



Media Contact:
Molly Klimas
616-443-4647
klimas@intentpr.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GRandJazzFest announces 2013 dates, expands to two days

DTE Energy Foundation returns for second year as presenting sponsor; City of Grand Rapids to also sponsor GRandJazzFest's second annual event

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. – JAN. 29, 2013 – GRandJazzFest presented by DTE Energy Foundation expands to two days in 2013 – Saturday, Aug. 17, and Sunday, Aug. 18, offering 10 diverse jazz bands and performers, all for free to the concert-going public.

As in 2012 for the inaugural GRandJazzFest, the second annual festival will be held at Rosa Parks Circle in downtown Grand Rapids. Festival organizers will announce the lineup of acts in the coming months. Last year's six bands and performers were all Michigan-local. This year's lineup will feature Michigan and nationally known jazz performers and include a national headline act.

Festival Founder Audrey Sundstrom said diversity of the lineup is key: "Jazz has so many sub-genres – Latin, straight-up, contemporary and big band, to name a few – we'll celebrate this incredibly diverse American music art form during a very festive weekend this summer!"

DTE Energy Foundation will again be presenting sponsor. "It's great to support another weekend of free cultural activities that make downtown Grand Rapids the place to be," said the foundation's Roger Royer.

On Jan. 23, Grand Rapids city commissioners approved GRandJazzFest as one of 24 events it will co-sponsor in 2013, a distinction only given to events that have proven to be successful and enrich the community.

"[GRandJazzFest 2012] brought large numbers of people downtown and contributed to the vibrancy and culture of the city," Grand Rapids Office of Special Events Director Todd Tofferi said.

More than 4,000 people attended GRandJazzFest's 2012 event.

In addition to DTE Energy Foundation and the City of Grand Rapids, sponsors and collaborators for the 2013 event to date include the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Gilmore Collection, GR and Jazz, Ellis Parking, Fifth Third Bank, Hilger Hammond, IntentPR, Meijer, Mike July Web Design and San Chez Bistro and Café.

2526 Summit Ridge Drive NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505
Website: grandjazzfest.org Email: grandjazzfest@gmail.com Phone: 616-617-7720



"We are so grateful to DTE Energy Foundation, the City of Grand Rapids and all of our sponsors for their support!" Sundstrom said. "We're seeking additional sponsors from last year, and new sponsors, to bring a full weekend of free jazz performances to West Michigan!"

People can get a taste of what the 2012 jazz festival was like by viewing the "recap" video on YouTube: <http://youtu.be/BxHNw14uFQ>

More information on GRandJazzFest – including the upcoming schedule and sponsorship/volunteer opportunities – can be found at www.grandjazzfest.org, and at the festival's Facebook and Twitter sites – www.facebook.com/grandjazzfest and www.twitter.com/grandjazzfest.

###

About GRandJazzFest

GRandJazzFest presented by DTE Energy Foundation is a community event of the nonprofit organization "GR and Jazz" founded in 2012, with the purpose of promoting and bringing awareness of jazz and related arts to new and diverse audiences through educational programs and community events. GRandJazzFest 2013 is a FREE weekend-long event that runs Saturday, Aug. 17, from noon until 10 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 18, from noon p.m. to 7 p.m., featuring jazz artists who are primarily Michigan-based. GRandJazzFest brings together notable jazz performers as well as highlights up-and-coming artists for diverse audiences. GRandJazzFest is being held at Rosa Parks Circle, a central location in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids, where attendees can enjoy music, support local businesses and visit other Grand Rapids attractions. The festival is FREE. More information at www.grandjazzfest.org.