holds a place of distinction in the jazz tradition. Mr. Hampton was named a NEA Jazz Master in 2005. Congratulations to Slide Hampton – our Living Legend recipient for 2008.

BILL MAXWELL

Jazz Inductee

Bill Maxwell who was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, but now lives in Los Angeles, Ca. Bill started playing drums professionally at the age of twelve. One of his first bands was with legendary blues guitarist Jesse Ed. Davis. Bill was a member of "The Third Avenue Blues Band" whose album was produced by T Bone Burnett in 1969. Bill moved to Los Angeles in 1972 as a member of Andrae' Crouch and the Disciples. He has produced 8 Grammy winning recordings for The Winans, Andrae' Crouch and others. Maxwell also formed the jazz group "Koinonia" with his dear friend Abraham Laboriel. Bill was the music director for the television shows, "The Jamie Foxx Show", "Martin", "Living Single", "For Your Love" "Amen", and many more. Bill has recorded with Cassandra Wilson, T Bone Burnett, Ray Charles, Billy Preston, Quincy Jones, The Crusaders, The Nappy Roots, Freddie Hubbard, Anita Baker, Luther Vandross and many more. Bill worked as a music producer and musician with the Coen brothers on their films "The Ladykillers" and "Romance and Cigarettes", and worked as a featured musician on the film "Walk The Line". Bill is thrilled to be a member of the new group "Open Hands" with Abraham Laboriel, Justo Almario and Greg Mathieson. Congratulations to Bill Maxwell as our Jazz Inductee fort 2008.

RAY D. ROWE

Blues Inductee

Born in Haskell, Oklahoma Feb. 8, 1936 and Ray Rowe moved to Tulsa at the age of nine years old. While in high school at Booker T. Washington, Ray began singing and wanted to be involved in the Hi-Jenks program. His group, The Robins, made their debut the following year singing the songs of the day and he also learned to play the guitar. His early influences were B. B. King, T-bone Walker, Guitar Slim – you progressed onto jazz and gospel and with the likes of Lou Rawls, Al Green, Wilson Picket and his main man, Bobby Womack and Sam Cooke. He was the member of the Highlight Gospel Singers, still singing with them today. At the same time, he began singing with Creative Sounds, in 1970, which later began the GAP Band, and was booked by Oklahoma Jazz Hall Inductee, Ernie Fields, Sr. The GAP Band became Oklahoma celebrities and was discovered by Buddy Jones, Leon Russell's business manager. The rest is musical history. After the GAP Band, Rowe put his own band together called New Experience with musicians who were the cream of the crop. He also worked with the Flash Terry Band who helped to promote Ray's record, Ooh Baby Baby. Also, Ray got involved with Sky High Band and formed what was to become one of his favorite bands. He then combined musical forces with Rudy Scott, Odell Stokes, Boo Williams and Stewart Neimi. Ray went onto create the Down Home Blues Band and still active today performing around the state. Ray was one of the first performers on the newly formed SPOT-Awards in 2000 and later was nominated for Best Blues Act 2006. He has performed at the Million Dollar Elm Casino in Tulsa and Sand Spring. He has also been a musical fixture for the Juneteenth Music Festival and the Greenwood Jazz and Blues Festival. Ray D. Rowe still performs in clubs and for special events. Congratulations to Ray D. Rowe as our Blue Inductee for 2008.

ANNIE ELLICOTT

Legacy Tribute Award 2008

Awarded each year to one of Oklahoma's top young jazz artists, the Legacy Tribute Award for 2008 will be presented to Ms. Annie Ellicott. Over the past several years, Annie has become one of Tulsa's top jazz vocalists and most sought-after artists. Ms. Ellicott performs at special events, nightclubs and in concerts with her own trio, consisting of her dad, Rod Ellicott on bass, Frank Brown on guitar and Wade Robertson on drums. In the past, young jazz ensembles such as Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey, Grady Nichols, Harmonious Monk and Wayman Tisdale have been previous recipients of this award. Congratulations to Annie Ellicott as our Legacy Tribute Award recipient for 2008.

PAM VAN DYKE CROSBY

Director's Award

Ms. Crosby is the president of the Tulsa Jazz Society and has been instrumental in keeping jazz alive in Tulsa for many years, while also keeping a very busy performance schedule. She consistently performs in concerts, special events and nightclubs throughout the Tulsa area, and is a co-host, along with Leon Rollerson for the 107.9FM radio program. This year marks the first time the Director's Award has been given and deservedly so to Pam Van Dyke Crosby. Congratulations to Pam Van Dyke Crosby as our new Director's Award recipient for 2008.

Glenda Love – Ronald McDonald House

Maxine Cissel Horner Spirit of Community Excellence Award

Ms. Love is the executive director of the Ronald McDonald house in Tulsa, Oklahoma and has served in this capacity for the past 17 years. The Tulsa Ronald McDonald House is truly a community effort. This outstanding charity operates with 257 programs in 28 countries. There are also 96 Ronald McDonald Family room programs in 10 countries. Because of her significant contributions through this community-based organization, the Jazz Hall honors Ms. Glenda Love with our Community Excellence Award for 2008. Ms. Love also serves on the board of trustees of OSU Tulsa and the McDonald Corporation Global Advisory Council. She is a member of the Church of The Living God and is a strong advocate for community projects as well as for cultural enrichment for the community of Tulsa. Congratulations to Glenda Love as our Spirit of Community Excellence Award recipient for 2008.

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