



For Immediate Release

Contact: Mia Vlaar, vjf@vailjazz.org, 970.479.6146

MILE HIGH CHAPTER CHOIR TO PLAY VAIL FARMERS MARKET

Don't miss soulful gospel music from noon to 3:30pm on Sunday, July 27

Vail, CO July 24, 2008 – A dozen of Denver's finest gospel singers will travel to Vail on Sunday, July 27 to share their soulful gospel music ministry at the Vail Farmers' Market. Always a favorite, the Mile High Chapter Choir, the preeminent gospel choir in Denver, is slated to perform on Meadow Drive, on the plaza between Sunland Silver and Annie's.

The Mile High Chapter Choir was established in Denver in 1993 to minister sacred music to reach the hearts of people everywhere. The all-star chorale group includes singers hailing from 12 Denver area churches, who perform in their own churches and together in both religious and secular settings throughout the region.

"Mile High Chapter Choir has been an essential element of the Vail Jazz Festival for over 10 years," said Mia Vlaar, executive director of the Vail Jazz Foundation. Gary Thornton, who regularly volunteers for the Vail Jazz Festival continued, "The music draws you in – it's a hand-clapping, rousing old time sound that make you want to get up and dance."

"Jazz has its roots in gospel music," said Howard Stone, Vail Jazz Foundation chair and artistic director. "It all started at Congo Square in New Orleans, where the African rhythms were first blended with traditional European church music." Add call and response, percussion and dancing, and eventually instrumentation, and the music evolved to a point where it started taking on a life of its own -- The Blues, Jazz, and more.

The Choir works in association with the largest gospel association in the world, the Gospel Music Workshop of America (GMWA), which was established over 40 years ago to nurture gospel vocalists and instrumentalists in the United States and beyond. The GMWA hosts an annual conference for 30,000 vocalists and musicians from all over the United States, and the UK, Italy, Japan, Canada and Germany.

The Vail Jazz Foundation presents Blues, Standards, vocals and straight ahead jazz to the Vail Farmers' Market from 12:00 to 3:30pm through August 24. Don't miss this unique opportunity to catch some of the region's hottest jazz talent in 'plein air' .

Jazz @ The Market: At a Glance

Sunday, July 27	Mile High Chapter Choir
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Sunday, August 3	Summit Jazz Consort
Sunday, August 10	Rick Weingarten Trio
Sunday, August 17	Kathy Morrow Trio
Sunday, August 24	Tony Gulizia Trio

EVENT SPONSORS

None of these exceptional jazz programs would be possible without the generous support of our sponsors, which include Alpine Bank, Alpin Aire, Alpine Party Rentals, BBE Sound, Colorado Council on the Arts, Colorado Mountain Express – Official Transportation Provider, Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, Hertz, Jack FM, KZYR – The Zephyr 97.7 FM, KUVO-Jazz89.3 FM, KVBA-TV8, National Endowment for the Arts, Playboy Jazz Cruise, Plum TV, Prima, Rocky Mountain Reprographics, Town of Vail, Vail Daily, Vail Resorts, and Yamaha.

ABOUT THE VAIL JAZZ FOUNDATION

The Vail Jazz Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, celebrating 14 years of providing outstanding jazz music and jazz education programs in the Vail Valley of Colorado. For more information, visit www.vailjazz.org

For more information, contact:

Mia Vlaar

The Vail Jazz Foundation

P.O. Box 3035, Vail, CO 81658

Email vjf@vailjazz.org