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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE ARTS COUNCIL announces its
2011-2012 season of EVENINGS OF INTIMATE JAZZ
Sponsored by Jackson EMC, Circle M Food Shops & Northeast Georgia Heart Center

THE ARTS COUNCIL proudly announces its 2012 **EVENINGS OF INTIMATE JAZZ** series. The series is a unique opportunity to enjoy Jazz masters instantaneously compose, edit, revise and perform their rhythmical extrapolations up-close and personal. The performers in this series are **Lynne Arriale** (Saturday, January 28), **The Evan Christopher Trio** (Saturday, February 18), **The Wycliffe Gordon Trio** (Saturday, March 24), **The Del Baroni Trio** (Friday, April 20) and **The Larry Barker Quartet** (Saturday, May 19). Relish in the vibe of Bourbon Street or the intimacy of Chicago's many Jazz nightclubs right here in downtown Gainesville, Georgia! Each performance will start at **8:00pm** at **The Arts Council Smithgall Arts Center**. **Series tickets are \$125 per person** and include all five performances. **Individual performance tickets are \$30 per person or \$25 each with the purchase of six (6) or more tickets.**

Jazz is not the result of choosing a tune, but an ideal that is created first in the mind, inspired by one's passion and willed next in playing music. Jazz music is a language, sometimes intimate, sometimes boisterous, but always layered with experience and life profoundly lived.

Internationally renowned jazz pianist **LYNNE ARRIALE** kicks-off the series with a performance on **Saturday, January 28 at 8:00pm at The Arts Council Smithgall Arts Center**. She is one of the finest Jazz pianists out on the loose right now. Arriale blends thoughtfully sculpted original tunes with an ingenious sprinkling of cover versions. As ever, her delicate touch and unabashed love of melodic lines turn them into her own private property. Her shaping hands value complete statements over momentary flourishes. Arriale's music is highly melodic and suffused with concern for structured development. Her emotional range extends from beautifully played ballads, on which it is possible to savor the pianist's exquisite touch and sense of note placement, to almost euphoric Latin pieces and uncompromisingly driven up-tempo performances. This will be Arriale's 4th season to perform for our Gainesville audiences! Her touring schedule includes Germany, Czech Republic,

Japan... “Lynne Arriale’s Brilliant musicianship and bandstand instincts place her among the top jazz pianists of the day” - The New York Times

THE EVAN CHRISTOPHER TRIO brings its New Orleans Jazz tradition to Gainesville on **Saturday, February 18 at 8:00pm at The Arts Council Smithgall Arts Center.** Clarinetist, Evan Christopher is a refreshingly bright light on the international Jazz scene. Hailing from New Orleans, Evan combines virtuosity, immaculate taste and infectious enthusiasm with a deep commitment to exploring the full range of musical possibilities. Anchored in the musical vocabulary created by early Creole clarinetists, Christopher has created a highly personal brand of “contemporary early-jazz” that strives to extend the legacy of this unique clarinet style. Evan has worked with musicians as stylistically diverse as Al Hirt and veterans of Preservation Hall to funk and brass bands. He is a member of the Grammy-winning New Orleans Jazz Orchestra. His tone is warm, woody, fluid and swooping. In July 2010, he had the honor to debut his ‘Treat It Gentle Suite,’ the first concerto written for clarinet and Jazz band in the New Orleans style, with the Minnesota Orchestra. Displaced by Hurricane Katrina, Evan took to continuous international and national touring basing himself temporarily in France at the invitation of the French government. Evan is responsible for creating a global resurgence of interest in one of the genre’s all-but-forgotten classic voices - the clarinet. “A fascinating mix of the New Orleans and Hot Club traditions that makes for one tasty gumbo” - Ian Mann

The ***WYCLIFFE GORDON TRIO*** brings to Gainesville the very best this American art form has to offer on **Saturday, March 24 at 8:00pm at The Arts Council Smithgall Arts Center.** Musical ambassador and interpreter of America’s music, Wycliffe Gordon experiences an impressive career touring the world performing hard-swinging, straight-ahead Jazz receiving great acclaim from audiences and critics alike. His unmatched modern mastery of the plunger mute and his exceptional technique and signature sound has solidified Gordon a place in musical history known as one of the top trombonists of his generation. Jazz Journalists Association named him “Trombonist of the Year” in 2001, 2002, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2011, and he is a past recipient of the ASCAP Foundation Vanguard Award, among others. Gordon is a former veteran member of the Wynton Marsalis, Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra and has been a featured guest artist on Billy Taylor’s “Jazz at the Kennedy Center” Series. “Wycliffe Gordon. Just his presence is a creative experience” - Wynton Marsalis. “Wycliffe Gordon can outperform nearly anyone playing jazz” - The New York Times.

The ***DEL BARONI TRIO*** brings its magic to Gainesville on Friday, April 20 at **8:00pm at The Arts Council Smithgall Arts Center.** Del Baroni is a graduate of the University of Miami where he majored in music (Jazz and vocal). While in Florida he taught college level music as well as

performing as a vocalist and bassist both in “live” and studio engagements. Moving to Georgia in 1987 he has been busy in the Atlanta music scene enjoying a special musical relationship with Margaret Perrin as well as other local musicians. Joining vocalist and bassist Baroni for an Evenings of Intimate Jazz concert will be vocalist Jennifer Hanson and Evenings of Intimate Jazz veteran Jez Graham on piano. With an appreciation for American standard music, Jazz and the artists who had public impact with both live and recorded performances, Baroni created a concept to recreate the excitement of live broadcasts as well as intimate jazz club settings utilizing vintage equipment and vocal stylings like Frank Sinatra in his shows.

The **LARRY BARKER QUARTET** brings a close to what promises to be an exciting series on Saturday, May 19 at **8:00pm** at **The Arts Council Smithgall Arts Center**. Gainesville, Georgia’s own Larry Barker is a Jazz pianist with an eclectic musical background. Originally from St. Louis, Missouri, Barker has performed and/or recorded with Charles Glenn, the U.S. Army Band, the Glenn miller Band, Tom Kennedy, Theo Peoples, Peter Meyer, The Drifters and numerous others. For years, Mr. Barker has collaborated most often with vocalist Charles Glenn, resulting in one CD release and countless memorable Jazz club performances. Since moving to Georgia in 2006, Barker has performed with Atlanta Acoustic Jazz, Atlanta Beat, Sam Skelton, Ken Watters and the Sweet Lu Quartet. Barker prefers not to play “outside” in the manner of many Jazz musicians; rather he finds ways to explore his way “inside” the music. His approach keeps audiences completely engaged with each song.

The Arts Council is excited to present its annual **Evenings of Intimate Jazz Series**. Each performance will start at **8:00pm** at **The Arts Council Smithgall Arts Center**. **Series tickets are \$125.00 per person** and include all five performances. **Individual performance tickets are \$30.00 per person**. For tickets call **770-534-2787** or visit **www.theartscouncil.net**

DIRECTIONS TO ARTS COUNCIL SMITHGALL ARTS CENTER

From Atlanta: Take I-85 north to Exit 113 bearing left onto I-985 north to Exit 20 GA Highway 60 (Queen City Pkwy/Candler RD). Turn left onto GA 60 and proceed approximately 2 miles to intersection with GA Hwy 369 (Jesse Jewell Pkwy). Turn right onto GA 369 and proceed approximately 1 / 2 mile to intersection with W. Academy St (Poultry monument/railroad museum on left & BB&T on right). Turn left onto W. Academy and proceed two blocks and the Arts Council Smithgall Arts Center will be on the right at the intersection of W. Academy and Spring St.

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