



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**JAZZ ROOTS: A Larry Rosen Jazz Series, Presents Jazz & Soul  
Featuring Al Jarreau and Ramsey Lewis  
to debut at The Smith Center for the Performing Arts on April 27**

**LAS VEGAS** – JAZZ ROOTS: A Larry Rosen Jazz Series presents JAZZ & SOUL featuring Al Jarreau and Ramsey Lewis premieres at [The Smith Center for the Performing Arts](http://www.thsmithcenter.com) on April 27 at 7:30 p.m. JAZZ and SOUL spotlights two celebrated multi-Grammy Award-winning artists who took jazz, merged it with soul and made the result their own signature sounds.

Tickets for JAZZ ROOTS in Reynolds Hall start at \$26 and are available at The Smith Center for the Performing Arts by calling (702) 749-2000 or by visiting [www.thsmithcenter.com](http://www.thsmithcenter.com). Tickets can also be purchased in person at The Smith Center ticket office at 361 Symphony Park Avenue.

Quincy Jones said, “JAZZ ROOTS is the most important new concert and educational jazz series in America,” He continued, “This series is simply imperative.”

JAZZ ROOTS celebrates the blend of jazz, blues, gospel and R&B that, along with cultural, political and stylistic elements from American history help create the music called Soul. This JAZZ ROOTS show is the debut of the JAZZ ROOTS series which celebrates the Music of America, and will feature 4 groundbreaking concerts during the 2012-2013 concert season.

Al Jarreau pairs a voice that’s recognized as one of the world’s most precious treasures with his unique and innovative musical expressions. This combination has made him one of the most exciting and critically acclaimed performers of our time. Jarreau’s achievements include seven Grammys, scores of international music awards, and numerous hit records.

Ramsey Lewis, NEA Jazz Master, multiple Grammy awardee, host of LEGENDS OF JAZZ, the acclaimed PBS TV series, is a true legend of jazz. A pianist and composer, Lewis is often referred to as “the great performer,” a title reflecting his performance style rooted in his early gospel roots and classical training. His recording of “The In Crowd” is a jazz and soul classic.

Larry Rosen JAZZ ROOTS producer said, “We are thrilled to bring our JAZZ ROOTS series to The Smith Center and to the music fans of Las Vegas. Our concerts and accompanying education and outreach programs reach out into the community and bring folks together as we celebrate the great artists and the legacy of America’s music.”

**About The Smith Center for the Performing Arts:**

Located in downtown's 61-acre urban development, Symphony Park, The Smith Center for the Performing Arts is a public/private partnership that is the new centerpiece of cultural life in Las Vegas, offering a blend of performances by resident companies, as well as first-run touring attractions. The 5-acre cultural campus features three performance spaces, the 2,050-seat main performance area in Reynolds Hall and Boman Pavilion's 258-seat Cabaret Jazz and 250-seat Troesh Studio Theater, and is home to a 1.7 acre park, which can be used for outdoor concerts. Additionally, the campus will be the new location of the Discovery Children's Museum. The Smith Center is the cultural center for Las Vegas – a place that educates, entertains and excites the citizens of the Las Vegas community. For more information about The Smith Center for the Performing Arts, please visit [www.thesmithcenter.com](http://www.thesmithcenter.com). Keep up with news and events on [Facebook](#).

#### **About Larry Rosen**

**Larry Rosen:** musician, producer, executive producer, and music industry entrepreneur. Mr. Rosen is the Chairman of **Larry Rosen Productions, Inc.**, creator and producer of **JAZZ ROOTS - A Larry Rosen Jazz Series**, co-founder of **GRP Records**, co-founder, past Chairman of **N2K, Inc.** (NASDAQ). Mr. Rosen is the creator and producer of the PBS television series **LEGENDS OF JAZZ**, and is the creator and producer of multi-media TV series **RECORDING: The History of Recorded Music**, with hosts **Quincy Jones** and **Phil Ramone**. Mr. Rosen received the Ernst & Young's "Entrepreneur of the Year Award" in New Media and Entertainment, the GRAMMY Governor Honor Roll, he serves on the board of the Dave Brubeck Institute, The Music for Youth Foundation, The Frost School of Music Steering Committee, and with Dave Grusin is the founder of the National Foundation for Jazz Education. [www.larryrosen.com](http://www.larryrosen.com)

**About JAZZ ROOTS - A Larry Rosen Jazz Series** is a concert and educational program created for performing arts centers across America. The **JAZZ ROOTS** series was first launched in 2008 at the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County, the series debuted in 2009 in Dallas at the AT&T Performing Arts Center, in 2010 in Carmel, IN. Center for the Performing Arts, and debuts in Las Vegas at The Smith Center for the Performing Arts in April 2012. In 2012-2013 JAZZ ROOTS will be presented at the Cobb Energy Centre in Atlanta, and NJPAC in Newark, NJ. Artists presented include: **Dave Brubeck, Sonny Rollins, Chick Corea, Al Jarreau, Keith Jarrett, Michael Feinstein, Terence Blanchard, David Sanborn, Paquito D'Rivera, John McLaughlin, Patti Austin, Count Basie Orchestra, Ramsey Lewis, Arturo Sandoval, Keith Jarrett, Wynton Marsalis, Sergio Mendes, The Machito Orchestra, Buddy Guy, Dr. John, Manhattan Transfer, Jon Hendricks, Dave Grusin, Jon Secada, Eddie Palmieri, Michel Camilo**, and many more. The **JAZZ ROOTS** series includes educational and outreach programs that organically connect to local community groups, art centers, and the local board of education. [www.jazzroots.net](http://www.jazzroots.net).

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#### **For More Information:**

Michelle Wilmoth / Rebecca Smith

Kirvin Doak Communications

[mwilmoth@kirvindoak.com](mailto:mwilmoth@kirvindoak.com) | [rsmith@kirvindoak.com](mailto:rsmith@kirvindoak.com)

(702) 737-3100