

For immediate release | Event dates: June 27-August 9, 2008
Organization: Stanford Jazz Workshop, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
Press contact: Laura Grivainis Thorne, 650.736.0324, ext. 305 | E-mail: lgt@stanfordjazz.org

**2008 Stanford Jazz Festival:
37th Season Headliners Include Terence Blanchard, Josh Redman,
Larry Grenadier, John Scofield, Bill Stewart, Wycliffe Gordon, Barry Harris**

STANFORD, CA – May 5, 2008 —Stanford Jazz Workshop (SJW) presents the 2008 Stanford Jazz Festival from June 27 through August 9 on the Stanford campus in Palo Alto. Known for the intimacy of its venues and welcoming atmosphere, the Festival will feature more than 100 artists with a total of 33 concerts over a six-week span. Highlights of the 2008 calendar include an opening weekend performance by New Orleans native, Grammy-award winning trumpet player, bandleader and composer **Terence Blanchard**, and, closing the Festival, a unique pairing of Berkeley-born saxman **Josh Redman** with the rhythm-driven modern jazz trio **Fly**.

The Festival offers an eclectic menu of jazz within its framework. Representing from the bop and post bop era are **Kenny Burrell, Richard Davis, Barry Harris, Charles McPherson** and local favorite **George Cables** (the latter appearing with **Gary Bartz**), while artists such as the aforementioned Blanchard, **Mulgrew Miller, Wycliffe Gordon** and Joshua Redman are this generation's standard bearers. In the 1970's, guitarist **John Scofield** was on the leading edge with his fusion style, and became a dominant force in contemporary jazz. The explorations of Scofield and others of his era went on to influence the current crop of up-and-comers, including drummers **Bill Stewart** and **Jeff Ballard**, pianist **Jason Moran**, bassist **Larry Grenadier** and saxophonist **Mark Turner**, all of whom will be performing at Stanford this summer. Also featured will be Anat, Yuval and Avishai Cohen (AKA the **3 Cohens**), the young and cosmopolitan trio from Tel Aviv.

Stanford Jazz Workshop, originally established as an educational program, brings together jazz lovers of all ages in an informal, performance-driven format. Its Jazz Camps are widely recognized as a training ground for artists of remarkable ability. Many of this year's headliners are Workshop alumni – Redman, Grenadier, Stewart – along with pianist **Taylor Eigsti**, guitarist **Julian Lage** and trumpeter **Ambrose Akinmusire** (winner of the prestigious 2007 Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz Competition), who are 2008 Faculty and will perform at the Festival as well.

The Festival also offers blues and Latin shows, as well concerts by its Jazz Camp and Jazz Residency participants and a Jazz Mentors concert showcasing its teacher-training program. Two "Early Bird" Saturday morning programs, designed for those 12 year of age and under, introduce younger listeners to the fundamentals of the genre. To further augment its educational mission, many Stanford Jazz

Festival events feature "Inside Jazz" free pre-concert talks by leading personalities from the jazz community.

Details of the complete Festival concert season are posted on the Stanford Jazz website at "www.stanfordjazz.org/events/festival.html". Tickets go on sale May 12. For more information, visit StanfordJazz.org or call 650.736.0324. Tickets to SJF events range from \$10 - \$40 general admission (depending on concert) with a half-price discount for students with valid ID and children under the age of 18; additional discounts available through Stanford Jazz's "TAKE 5!" program ("www.stanfordjazz.org/events/take5.html"). Box office: 650.725.ARTS (2787) or "www.ticketweb.com". Presented by See's Candies, with generous in-kind support from KCSM radio, the Stanford Park and Sheraton Palo Alto hotels and the Palo Alto Weekly. Stanford Jazz Workshop is funded in part by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.

ABOUT THE STANFORD JAZZ WORKSHOP – Founded in 1972, the Stanford Jazz Workshop (SJW) has welcomed jazz artists and enthusiasts to the Stanford University campus each summer. As SJW's programs grew, attracting preeminent artists such as Dizzy Gillespie and Stan Getz, the organization began presenting public concerts to encourage community appreciation and awareness of jazz. These early concerts served as the beginning of the Stanford Jazz Festival. Today the festival draws 15,000 music enthusiasts and is ranked by many critics and fans as one of the top jazz events on the West Coast.

###