



The Sunshine Jazz Organization, Inc.

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For Immediate Release

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MUSIC IN THE PARK!

Friday, May 5th, 2017

MARCH 2017

MIAMI, FL – We are pleased to announce another great lineup for our bi-annual **Music in the Park** presentation on Friday, May 5th, co-sponsored by the SJO with Miami-Dade County Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan and The City of Miami Gardens. This popular community concert presents regional and international Jazz and Blues artists twice per year on the first Fridays in May and in December. These excellent musicians perform for the whole family under the stars and FREE of charge. We are proud to present two wonderful bands on May 5th – *The Yvonne Brown Quintet*, and *Ricky Williams & The Gang*.

Born in Atlanta, Ga., **Yvonne Brown** is a versatile song stylist of both Jazz and popular music. She has performed throughout the U.S., Canada and the Caribbean, from The Concorde and Copacabana in NYC, to The Las Vegas Sahara, Harrah's Lake Tahoe, Tropicana in Atlantic City and Disney World's Pleasure Island with her husband, bassist Charlie Brown. They eventually made South Fla. home, playing at The Fontainebleau, Sheraton Bal Harbour, Forge, Turnberry Isle, Fisher Island, O'Hara's Jazz Club, and Royal Caribbean Cruises. Yvonne has performed with South Florida's finest musicians - Jesse Jones, Jr., Dolph Castellano, Eric Allison, Melton Mustafa and Mike Gerber, and in collaboration with musician/magazine editor Jon Frangipane, she recreated the songs of Billie Holiday from 1930-1935. The project resulted in a two-night, sold-out event at Ft. Lauderdale's Riverside Hotel. ***The Yvonne Brown Quintet*** will feature Jesse Jones, Jr. on Alto Sax, Brian Murphy – Piano, Paul Shewchuk – Bass, and Lenny Steinberg – Drums.

Ricky Williams is a singer/songwriter/multi-instrumentalist who's mix of Smooth Jazz, R&B and Soul has stirred deep feelings among his fans. Brought up in New York City, Ricky has been blind since 6 years old. He started his career at 9 on the drums, then began piano at 14. His music career was blessed when he was booked at The Village Gate, The New Cotton Club and many after hour NYC clubs. Among his many credits, Williams wrote "Misty Morning" for original Temptation Ollie Woodson's album, and played Clavinet for Ben E. King's album "Super Natural". Ricky has also played with Bette Midler, Peter Nero, Roy Ayers, Sister Sledge, Luther Vandross, and Patti LaBelle. He was at Electric Lady Studio during the recording of many of Stevie Wonders compositions including Superstition and played on Stevie's "Soundbook". They continue to consult on the latest technology for blind musicians. Since relocating to South Fla., Williams has enjoyed performing with bands and as a solo performer, including 11 years at The Forge, an icon on Miami Beach. ***Ricky Williams & The Gang*** features Jeff Zovac – Tenor Sax, Elvis Taylor - Drums and Clyde McPhatter – Guitar.

Join us for **Music in the Park** on Friday, May 5th from 6:30pm-9:00pm at the Betty T. Ferguson Recreation Complex Amphitheater, 3000 NW 199th Street, Miami Gardens, FL 33056. There is ample seating, a concession stand and plenty of free parking. Info (305)474-3011; SunJazzOrg@aol.com.

SJO programming is presented with support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners.

Sunshine Jazz Organization Events are ADA Compliant



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