Order tickets now for 2010 Jazz Fest

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Summary: Performances include guest artists Adam Rapa on trumpet, Mike Tucker on saxophone, Bill Carrothers on piano, and Jeff Rinear on trombone.

(February 9, 2010)-During its 50th anniversary year, the University of Minnesota, Morris will celebrate its legacy of great jazz during the 2010 Celebration Jazz Fest. Ticket order forms for the 32nd annual event scheduled for April 8–10, 2010, are now available at the Student Center Information Desk or in the Office of Student Activities. You may also request order forms be sent to you by calling 320-589-6080 or e-mailing. Orders will be filled in random order on Friday, February 26, 2010. If available, remaining tickets for the annually sold-out event will go on sale on Monday, March 1, 2010.

In addition to three days of clinics for more than 900 visiting high school jazz musicians, the 2010 Jazz Fest features evening performances that include UMM jazz combos, the West Central All Stars, the UMM Alumni Jazz Band, and guest artists Adam Rapa on trumpet, Jeff Rinear on trombone, Mike Tucker on saxophone, and Bill Carrothers on piano.

Adam Rapa on trumpet
Rapa is a dynamic performer, composer and educator who has become widely known for the excitement, energy and enthusiasm he brings to stages and classrooms around the world. He has shared the stage or recorded with Grammy Award winners Nicholas Payton and Roy Hargrove, Christian McBride, Doc Severinsen, Mnozil Brass, Soulive, The New Life Jazz Orchestra, Wycliffe Gordon, Eric Reed, Jason Moran, Robert Glasper, Cyrus Chestnut and Academy Award winning composer A.R. Rahman. Since 2001, he has been starring in the Tony and Emmy Award winning Broadway show, Blast!, and several other productions by the same company, performing across North America, Japan and the United Kingdom.

Mike Tucker on saxophone
Tucker has performed at jazz festivals around the world including the Phoenix Jazz Festival in Nagoya, Japan, The Nancy Jazz Festival in Lorraine, France, The Emerging Artists of the 21st Century Concert Series in San Jose, Costa Rica, and at the Kennedy Center, and the JVC Jazz Festival. Tucker has appeared on nationally syndicated jazz radio shows, including Toast of the Nation, Voice of America, and XM Satellite Radio Jazz and Beyond. He performed with George Garzone, Joe Lovano, Melvin Sparks, The Motet, George Duke and Christian Scott. In addition to leading his own quartet, Tucker is a member of the Esperanza Spaulding Quintet, The New Life Jazz Orchestra, The Toni Lynn Washington Band and the Alex Terrier Group. Recently, he has toured with Blue Note Recording artist Robin McKelle group.

Bill Carrothers on piano
Carrothers, a professional jazz pianist for more than 25 years, has played venues throughout the United States and Europe including the Village Gate, Knitting Factory, Birdland, Blues Alley, New Morning, the Audi Jazz Festival in Brussels, the Nevers Jazz Festival, the Montreal Jazz Festival, Jazz Middelheim and the Marcjac Festival in France. He
has been a leader on 17 recordings all received critical acclaim. His sideman credits include some of the greatest names in jazz: including Joe Beck, Scott Colley, Buddy DeFranco, Dave Douglas, Curtis Fuller, Eric Gravatt, Drew Gress, Tim Hagans, Billy Higgins, Ari Hoenig, Lee Konitz, James Moody, Gary Peacock, Dewey Redman, Charlie Rouse, James Spaulding, Bill Stewart, Ben Street, Ira Sullivan, Toots Thielemans and Benny Wallace.

Jeff Rinear on trombone
Rinear has backed up jazz greats Burt Bacharach, Dionne Warwick, the Temptations, Natalie Cole and Kenny Rogers, just to mention a few. The CEO of Increase Music, Inc., a publishing company specializing in jazz and educational materials, Rinear is also a composer and arranger in a variety of genres. He is the jazz ensemble director at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul.

The 2010 Celebration is a yearlong recognition of Morris campus history. Fifty years ago, the University of Minnesota, Morris opened its doors, and one hundred years ago, the West Central School of Agriculture and Experiment Station was founded. Although the University of Minnesota boarding high school closed in 1963, the West Central Research and Outreach Center (WCROC) continues the Experiment Station legacy. Learn more at 2010.morris.umn.edu or call 320-589-6414.

Photo above: Mike Tucker on saxophone

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