



THE NIGHT STAR JAZZ ORCHESTRA HOSTS CELEBRATION OF ELLA FITZGERALD FOR THE CENTENNIAL OF HER BIRTH.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Salt Lake City, Utah, May 4, 2017 - The Night Star Jazz Orchestra (NSJO) will be putting on a concert to celebrate the life and music of Ella Fitzgerald. The event held on Saturday May 13th, 7:30 pm at Brighton High School will benefit the music department at Brighton and spotlight music and arts education in our schools.

The show featuring Katrina Cannon on vocals, Jay Lawrence on vibraphone and Dr. Dan Jonas conducting and trumpet will be an evening of jazz and song as the band and orchestra plays hits from Ella Fitzgerald's songbook albums of George and Ira Gershwin, Irving Berlin, and Harold Arlen. The music program features arrangements prepared from the original scores of Nelson Riddle from Ms. Fitzgerald's popular albums of the 50's and 60's. Ms. Cannon is an accomplished local jazz vocalist, Mr. Lawrence is an A-list performer and educator, and Dr. Jonas is the Director of Jazz Studies at Weber State University.

Tickets to the show can be purchased now at the the main office of Brighton High School or at the door the day of the show. Admission is \$12 for adults and \$8 for students and children.

For the event program notes Kris Johnson, director of University of Utah Jazz Studies, writes, "Ella Fitzgerald is often labeled as "The First Lady of Jazz" and also the mother of scat singing." One of only a few Ella tributes in Utah, this event held in Cottonwood Heights at Brighton High School is also a celebration of jazz education and music educators who enrich our community through their daily dedication to our children.

The year long celebration of Ella's birth is coordinated by the Ella Fitzgerald Foundation (<http://ellafitzgeraldfoundation.org>) with events held throughout the world to honor Ella's legacy and influence on the world of jazz and popular music. The Night Star Jazz Orchestra is honored to have this event listed as part of the Ella 100: A Centennial Celebration. (<http://www.ellafitzgerald.com/tour>). Generous support from local businesses including Hires Big H, Larson Certified Public Accountants, Utah Restaurant Association, Sequoia Development, Cowboy Partners, Larry Miller Arena Corporation, Zions Bank, Workers Compensation Fund, Wadman Construction, and Cannon Disability Law.

More information about the band and the event can be found at nightstarjazzorchestra.com.

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