



## NEWS RELEASE TO ALL MEDIA

**REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, APRIL 17, 2009** --- The Regina Jazz Society, in conjunction with our major venue sponsor, the Regina Inn, and along with the City of Regina, is pleased to announce the inaugural presentation of **JazzFest Regina**, the City's premier three-day summer jazz festival from June 26 through June 28, 2009 in the Regina Downtown area.

Details of our headline acts will be released in the coming weeks. These will include nationally/internationally prominent jazz musicians presented in concert at the Regina Inn. As well, local jazz musicians and groups will be presented daily, as part of the admission price paid through the three-day festival passes. In keeping with our mission to promote the appreciation of jazz music, JazzFest Regina 2009 will also present live jazz music at no charge each day at our outdoor venue.

"JazzFest Regina is intended to provide access to jazz music in a summer festival setting for those in the greater Regina area who are unable to travel to some of the great jazz festivals held in other locales throughout Canada", said Peter Champagne, artistic director of the Regina Jazz Society. Mr. Champagne further stated that, "JazzFest Regina is not intended to compete in any way with the SaskTel Saskatchewan Jazz Festival held each year in Saskatoon. In fact, we hope to be able to contribute to the success of all of our sister festivals in western Canada by ensuring that JazzFest Regina will be one more annual festival on the TransCanada highway that can help defray transportation expenses for all festivals."

### **About The Regina Jazz Society**

The Regina Jazz Society was incorporated in 1989 as a not-for-profit charitable corporation, and has been staging jazz performances in Regina since 1977. The mandate of the Regina Jazz Society is to encourage, to promote, and to provide a forum for the appreciation of the diversity of jazz music for musicians and enthusiasts alike. The Regina Jazz Society has staged an average of 13 live jazz performances each season during the 1999 through 2008 performance seasons. Performances are normally held at either Le Bistro or the Regina Inn, with special performances held at the Casino Regina venue. The Regina Jazz Society commemorated the Saskatchewan Centennial in 2005 by publishing "The Jazz Province: The Story of Jazz in Saskatchewan" written by Ken Mitchell and by hosting the concert "The Jazz Province: A Celebration in Music" highlighting the history of jazz in our province featuring renowned jazz artists from Saskatchewan including P J Perry, Gord Foote, Jon Ballantyne, Tilden Webb, Ted Warren, Trent Reschny, Andrea Menard, Pat Steel and Jack Semple. JazzFest Regina 2009 is the first annual summer jazz festival presented by the Regina Jazz Society.

### **For more information, please contact:**

Leanne Johnson, President, The Regina Jazz Society, email: [president@jazzregina.ca](mailto:president@jazzregina.ca),  
Peter Champagne, Artistic Director, email: [program@jazzregina.ca](mailto:program@jazzregina.ca)

Or visit the JazzFest Regina website: [www.jazzfestregina.com](http://www.jazzfestregina.com)