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For Immediate Release

Jazz in the Park for Charity Supports Area Non-Profits

University Park, May 8, 2006 - An afternoon of great music, good friends, delicious food, and the chance to help many worthy causes will bring together fans of jazz and supporters of a myriad of social and cultural organizations on June 25 at Governors State University in University Park.

"Jazz in the Park for Charity" offers a unique entertainment opportunity and the chance to support south suburban non-profit agencies through ticket purchase, silent auction, door prizes, and contributions.

"We wanted to bring together people who support the organizations that do good things in our community for an enjoyable event that is both a celebration and an opportunity to raise money to support our good work," explained Ron Bean of the GSU Foundation.

"Jazz in the Park for Charity" will be held on the grounds of the university's main campus. The Governors State University Foundation is coordinating the logistics of the event with the other sponsors.

In addition to the GSU Foundation, 14 other non-profit agencies are co-sponsors and are committed to making the event a success. Each agency is responsible for selling tickets, donating auction items, and providing volunteer workers on the day of the event. The funds raised by "Jazz in the Park" will be divided between participating agencies.

"This will be a wonderful evening of food, music, and the chance to raise money for worthy organizations," explains Patricia Braden, Development Assistant for SouthStar Services. "The event includes some of the finest cuisine in the south suburbs, jazz music played by premier musicians, and exciting live and silent auctions."

Sponsors of the event include Girl Scouts of South Cook County, Grand Prairie Services, Governors State University Foundation, Healing Racism (Chicago Southland), League of Women Voters of the Homewood/Flossmoor area, Homewood Rotary, Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra, Illinois Youth Advocate Program, Matteson Rotary Special Kids Fund, Inc., Midwest Palliative and Hospice Care Center, National Council of Jewish Women, South Star Services, South Suburban Chicago Links, Inc., Tall Grass Arts Association, and Union Street Gallery.

"Jazz in the Park for Charity" will include performances by local jazz entertainers. Denise Jordan Walker, founder of Candid Jazz and Conversations, will emcee the show. Refreshments will be provided by several south suburban restaurants and auction items include unique vacations, electronics, and jewelry.

Tickets for "Jazz in the Park for Charity" are only \$40 and are available from each of the participating organizations. Tickets are \$50 at the gate on June 25. For more information, call (708) 534-4105.