

# THE CHICAGO | JAZZ | ENSEMBLE

in residence at Columbia College Chicago since 1965

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## **THE CHICAGO JAZZ ENSEMBLE WITH ARTISTIC DIRECTOR DANA HALL WELCOMES WYCLIFFE GORDON AS ITS 2012 LOUIS ARMSTRONG LEGACY PROGRAM ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE**

CHICAGO, IL - The **Chicago Jazz Ensemble (CJE)** with **Artistic Director Dana Hall** is pleased to announce **Wycliffe Gordon** as Artist-In-Residence for its **2012 Louis Armstrong Legacy Program and Celebration (LALPC)**. Trombonist, composer, and arranger Gordon was named the Jazz Journalists Association's 2011 Trombonist of the Year and is an internationally renowned music educator. LALPC is the CJE's signature educational partnership with **Chicago Public Schools**, and funding partners include the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation, Citi Foundation, the Crown Family, the Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust, Polk Bros. Foundation, and Columbia College Chicago.

Now in its fifth year, LALPC began in 2008 as a collaboration between the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation, Columbia College Chicago, and the program's first Artistic Director, **Jon Faddis**. Each spring semester, LALPC sends musicians from the Ensemble into nearly a dozen local schools as mentors to share the artistic legacy of **Louis Armstrong** and jazz music in general. During two one-week residencies, Wycliffe Gordon will work directly with students and educators in the Chicago Public Schools leading up to the program's culmination on **May 23-24, 2012**, when the students give their public Celebration performance at the Chicago Cultural Center to demonstrate their progress.

"I am very pleased to announce that trombonist, composer, and educator Wycliffe Gordon will serve as the Artist-in-Residence for the 2012 Louis Armstrong Legacy Program and Celebration," says **Artistic Director Dana Hall**. "Wycliffe is an educator of extraordinary integrity. He brings to the program a clear commitment to teaching and mentoring and the capacity to help build thoughtfully on the curriculum's excellent foundation. I welcome Wycliffe to Chicago and look forward to partnering with him on this significant Chicago Jazz Ensemble educational initiative."

Wycliffe Gordon has solidified a place in musical history as one of the top trombonists of his generation. The Jazz Journalists Association has named him Trombonist of the Year six times in the last ten years, and he tours regularly, leading the Wycliffe Gordon Quartet. He is a former member of the **Wynton Marsalis Septet** and the **Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra** and has also been a featured guest artist on Billy Taylor's "Jazz at the Kennedy Center" series. Gordon currently serves on the faculty of the Jazz Arts Program at **Manhattan School of Music**. His work with young musicians from elementary schools to universities worldwide includes master classes, clinics, workshops, and lectures. In September Gordon released **Hello Pops!**, a tribute album to Louis Armstrong, Gordon's favorite artist and a significant musical influence.

“This year we are adding free CJE Listening Sessions – intimate, fun, and interactive discussions on a topic of interest – to the program for participants, families, and the public to enjoy,” adds CJE **Education Director Darius Hampton**. “Through our partnership with the Center for Black Music Research at Columbia College Chicago, we are also adding the music of **Melba Liston** to diversify the program’s scope and to teach students about the contributions of female jazz artists.”

There is no fee for participation in LALPC and the program accepts student ensembles with diverse configurations and capabilities. The CJE is committed to bringing LALPC to schools with few resources and it welcomes students with little to no experience with jazz. **For more information** about participation or the program itself, please contact Darius Hampton at [dhampton@colum.edu](mailto:dhampton@colum.edu) or 312-369-6199. You can also visit [chicagojazzensemble.com/education](http://chicagojazzensemble.com/education).

### **CJE ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION**

The Chicago Jazz Ensemble is **Dana Hall**, Artistic Director and drums; **Dan Nicholson** and **Jarrard Harris**, alto saxophone; **Pat Mallinger** and **Rob Denty**, tenor saxophone and clarinet; **Tim McNamara**, baritone saxophone; **Andy Baker**, **Tim Coffman**, **Tom Garling**, and **Thomas Matta**, trombone; **Mark Olen**, **Larry Bowen**, **Art Hoyle**, and **Pharez Whitted**, trumpet; **Jeremy Kahn**, piano; **Jeff Parker**, guitar; **Dan Anderson**, bass; and **Bobbi Wilsyn**, vocals.

The CJE is proud to have been in residence at **Columbia College Chicago** since 1965.

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