



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Monday, May 2, 2022

Delaware Valley University Jazz Band Outdoor Concert at Mercer Museum

DOYLESTOWN, PA – The Mercer Museum in Doylestown is pleased to feature the Delaware Valley University Jazz Band with special guests, The Delaware Valley Saxophone Quartet, for a special springtime afternoon of music celebrating the University’s 125th anniversary on Saturday, May 7, 2022 on the green of the Mercer Museum.

Directed by Dr. Jack Schmidt, the Delaware Valley University Jazz Band is composed of talented DelVal students, as well as members of the Doylestown community. The 19-member ensemble performs regularly on DelVal’s campus and has earned a reputation for their spirited performance of works from big band standards to the latest contemporary jazz and rock fusion. Guests will enjoy music by well-known artists such as Nat Adderly, Mercer Ellington, Pat Metheny, Stevie Wonder and others.

The ensemble is joined by the Delaware Valley Saxophone Quartet. Formed in 2008, the quartet is comprised of local musicians who share a love of music, especially music composed for the saxophone. The quartet specializes in a variety of musical styles, from classical to jazz to popular tunes. They play regularly for charitable organizations and special events in the Bucks County area and beyond.

This casual outdoor afternoon concert takes place from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm, and is free to the public. Picnic blankets and lawn chairs are encouraged, and the event is rain or shine.

In the case of inclement weather, the concert will be moved indoors to the Mercer Museum and seating will be provided.

Dr. Jack Schmidt, Professor of Music at Delaware Valley University, adds, “This concert represents a wonderful opportunity for the university to showcase its talented musicians and to help draw attention to DelVal’s 125th anniversary. As two of Doylestown’s leading cultural institutions, it’s exciting to partner with the Mercer Museum on a project such as this and to bring great music to the community.

Although originally founded as an agricultural school, music has been an important part of campus life at DelVal since the earliest days of its existence. In addition to its Jazz Band, the University currently offers students the opportunity to perform in a variety of vocal and instrumental ensembles. Since DelVal draws students with wide ranging academic interests, the talented musicians who perform in our musical ensembles major in a variety of the university’s academic programs. These students enjoy the opportunity to perform alongside experienced musicians from our region, continuing the tradition of excellent music at DelVal.”

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About the Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle, operated by the Bucks County Historical Society

Located in Doylestown, Bucks County, PA, the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle are historic castles celebrating the legacy of Henry Chapman Mercer (1856-1930), American archaeologist, anthropologist, ceramicist and scholar. Both sites are operated by the Bucks County Historical Society (BCHS).

The Mercer Museum, one of Bucks County’s premier cultural attractions and a Smithsonian affiliate, features both local and national seasonal exhibits as well as a core museum collection of over 50,000 pre-Industrial tools. This permanent collection offers visitors a unique window into pre-Industrial America through sixty different crafts and trades, and is one of the world’s most comprehensive portraits of American material culture. The museum also features a research library that is a center for local history related to Bucks County and the surrounding region, with its roots dating back to the founding of the Bucks County Historical Society in 1880.

Fonthill Castle was built between 1908-1912, and was the home to Henry Chapman Mercer. Mercer built Fonthill Castle as his home and as a showplace for his collection of tiles and prints. The castle serves as an early example of reinforced concrete and features forty-four rooms, over two hundred windows, and eighteen fireplaces. Fonthill Castle’s interior features Mercer’s renowned, hand crafted ceramic tiles designed at the height of the Arts and Crafts movement.

The Mercer Museum is located at 84 South Pine Street, Doylestown, PA, 18901.
Fonthill Castle is located at 525 East Court Street in Doylestown, PA, 18901.

The Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle are open Tuesdays – Sundays from 10a.m. – 5p.m.
For up-to-date information, please visit mercermuseum.org.

For additional information, please contact:

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