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Public Relations Office

NATIONALLY RENOWNED JAZZ ARTISTS TO PERFORM IN DOWNTOWN GLENDALE APRIL 17-18

GLENDALE, Ariz. – Glendale’s Office of Special Events is pleased to announce the jazz headliners for the 27th annual Jazz & Blues Festival, scheduled for April 17-18 in downtown Glendale’s Murphy Park.

Headlining the jazz stage on Saturday is the Larry Coryell Trio. World-renowned guitar master Larry Coryell has recorded more than 75 albums over the past 40 years as a bandleader, soloist and 'featured accompanist'. To his fans, he is known as one of "the guitar gods" going back to the late 1970s and heralded as "a true pioneer of rock-jazz fusion" by The New York Times, and "the Godfather of Fusion" by Down Beat Magazine.

Over the last 30 years, Coryell's live concert performances have run the gamut from small clubs to large concert venues. He is a regular headliner at the Blue Note and Iridium in New York City, Catalina's in Los Angeles, Blues Alley in Washington, D.C. and Ronnie Scott’s in London. Coryell also has performed at huge open-air music festivals in the Far East, Europe and Brazil.

Sunday’s jazz headliner will be the Gabriel Alegria Afro-Peruvian Sextet, performing a form of World Jazz with a distinctive approach to the jazz trumpet combined with the rich heritage of Afro-Peruvian music. The band is described by The LA Times as “a fascinating glimpse into how jazz is fusing with regional music around the world.”

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Jazz & Blues

Add 1.1.1

The band is led by trumpeter Gabriel Alegria, an Afro-Peruvian jazz artist, composer and educator and one of the most influential figures on the current jazz scene in Peru. Alegria combines his experience in playing jazz as it developed in the U.S. with a passionate interest and careful study of the black music of coastal Peru. In all of Alegria's work, a cross-cultural exchange between the Americas is always present, carefully defining Afro-Peruvian jazz music as the newest voice to come from Latin America.

Alegria's most recent recording, "Nueva Mundo," soared to the top of both Jazz Week world music charts and CMJ's jazz charts in 2008. The band's six members include Freddy "Huevito" Lobatonm, a master percussionist and zapateo dancer and John Benitez, one of the most in-demand bassist in North America and winner of five Grammy awards.

The Glendale Jazz & Blues Festival will include great music as well as craft artisans, and delicious food and beverages, including wine tasting by Kokopelli Winery. The event will run Saturday, April 17 from noon to 10 p.m. and Sunday, April 18 from noon – 6 p.m. Admission and parking are free. Parking is located throughout the downtown area, including handicapped parking. Historic Downtown Glendale is located at 58th and Glendale avenues.

Sponsors for the event include KTVK Channel 3, Arizona Republic, KOOL, KMLE, JAMZ, Kokopelli Winery, Sedona Pines, Pacific Monarch Resorts, Snapple, Glendale Residence Inn and Glendale Springhill Suites.

The Glendale Jazz & Blues Festival is produced by Glendale's Office of Special Events. For more information, call the city of Glendale special event hotline at 623-930-2299. www.glendaleaz.com/events.

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