



A SPECIAL JAZZ IN THE PARK® CONCERT

Building Community through Jazz

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 24, 2012

Magic City Smooth Jazz will host a Special Jazz in the Park® concert on Thursday, October 4, 2012, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. in the historic **Avondale Park** amphitheatre. This special free concert will feature national recording artist, Keiko Matsui. She is a citizen of the world that tours relentlessly and has brought her music to virtually every corner of the globe. Her music transcends boundary and her unique melting pot of musical influence has garnered an international following. "Music has no borders and it creates a oneness among people," confide the Japanese-born pianist, composer, and producer. An activist by nature, Keiko has not only used her music to speak to the world but she has lent her voice to causes championed by organizations like the United Nations World Food Programme. With over 1.5 million albums sold and scores of sold-out concerts across the globe, Keiko Matsui is one of the brightest stars in instrumental music. Her free spirit and creative genius have afforded her the luxury to share the stage with everyone from Stevie Wonder and Miles Davis to Hugh Masakela and Bob James.

Opening the show for Keiko Matsui will be one of Birmingham's favorite young groups of talented musicians, **The Neo Collective**. The Neo Collective has evolved from the professional youth ensemble to a nationally-signed recording artist under Audiostate 55 Entertainment.

JAZZ IN THE PARK® is an effort by Magic City Smooth Jazz, a non-profit, 501(c) (3) public charity, that increases cultural activities in neighborhoods and communities in the Greater Birmingham area by presenting a series of FREE summer performances in various parks and providing a platform on which local jazz artists can showcase their talents and unique artistic style of music of contemporary, straight-ahead, and Latin jazz. This third annual series is made possible by grants from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts; in-kind support from the City of Birmingham; corporate support from AT&T, BlueCross/BlueShield of Alabama, Coca-Cola, Wells Fargo, BBVA Compass, Regions Bank, Samford University's WVSU-FM, and Patti Moss Williams Communications. Due to a shortage in funding for 2012, additional sponsors are needed and appreciated to insure the continued success of these free events. If funds allow, we hope to add three concerts at Birmingham's Railroad Park later this year. If you would like to become a sponsor for one of these events, we welcome your call.

Bring your lawn chairs and coolers, and enjoy the music!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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