

For the Love of Jazz presents Vocalist Michele Weir in Concert on October 12

For Immediate Release: July 14, 2008
For more Information Contact: CJ Walters, 775-784-4895, cjc@unr.edu
For the Love of Jazz Website: www.reno-jazz.org/

For the Love of Jazz presents a vocal jazz concert featuring L.A. based vocalist Michele Weir, Portland pianist Randy Porter, and Reno favorites, Hans Halt on bass and Andy Heglund on drums on Sunday, October 12, 2008 from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. at the Sands Regency Dynasty Rooms A & B. In addition, the winner from the For the Love of Jazz Vocal Competition may be invited to perform on this concert as well. The concert is free with a \$10 suggested donation. Seating is limited.

The For the Love of Jazz Vocal Competition is designed to provide an opportunity of young jazz vocalists to identify and promote young talent throughout the western region! The competition is open to any amateur vocalist who hasn't established a career, regularly performing, or making a living as a jazz vocalist.

Michele Weir is currently a faculty member at U.C.L.A. and an internationally respected jazz educator, arranger and vocalist. Recent performance and presentations include the World Choral Symposium, the A.C.D.A National Conference and the I.A.J.E Convention. A former member of Grammy-nominated "Phil Mattson and the p.m. Singers," Michele has also toured internationally as a pianist and worked with various artists such as Bobby Vinton. Michele's arrangements are widely published (including those from her own company, MichMusic) and have been performed by a variety of ensembles including Chanticleer, New York Voices, Beachfront Property, Voice Trek, M-Pact, and the Buffalo, Cincinnati and Pacific Symphonies. Compositions have been featured on the Shari Lewis television show, and in 1998, Michele served as music supervisor for the foreign language dubs of the Dreamworks film, "Prince of Egypt," in six countries.

Pianist Randy Porter has performed with jazz greats including Freddie Hubbard, Art Farmer, Benny Golson, Wynton Marsalis and many others, and has toured with the Charles McPherson Quartet throughout the United States and in China, Italy and Greece. He also has toured and recorded with Gino Vannelli in the United States and Canada, and with bassist David Friesen in Europe.

Bassist Hans Halt has more than 30 years of professional experience which includes work with such San Francisco Bay Area musicians as Mark Levine and Pete Escovedo. Since moving to the Reno-Tahoe area, he has performed with many acclaimed jazz artists, including

Bobby Hutcherson, Lee Konitz, Joe Pass, Ravi Coltrane, Robin Eubanks, Cedar Walton and Peter Erskine. Halt has appeared on numerous locally produced CDs, including five with The Collective, which feature many of his original compositions.

Percussionist Andy Heglund moved to Reno in 1996 and since that time has performed with jazz artists including Lee Konitz, Cedar Walton, Bud Shank, Bobby Hutcherson, Ravi Coltrane, Robin Eubanks, Fred Hersch and others. He also performs with The Collective, The Reno Jazz Orchestra and the Discover Music Ensemble. Andy is a Local Artist for Pearl Drums and Adams Mallet Instruments.

For the Love of Jazz is a member-supported, non-profit organization which receives additional support from the Nevada Arts Council, the City of Reno, and sponsorship by the Sands Regency Hotel and Casino.

###