



CELEBRATING HISTORIC MILESTONES

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---

(April 9, 2010)--- Hartford history comes alive on the front steps of City Hall! Connecticut's Capital City hosted a Jazz Appreciation Event featuring "Collective Expression"--- a jazz ensemble comprised of young arts who are graduate students of the Jackie McLean Institute of Jazz at the Hartford School of Music at the University of Hartford.

This special event helps shine the spotlight on an American original--- JAZZ--- as April is Jazz Appreciation Month. The featured ensemble is dedicated to its preservation by performing the works of the masters of Jazz, as well as original compositions.

Mayor Eddie A. Perez paid homage to this historical and living treasure of a musical art form by presenting a proclamation to The Artists Collective--- founded by the late, great Jackie McLean and his wife Dollie--- as this institution celebrates its 40th Anniversary and Hartford celebrates its 375th!

Mayor Perez says, "We are humbled by the contributions The Artists Collective has made to our youngsters, our community and to the world of music. The mentorship, the melodies, and the magic it has created over the years are priceless. We look forward to future collaborations and celebrations!"

More Hartford 375 events are on tap:

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| April 11 th : | Mark Twain's Most Moving Experience
4:00 p.m. at the Hartford Public Library Main Branch |
| May 1 st : | The 5 th Annual Office for Young Children Family Fair
12:00 p.m. City Hall |
| | Opening Day at the Carousel
Bushnell Park |
| June 12 th : | CT Science Center's 1 st Birthday
250 Columbus Blvd, Downtown Hartford |

More events will be announced throughout the year but marquee ones to look for already include Riverfront Recapture's Fireworks Celebration on July 10th and the Hooker Day Parade on October 23rd. Hartford 375 events will coincide with other major organizations that are celebrating milestones this year and complement the State of Connecticut's 375th Celebration.