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**Dr. Phillips Center Launches the JAZZ ROOTS 2014-2015 SERIES**

***Featuring:***

**GEORGIA ON MY MIND: Celebrating Ray Charles**  
**PINK PANTHER 50 – Tribute to Henry Mancini**  
**AN EVENING WITH CHRIS BOTTI, presented by Morgan Stanley**  
**A NIGHT IN RIO**

**Features Award-Winning Stars: Chris Botti, Sergio Mendes, TAKE 6, Monica Mancini, Clint Holmes, Nnenna Freelon, Tom Scott, Cyrille Aimee, Nicole Henry, Eliane Elias and more.**

June 12, 2014 – **ORLANDO, Fla.** – The **Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts** announces the highly acclaimed **JAZZ ROOTS – A Larry Rosen Jazz Series** to play in the **Walt Disney Theater** for the inaugural 2014-2015 season. The concert and educational Jazz series includes **GEORGIA ON MY MIND: Celebrating Ray Charles, PINK PANTHER 50 – Tribute to Henry Mancini, AN EVENING WITH CHRIS BOTTI** and **A NIGHT IN RIO**.

Season tickets for the 2014-2015 JAZZ ROOTS series go on sale Thursday, June 12. Subscriptions for the four-concert series range from \$94.40 to \$327.80 and single tickets start at \$25.50. Series subscriptions can be purchased by visiting the Dr. Phillips Center's website, visiting the Box Office located at 455 S. Magnolia Ave, Orlando, FL 32801, or by calling 844.513.2014. Single ticket sales will be announced soon.

**“JAZZ ROOTS is the most important new jazz and education series in America....It is simply Imperative!” Quincy Jones**

“The synergy of outstanding jazz talent with the program's passion for education and community will make for a universally engaging experience,” said Kathy Ramsberger, President of the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. “We have formed a JAZZ ROOTS Advisory Council consisting of diverse members of the local music and educational community who will be advisors and ambassadors to promote and advocate the goals of the series throughout Central Florida.

"We are honored to bring our JAZZ ROOTS concert and education program to the Dr. Phillips Center," said award-winning producer Larry Rosen. "Our series focuses on presenting world class artists who represent the great history of the Music of the America's. We feel it is extremely important to entertain audiences and give opportunities to local artists, bring students to our unique Sound Check Education program, while celebrating our great American music style that is respected all across the planet."

The Dr. Phillips Center 2014-2015 JAZZ ROOTS series kicks off a spectacular season with the support of our community partner Morgan Stanley:

**JAZZ ROOTS: GEORGIA ON MY MIND: CELEBRATING RAY CHARLES**

**Featuring Take 6, Clint Holmes, Nnenna Freelon, Jovan Jackson, Shelly Berg, UM Frost School of Music Big Band and an Orlando Based Gospel Choir**

**November 20, 2014 at 8 p.m.**

**Walt Disney Theater**

The 2014-2015 **JAZZ ROOTS** season kicks off with a spectacular concert celebrating the musical genius **RAY CHARLES**, an American treasure who transcended racism, cultural upheavals, and spread his gospel, blues, jazz and country sound around the world. From the Georgia State Hall of Fame to the Hollywood Walk of Fame, **RAY CHARLES** won every major award including the Kennedy Center Honors, a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award and induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Celebrating his music is an all-star cast of award-winning performers including ten-time Grammy Award-winning vocal sensation and recent inductee into the Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame, a capella group **TAKE 6**, whose collaborations included one with the late great Charles; Emmy Award winner **CLINT HOLMES**, whose soulful stylings have been selling out concert halls around the world; six-time Grammy Award nominee and *Downbeat* vocalist of the year **NNENNA FREELON**; award-winning saxophonist **JAVON JACKSON**; and **SHELLY BERG**, three-time Grammy nominated music director and

Dean of the UM/ Frost School of Music. Joining in the celebration are the **University of Miami's FROST SCHOOL OF MUSIC BIG BAND** and an **ORLANDO BASED GOSPEL CHOIR**, to bring the local community to this debut show.

**JAZZ ROOTS: PINK PANTHER 50: TRIBUTE TO HENRY MANCINI**

**Featuring Monica Mancini, Tony DeSare, Nicole Henry, Cyrille Aimee, Tom Scott, Shelly Berg, Henry Mancini Institute Orchestra**

**January 16, 2015 at 8 p.m.**

**Walt Disney Theater**

The **Dr. Phillips Center** and **JAZZ ROOTS** will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the iconic film *The **Pink Panther*** with the music of the 20-time Grammy Award-winning composer Henry Mancini. **PINK PANTHER 50 – Tribute to Henry Mancini** features amazing music and film projections from Mancini's many hit films and TV shows, including *Moon River*, *The Pink Panther*, *The Days of Wine and Roses*, *Charade*, *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and many more. The concert will feature performances by Grammy nominee **Monica Mancini** – daughter of the late Henry Mancini; national sensation **Tony DeSare**; one of the jazz world's most praised vocalists, **Nicole Henry**; multi-Grammy Award winning composer, arranger, producer, musical director and saxophonist **Tom Scott**; **Cyrille Aimee**, French vocalist who has recently won the Sarah Vaughn International Vocal Competition and the Montreux Jazz Festival's International Vocal Competition; multi-Grammy nominee **Shelly Berg**, and the UM/Frost School of Music **Henry Mancini Institute Orchestra**.

**JAZZ ROOTS: AN EVENING WITH CHRIS BOTTI, presented by Morgan Stanley**

**Featuring Chris Botti with special guest stars**

**February 13, 2015 at 8 p.m.**

**Walt Disney Theater**

The **Dr. Phillips Center** and **JAZZ ROOTS** will feature an evening with the Grammy Award-winning, top-selling instrumental artist in the world, **CHRIS BOTTI**. The platinum-selling jazz trumpeter began his rise to fame during his global tour with Sting and has since established himself as one of the most innovative figures in the contemporary jazz genre. *Boston Globe* said "Chris Botti's tones are beautifully formed, the man's high notes can charm a crowd." Botti has performed with legendary musicians, including Barbra Streisand, Andrea Bocelli, YoYo Ma, Herbie Hancock and Josh Groban. Botti, who earned the 2013 Grammy Award for Best Pop Instrumental Album, will present an evening to be remembered

with performances from his Billboard-topping albums *When I Fall In Love*, *Italia*, *Chris Botti in Boston* and *Impressions*.

**JAZZ ROOTS: A NIGHT IN RIO**

**Featuring Sergio Mendes and Eliane Elias**

**April 17, 2015 at 8 p.m.**

**Walt Disney Theater**

The **Dr. Phillips Center** and **JAZZ ROOTS** will turn Orlando into Rio on **April 17, 2015**, with **A NIGHT IN RIO**, as top Brazilian jazz musicians honor the indigenous Indian, African and European roots that define the genre. The new Brazilian sound, refined in the 1950s by composers Joao Gilberto, Antonio Carlos Jobim and Dori Caymmi, combines samba and jazz to form a romantic mixture called Bossa Nova. Grammy award-winner and undisputed master of Brazilian jazz pop, **Sergio Mendes**, brings his unique musical blend to the Dr. Phillips Center. Mendes' fusion of Brazilian roots with American jazz and R&B combine to create an all new sound that has led to collaborations with the famous hip-hop group The Black Eyed Peas. Mendes will be joined by Grammy-nominated pianist, singer and composer **Eliane Elias**. Elias is known for her distinctive musical style, which blends her Brazilian roots and her sultry vocals with her impressive instrumental piano jazz.

In addition to award-winning jazz programming, JAZZ ROOTS includes educational and community outreach programs designed to focus on the musical DNA that connects communities and peoples, while celebrating the music of the Americas. For more information, visit [www.JazzRoots.net](http://www.JazzRoots.net).

**The 2104-2015 JAZZ ROOTS Series is as follows:**

<b>GEORGIA ON MY MIND: Celebrating Ray Charles</b>	<b>Nov. 20, 2014</b>
<b>PINK PANTHER 50: Tribute to Henry Mancini</b>	<b>Jan. 16, 2015</b>
<b>AN EVENING WITH CHRIS BOTTI</b>	<b>Feb. 13, 2015</b>
<b>A NIGHT IN RIO</b>	<b>April 17, 2015</b>

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## About the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts

The Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts is an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to developing and operating a new \$500 million performing arts center in downtown Orlando, Fla. This public-private partnership is funded by the City of Orlando, Orange County and private donors. Situated on a nine-acre site, the performing arts center complex will include: an amplified theater, an acoustical theater, a community theater, educational facilities and a public performance plaza. Future plans also include mixed-use urban development. Inspired by the pillars Celebration, Education, Participation and Destination, this mission-driven center will be Central Florida's destination of choice for arts, cultural and entertainment programming. The Center opens two of its three theaters in 2014. The Dr. Phillips Center is committed to the City of Orlando's Blueprint Initiative, a standard for minority/women business involvement and local employment participation. For more information or to see live footage from the Dr. Phillips Center construction webcam, please visit [www.drphillipscenter.org](http://www.drphillipscenter.org). Find us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).

**JAZZ ROOTS: A Larry Rosen Jazz Series** is a concert and educational program created for performing arts centers across America. The **JAZZ ROOTS** series was first launched in 2008 at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County. Subsequently, the series has been presented in Dallas at the AT&T Performing Arts Center; the Palladium Theater in Carmel, Indiana; The Smith Center in Las Vegas; the Cobb Energy Centre in Atlanta; NJPAC in Newark, New Jersey; and now debuting at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in Orlando. Rosen is the producer of the Sarah Vaughan International Jazz Vocal Competition and the SASSY AWARDS and is currently working with BAM in Brooklyn developing a music-based educational curriculum for the New York City school system. Artists presented on **JAZZ ROOTS** concerts include: Dave Brubeck, Sonny Rollins, Chick Corea, Keith Jarrett, Chris Botti, Sergio Mendes, Wynton Marsalis, George Benson, Michael Feinstein, Paquito D'Rivera, John McLaughlin, Patti Austin, Aaron Neville, Count Basie Orchestra, Ramsey Lewis, Esperanza Spalding, Take 6, Arturo Sandoval, Eliane Elias, Ivan Lins, Buddy Guy, Dr. John, Manhattan Transfer, Al Jarreau, Dave Sanborn, Jon Hendricks, Dave Grusin, and many more. The **JAZZ ROOTS** series includes educational and outreach programs that organically connect to local community groups, art centers, universities and local boards of education. See [www.jazzroots.net](http://www.jazzroots.net)

Mr. Rosen is a musician, producer, executive producer and co-founder of **GRP Records**, one of the industries premier record labels. Through his record productions, he has produced more than 350 albums, with more than 80 nominated for Grammy awards, winning 33 Grammys. Mr. Rosen is also the producer and director of many award-winning TV specials including, JAZZ and the PHILHARMONIC, An Evening with Dave Grusin, The GRP ALL-STAR BIG BAND LIVE, and more. He is currently producing a seven-part, multi-media project with hosts Quincy Jones and Phil Ramone titled RECORDING: The History of Recorded Music. <http://www.larryrosen.com/>

Mr. Rosen received Ernst & Young's "Entrepreneur of the Year Award" in New Media and Entertainment, and has been elected to the GRAMMY Governor Honor Roll. He serves on the boards of the Dave Brubeck Institute, The Music for Youth Foundation, The Frost School of Music Steering Committee and with Dave Grusin is the founder of the National Foundation for Jazz Education. Mr. Rosen received an honorary doctorate from Manhattan School of Music in 2013.