



MEDIA ADVISORY

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Top BCPS high school jazz musicians and vocalists to take the stage tonight for All-County Jazz Concert

Program is free and open to the public

What: Baltimore County Public Schools' best jazz musicians and vocalists will perform in the annual All-County Jazz Concert. The 32 students of the All-County Jazz Chorus and 24 students of the All-County Jazz Band will be led by two internationally known jazz educators and musicians, Jim McFalls and Dr. Darden Purcell. Students selected for the Jazz Band and Jazz Chorus represent 12 high schools: Catonsville, Dulaney, Eastern Technical, George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology, Hereford, Lansdowne, Milford Mill Academy, New Town, Patapsco High School and Center for the Arts, Perry Hall, Towson, and Western School of Technology.

McFalls, who has guest conducted county, district, and all-state level jazz ensembles throughout the nation, will lead the concert's jazz band, while Purcell, a Washington, D.C.-based jazz vocalist and featured soloist with symphony orchestras, big bands, and small ensembles, will conduct the evening's jazz chorus.

When: **Friday, January 26, at 7:30 p.m.**

Where: **George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology**

938 York Road, Towson MD 21204

Background: Dr. Purcell has shared the stage with many top jazz artists. She is the Director of Jazz Studies, Jazz Voice instructor and Director of the Downbeat award-winning Mason Jazz Vocal Ensemble at George Mason University, and she has performed at concert halls and clubs nationally and internationally. She is also a sought-after jazz educator. Darden has released two CDs, “Easy Living” and “Where the Blue Begins,” and she recently released a third album “Love’s Got Me in a Lazy Mood” on Origin Records.

McFalls, a freelance musician, spent 17 years on a world touring and recording stint with the Jazz Ambassadors, the premiere touring jazz ensemble of the U.S. Army. Following his retirement from the military, he has performed with Chuck Brown (Washington’s “Godfather of Go-Go”), the Baltimore Symphony Pops Orchestra, the Harrisburg Symphony and the Kennedy Center Orchestra. His recording credits include more than 50 projects as a featured soloist as well as numerous national television spots. Currently, Jim is a member of both the internationally renowned Capitol Bones and Technicolor Motorhome, voted several years running by Baltimore Magazine as the area’s best tribute band.

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[Baltimore County Public Schools](#), the nation’s 22nd largest school system, engages and empowers its talented students, teachers, staff, and stakeholders and strives to build an innovative and collaborative learning community where all students excel and reach their highest potential.

Engage. Empower. Excel.