VECTREN JUST JAZZ SERIES FEATURES
DAYTON FAVORITE HAL MELIA ON MAY 5

(DAYTON, OHIO) – April 21, 2011 – The Dayton Art Institute’s Vectren Just Jazz series presents Dayton favorite, The Hal Melia Quartet, on Thursday, May 5, at 5:30 p.m. in the museum’s Shaw Gothic Cloister.

The energy and personality Hal Melia brings to the stage are contagious. Those who have experienced his performances never forget his tireless effort and positive aura. The epitome of the multi-instrumentalist, Melia plays soprano, alto, tenor and baritone saxophones, flute, piccolo, clarinets (Bb, Eb Soprano, and Bass), and EWI (electronic wind instrument). Melia is also noteworthy as a vocalist and scat singer, and has composed and arranged work for a variety of settings.

Joining Melia for the Vectren Just Jazz performance will be Phil DeGreg on piano, Chris Berg on bass, and John Taylor on drums.

Melia spent 1986 through 1991 in Los Angeles recording and arranging with top jazz and R&B groups, such as Tower of Power Horns, Buddy Rich Band, and Billy Vera and the Beaters, and appearing in several major motion pictures, including Bugsy, Dick Tracy, The Marrying Man, Mobsters, and Parent Trap III.

In 1991, Melia returned to Dayton, where he was founder and director of Miami Valley Jazz Labs, a jazz school for kids from middle school through high school. He also taught jazz at various schools and privately in the Southwestern Ohio area, while maintaining a rigorous regional performing schedule. From 1998 – 2004, Melia was Visiting Assistant Professor of Music and Jazz Studies at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music

Melia currently serves as Adjunct Professor of Saxophone, Woodwinds, and Jazz Studies at Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio. In addition, he serves as Musical Director for the Miami Valley Summer Jazz Camp and teaches privately.

He also maintains a high profile as a performer, traveling across the nation as well as regionally doing Broadway Shows, various jazz performances and recordings, and serving as clinician and adjudicator for numerous jazz festivals.
For more about Hal Melia, including video clips, visit his website at [www.halmelia.com](http://www.halmelia.com).

The 2011 Vectren Just Jazz series presents concerts on the first Thursdays of March – June and August – November. There is no concert scheduled in July. Upcoming Vectren Just Jazz performances include:

- **June 2**: Kick ’N Flava
- **August 4**: Mark Lomax II
- **September 1**: The Kathy Wade Quartet
- **October 6**: Ed Clay & The Patrol
- **November 3**: Khalid Moss & Michael Bashaw

All performances begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Shaw Gothic Cloister at The Dayton Art Institute. Admission is FREE for museum members and $8 for non-members. General admission tickets may be purchased at The Dayton Art Institute the night of each performance.

For more information about the Vectren Just Jazz series and other programs at The Dayton Art Institute, please visit [www.daytonartinstitute.org](http://www.daytonartinstitute.org) or call the museum at 937-223-5277. Be sure to also visit The Dayton Art Institute on Facebook ([facebook.com/daytonartinstitute](http://facebook.com/daytonartinstitute)) and Twitter ([twitter.com/daytonart](http://twitter.com/daytonart)) for additional information and exclusive offers.

### ABOUT THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE

As one of the Miami Valley’s premier fine art museums, The Dayton Art Institute offers a full range of programming in addition to exhibiting its collection. The galleries and Museum Store are open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m., with extended hours on Thursday until 8 p.m. Suggested admission to the museum’s permanent collection is $8 adults, $5 seniors, students (18+) and groups, free for museum members and youth under 17. Some special exhibitions, programs and events may carry an additional charge and include admission to the museum’s permanent collection as part of that price. Free parking is available at the museum and the facility is fully accessible to physically challenged visitors. CAFÉ MONET by Elegant Fare serves lunch Wednesday through Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Sunday, noon – 2:30 p.m. For more information, please call 937-223-4278 or visit [www.daytonartinstitute.org](http://www.daytonartinstitute.org). The Ohio Arts Council helped fund this organization with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. The DAI also receives support from the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District.

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