



Saturday, August 18, 2012  
Rosa Parks Circle, Grand Rapids, Michigan

## Fact Sheet – updated April 10, 2012

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<b>Official Website:</b> <a href="http://www.grandjazzfest.org">www.grandjazzfest.org</a>	<b>Facebook:</b> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/grandjazzfest">www.facebook.com/grandjazzfest</a>	<b>Twitter:</b> <a href="http://www.twitter.com/grandjazzfest">www.twitter.com/grandjazzfest</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/grandjazzfest">@grandjazzfest</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/grandjazzfest">#grandjazzfest</a>

### DETAILS:

**What:**

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**Where:**

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**When:**

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**Who:**

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**Why:**

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**Cost:**

Free!



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**How/why:**

As a jazz enthusiasts, Audrey Sundstrom and her husband Greg Sundstrom and their friends have attended many jazz concerts and festivals, including a free festival every year in southeast Michigan. Audrey is bringing her vision of a free, major jazz festival to Grand Rapids and West Michigan.

**Who's involved with GRandJazzFest:**

- Audrey Sundstrom is the founder/chair of GRandJazzFest.
- GRandJazzFest is a community event of the nonprofit organization "GR and Jazz."
- The nonprofit organization is comprised of Audrey Sundstrom and other jazz enthusiasts.
- The committee putting on the inaugural festival is comprised of community members and professionals who have an interest in a jazz festival in Grand Rapids.
- GRandJazzFest has collaborated with the West Michigan Jazz Society (WMJS), which is the 501(c)3 fiduciary organization for the festival.

**Sponsorship opportunities:**

GRandJazzFest will provide an opportunity to share and showcase an organization's brand among diverse audiences at a free, fresh and entertaining event. The association with GRandJazzFest will complement an organization's image and resonate positively with the organization's key publics. Please contact Audrey Sundstrom at 616-617-7720 for more information about how to become a sponsor.

**Volunteer opportunities:**

Please visit [grandjazzfest.org](http://grandjazzfest.org) for volunteer information, or send an email to [grandjazzfest@gmail.com](mailto:grandjazzfest@gmail.com).

**QUESTIONS/ANSWERS:**

**Is this the only festival of its kind in Grand Rapids? West Michigan?**

This is the only free full-day festival devoted exclusively to jazz in Grand Rapids or the West Michigan area.

**Who's funding GRandJazzFest?**

GRandJazzFest is funded by sponsorships and personal and corporate donations. WMJS, the fiduciary for the festival, is a 501(c)3 and donations are tax deductible. On March 14, the **Downtown Development Authority** approved \$10,000 of seed money for GRandJazzFest. **DTE Energy Foundation** was announced as the presenting sponsor on April 10, 2012. All sponsors and in-kind contributors are listed here:

<http://grandjazzfest.org/sponsors/current-sponsors/>

**What kind of jazz?**



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The lineup will include big band, Latin, straight-up and contemporary jazz. The mission of GRandJazzFest is to provide a diverse range of music.

**How many acts?**

The lineup will feature six jazz artists/groups.

**Who are the acts?**

Announced as of April 10, 2012:

- Headliner: **Tim Bowman** (guitarist) – official website: <http://www.buckheadeaston.com/timbowman/>
- **Phil Denny** (saxophonist) – official website: <http://philonsax.com/>
- **Walt Gutowski & The Bridge Street Band** – YouTube videos: <http://www.youtube.com/user/BridgeStreetBand>

As each artist/group becomes official, the [www.grandjazzfest.org](http://www.grandjazzfest.org) website will be updated.

**Is there a special focus?**

The focus for the inaugural year is Michigan-local. All artists are Michigan-based and all service providers are local to the Grand Rapids area. The objective is to allow the audience to experience various jazz forms and enlarge their understanding of jazz.

**Will the musicians be from Michigan?**

Yes.

**Who is GRandJazzFest for?**

GRandJazzFest is for anyone who enjoys music. As jazz has a diverse range, so too does the audience. The festival planners expect an audience of diverse ages, races and cultural backgrounds.

**Is there a cost to get in?**

GRandJazzFest is a free event. It is available for all to come and enjoy live professional musical entertainment.

**Will alcohol be available for purchase?**

Alcohol will not be available at Rosa Parks Circle. Part of the festival's mission is to encourage patronage of local businesses; there are many bars and restaurants very close to Rosa Parks Circle for attendees to enjoy.

**How will the festival help the local economy?**

The festival will help the local economy by using local service providers, encouraging the audience to stop at area businesses, restaurants, bars and museums during set changes, and by bringing in residents from other cities and states to Grand Rapids.