

Monty Alexander Jazz Festival set for Labor Day weekend

EASTON—Tickets are going fast as patrons get ready to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Monty Alexander Jazz Festival this weekend in Easton.

Since 2010, the Monty Alexander Jazz Festival has grown from two concerts to six over Labor Day weekend. Hundreds of Shore residents, who never considered themselves jazz enthusiasts, now support the festival as benefactors and patrons, and the festival is drawing a growing number of jazz lovers from states near and far.

This year's festival has several concerts scheduled for Aug. 28 through 31 at the Academy Art Museum and the Avalon Theatre, in-

cluding a free New Orleans jazz concert featuring the Conservatory Classic Jazz Band at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 30, at Thompson Park in downtown Easton.

After kicking off Thursday, Aug. 28, at the Academy Art Museum with guitarist Frank Vignola, the festival will continue at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 29, with trumpeter Etienne Charles, a native of Trinidad, and his quintet at the Avalon Theatre.

At 11 a.m. Saturday, following the free concert in Thompson Park, the Conservatory Classic Jazz Band will lead a second line parade to the Tidewater Inn, where a lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., preceding the



Monty Alexander will perform Saturday, Aug. 30, at the Avalon Theatre.

salute at 2 p.m. to legendary jazz pianist and composer Dave Brubeck, who passed away in 2012. The salute will be led by Bob-

by Militello, who became Brubeck's alto saxophonist after the death of Paul Desmond.

At 8 p.m. Saturday, Monty Alexander will recreate his 2011 performance, "Jazz at Lincoln Center," with his trio and some jazz greats, including vocalist Allan Harris, hand drummer Robert Thomas and tenor saxophonist Houston Person.

Jazz/gospel singer Dee Daniels will wrap up the festival at 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 31, at the Avalon Theatre. She will be joined by the Jana Leslie Singers and the Alive at 5 Band of Christ Church Easton.



Etienne Charles will perform Friday, Aug. 29, at the Avalon Theatre.

A limited number of festival passes are still available. There is also a Discount Duo Balcony Package starting at \$30, featuring the concerts of Etienne Charles/David Brubeck, Monty Alexander/David Brubeck or Monty Alexander/Etienne Charles.

The Monty Alexander Jazz Festival, presented by Jazz on the Chesapeake, is a program of Chesapeake Chamber Music.

—

Online:
www.chesapeakejazz.org
www.montyalexander.com
www.etiennecharles.com
www.deedaniels.com



Vocalist Dee Daniels will perform Sunday, Aug. 31, at the Avalon Theatre.



Peacock

RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

at the Inn at 202 Dover