



VILLAGE OF PINECREST

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jazz masters at Pinecrest Gardens will both entertain audiences and mentor high school students thanks to Knight Foundation funding

Pinecrest, Fla. – Jazz legends performing at Pinecrest Gardens will now stay an extra day to mentor New World School of Arts high school students under the direction of James Gaiser, thanks to a new grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. .

The foundation's Knight Arts Challenge funds ideas that bring South Florida together through the arts. Since 2010, Pinecrest has been actively working to position Pinecrest Gardens as South Florida's Performing Arts Park. Toward that end, Pinecrest was awarded Knight funding for the South Motors Jazz at Pinecrest Gardens, a 7-part jazz series that remains Pinecrest Gardens' most popular and artistically exceptional performance series.

"Everywhere you go in Miami, we want you to have an encounter with art. This jazz series will help not only bring a cultural opportunity to South Dade, but also build our next generation musicians through mentorships with accomplished performers," said Dennis Scholl, vice president of arts for Knight Foundation

Pinecrest will receive \$75,000 from the Knight Foundation over two years with a \$50,000 match by title sponsor South Motors, Inc. The funding will allow Pinecrest to give back to the community by providing young jazz musicians with an all-access, season long pass to jam with the likes of Branford Marsalis, Carmen Lundy, and Paquito D' Rivera, all the while providing world-class jazz concerts to a growing public at accessible prices, which at most run \$30 per ticket.

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Only musicians who are available and interested in both the performance and mentorship opportunity will be invited to participate. The Gen-Next Jam Sessions will take place on Sundays, when participating students arrive at the Banyan Bowl to meet, participate in workshops and jam with jazz masters.

About the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Knight Foundation supports transformational ideas that promote quality journalism, advance media innovation, engage communities and foster the arts. The foundation believes that democracy thrives when people and communities are informed and engaged. For more, visit KnightFoundation.org.

About Pinecrest Gardens

Pinecrest Gardens attracts over 150,000 visitors each year and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in October 2011, making it historically significant on a local, state and national platform. It is a premier venue for the arts, education and environmental conservation and preservation. On any given day one can catch an arts performance, tour the 14 acres of native forested wetland, tropical hardwood hammock and native cypress slough hammock or take a class in horticulture, archeology and botany.

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