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JAZZ ST. LOUIS ANNOUNCES FREE SIX-WEEK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES WITH EIGHT POPULAR ST. LOUIS-BASED ARTISTS AND BANDS

*Made possible by Steward Family Foundation and World Wide Technology,
the JSL Summer Spotlight STL Series provides an opportunity for all
to experience live jazz*

ST. LOUIS, May 31, 2022 – This summer, the doors to the Harold & Dorothy Steward Center for Jazz in Grand Center will be wide-open for the **free** Jazz St. Louis (JSL) Summer Spotlight STL Series, featuring eight of St. Louis' most beloved artists and bands. Running **June 17 through July 30**, guests will have a chance to obtain free tickets and experience one of the nation's top listening rooms, thanks to long-time friends of Jazz St. Louis and the St. Louis arts community, Steward Family Foundation and World Wide Technology.

This series is sure to pack the house night after night, promising the best possible experience for both patrons and musicians.

"We know there are many people who have yet to experience a night at Jazz St. Louis – wondering what live jazz is like, and others who worry about the cost of tickets. Thanks to David L. Steward and the Steward Family Foundation, new fans will have an opportunity for the full Jazz St. Louis experience," said Bill Higley, Chair of JSL's Board of Directors.

The free summer concert series will include the following performers:

June 17 & 18: Good 4 the Soul with Horns

June 19: JSL Celebrates Juneteenth with *The 411 featuring The Paige Alyssa Quintet*

June 24: Kara Baldus-Mehrmann Quartet

June 25: David Gomez: *Otra noche en Panama*

July 8 & 9: Emily Wallace with the Adam Maness Trio

July 15 & 16: Brothers Lazaroff – *Laz Jazz*

July 22 & 23: Scooter Brown

July 29 & 30: Demarius Hicks

Making the JSL Summer Spotlight STL series free to the people who live in, or visit the St. Louis region, significantly expands the reach of JSL's mission to advance the uniquely American art of jazz. The organization has never had the financial flexibility to offer these fully produced performances in the Ferring Jazz Bistro for free. This opportunity will help cement JSL's growing national presence as an arts leader—one befitting St. Louis' stature as a great jazz city. Jazz St. Louis also will be at the hub of an entire summer of complimentary offerings in and around Grand Center, working with fellow organizations like Grand Center Inc. and the Kranzberg Arts Foundation to create a free festival atmosphere all summer long.

“The Grand Center Arts District is a wonderful place to be year-round, and the summer is no exception. The more people who can experience the positive and life-changing art happening in the Grand Center neighborhood, the greater the possibilities for all members of this arts community to thrive. That’s why we are pleased and proud to underwrite this series,” said David L. Steward on behalf of the Steward Family Foundation. Steward is the Founder and Chairman of World Wide Technology, the largest black-owned company in the United States.

While JSL is known for impeccable technical presentation, this gift includes updates to the club’s lighting and sound equipment that will improve the experience for live and virtual attendees alike. The summer performances will be streamed live on multiple social media platforms, including what is believed to be the first jazz club in the Metaverse, located in the Steward Multicultural Center in

the middle of [STEM City USA](#). STEM City USA, created by CCG, is currently in contention as a finalist in XR Today's global "Best Metaverse Solution," alongside Qualcomm and Cavnus.

The JSL Summer Spotlight STL Series concerts are free, but tickets are required. General admission tickets ordered online or by phone have a reduced handling fee of \$1/ticket that is waived for patrons who visit the box office in person. Maximum four tickets per household per concert. For more information, visit jazzstl.org/summer.

About Jazz St. Louis

Jazz St. Louis advances the uniquely American art of jazz through performance, education, and community engagement. This non-profit organization presents over 270 performances in its internationally acclaimed concert series each year. Jazz St. Louis takes a three-pronged approach to its work: presenting jazz, encouraging and educating future audiences, and nurturing budding musicians. For more information about Jazz St. Louis visit www.jazzstl.org or www.facebook.com/jazzstl.

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