



**Media Release**

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## **Columbus State University Jazz Ensemble to Celebrate 5 Years of Live Jazz at The Loft Music Hall**

(Columbus, Georgia) The **Columbus State University Jazz Ensemble**, the flagship large ensemble of the CSU Jazz Studies Program, will perform its third annual “Uptown Jazz” show featuring two exciting and swinging sets of big band jazz. The concert, a part of the “Jazz at the Loft” Jazz Concert Series, marks the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the weekly Friday jazz concerts and will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 PM, Friday, November 6, 2015 at The Loft Music Hall located in The Loft Upstairs Restaurant (1032 Broadway) in Uptown Columbus. Admission is free and all community members are encouraged to attend. Tickets and/or reservations are not necessary; guests under the age of 21 are welcomed. More information is available at 706-649-7277 or at [music.columbusstate.edu/jazz](http://music.columbusstate.edu/jazz).

The **Columbus State University Jazz Ensemble** is a 18-piece large jazz ensemble focused on presenting the best in contemporary and classic big band music. For this concert, the band will be featuring the music of a wide variety of jazz big band icons. Selections will include *Groovin’ Hard* from the Buddy Rich Big Band, *Oh!* by jazz tenor great and composer Ernie Wilkins, *Kids Are Pretty People* from the Thad Jones library, *23°N/82°W* from The Stan Kenton Orchestra, John LaBarbara’s *Tiger of San Pedro*, *Slo-Funk* from the Bob Mintzer Big Band, and a soulful, Basie-inspired rendition of Hoagy Carmichael’s *Georgia On My Mind*.

Under the direction of Dr. Kevin Whalen, the Jazz Studies Program builds upon the mission of the Columbus State University Schwob School of Music by offering its students engaging jazz performance opportunities synchronized with in-depth study of jazz music. The program also hosts several small jazz combos, a jazz workshop experience, and a thorough curriculum of jazz courses designed to enhance performance ability and prepare future music educators to teach jazz in their communities.

The next performance from the Columbus State University Jazz Studies Program will take place November 13, 2013 at The Loft featuring the **CSU Jazz Quintet**.

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