

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 7, 2010



Prairie Meadows:

Julie Stewart: 515-967-1241

Julie.Stewart@PrairieMeadows.com

Metro Arts Alliance:

Kim Poam Logan: 515-280-3222

Kim@metroarts.org

Prairie Meadows to Present 2010 Jazz in July Series

And Host a Kick-off Party on June 30

DES MOINES, IA – Metro Arts Alliance announced today that Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino will be the presenting sponsor of its Jazz in July series. The annual event is a long-standing tradition celebrated by many area communities in central Iowa.

“With their history of giving back to the community and leadership in the entertainment industry, Prairie Meadows is a terrific fit for Metro Arts Jazz in July”, said Brad Rippey, architect with Architectural Wall Systems and president of Metro Arts Alliance’s board of directors. As part of the presenting sponsorship, Prairie Meadows will also host a kick-off party with a national jazz musician on June 30. The party will be held in the apron of the racetrack.

Jazz artist Roxi Copland, who also serves on the Jazz in July Planning Committee, says: “It’s wonderful to have a sponsor with the presence of Prairie Meadows involved in Jazz in July this year. Thanks to Prairie Meadows and our other great sponsors, Metro Arts can proudly continue its long tradition of celebrating jazz in Iowa. I’m convinced that the 2010 season of Jazz in July will be the best yet, thanks to a stellar lineup of artists and the addition of the Prairie Meadows’ kick-off party and concert featuring an international jazz act.”

Each year, Metro Arts Jazz in July creates bigger neighborhood gatherings with more food, more artists, and more activities for a complete concert experience. In 2009, the series showcased 132 musicians and 20 visual artists and brought 15,325 people to 21 concerts across the metro.

Beginning in January, the Jazz in July Planning Committee reviews applications from musicians and sites in an effort to select talented musicians and enthusiastic site organizers to bring music to as much of the metro as possible. Each year, the committee works hard to include a mix of musicians from the metro area, from old favorites to emerging talent.

* * *

Prairie Meadows recently achieved a milestone in giving more than \$1 billion through taxes, grants and charitable donations to the State of Iowa. More than \$43 million of that figure has remained right here in our community to promote education, economic development, agriculture, jobs and tourism. Prairie Meadows stands alone in its charitable giving by returning 43% of its revenues back to the community, and continues to work toward improving the quality of life for every Iowan, every day.

Located in Des Moines’ historic Teachout Building in the East Village, Metro Arts Alliance works to advance the creative economy by engaging Central Iowans in arts education and opportunities such as Metro Arts Jazz in July, Metro Arts Expo, and Metro Arts Education on Location. To get involved or to request more information about Metro Arts programs, call 515-280-3222 or visit the website at

