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Auditions For Summer Jazz Scholarships and Youth Jazz Band

On Sunday, April 6 Sedona Jazz on the Rocks (SJOR) will hold its annual auditions for scholarships and for the SJOR summer Youth Band. Jazz Camp scholarships will be awarded for summer programs at Berklee College of Music in Boston and Northern Arizona University (NAU) Jazz Institute in Flagstaff. Music lessons scholarships will also be awarded. Auditions will take place at Sedona Red Rock High School. On the same day, students may try-out for the Sedona Jazz on the Rocks 2008 Youth Band. The auditions run concurrently so eligible musicians may try-out for all SJOR programs.

The Berklee College of Music is considered one of the world's premiere schools for contemporary music study. The curriculum at the Summer Performance Programs includes jazz theory, listening, master classes, private lessons and ensemble playing. The international student body represents countries and cultures from around the world.

Any instrumental or vocal music student who is a resident of Arizona, will be 15 years old by July 7, 2008 and has at least two year's playing experience may apply for the Berklee scholarship program. Full scholarships covering tuition, airfare, room and board and class materials will be presented to four students for the five-week program on the Berklee-Boston campus. Two full scholarships will also be awarded to the one-week Berklee programs in Boston for percussion and guitar.

The NAU Jazz Institute offers in-depth jazz study as a new, specialized component of the Curry Summer Music Camp (now in its 58th year). High School students are eligible for the program which includes master classes, lessons and performance. For SJOR scholarships to the NAU summer program, students must both audition for SJOR and apply directly to the NAU Jazz Institute (see www.nau.edu/musiccamp or call 928-523-2323).

The Weldon Bright Memorial Scholarship fund provides monies for students with at least one year of training to continue private study on their instrument. These music lessons scholarships are available to Sedona students only, ages 6-14. Awards are based on student/parent dedication, talent and financial need.

The SJOR Summer Youth Band is open to any student age 13 to 18 who is a resident of Arizona and has at least 2 year's playing experience. The Youth Band season begins with an orientation weekend in June and continues through the end of September. The group rehearses in Sedona or Prescott for three hours each Saturday, and performs at various venues around the state.

The final performance and culminating experience for the Youth Band season is as a featured act in the annual Sedona Jazz on the Rocks Benefit Festival. The student musicians are able to meet, mingle and garner advice from the Pros performing during the weekend. They will also have several master clinics and will play in jam sessions.

For complete information, application and audition guidelines for all scholarships and the 2008 Youth Jazz Band, contact Sedona Jazz on the Rocks at 928-282-1985 or email office@sedonajazz.com or visit our website at www.sedonajazz.com. All applications must be post marked no later than March 24, 2008. Sedona Jazz on the Rocks is a non-profit organization whose mission is to keep jazz alive for the next generation. This is done by producing jazz concerts, festivals and sponsoring music education programs.

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