

CALVIN JONES
Big Band
Jazz Festival



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Press Quotes

“This Week Jazz Gets a Big Boost.” – *Washington Post*, April 22, 2005.

“The festival began in 1987 as part of a citywide tribute to Duke Ellington and has become a major showcase for jazz studies programs at local universities.” – *Washington Post*, April 22, 2005.

“The program became an annual standing-room-only tradition; radio hosts -- including his [Calvin Jones] close friend Felix Grant, who contributed generously to help establish a UDC national archive of jazz -- joined in to present the talent that rocks the rooftop of the campus auditorium every April.” – *Washington Post*, October 23, 2004.

“College Jazz to the Nth Degree.” – *Washington Post*, May 1, 2001.

“The 15th University Big Band Jazz Festival, staged Monday night at the University of the District of Columbia, provided a well-deserved showcase for three local ensembles brimming with youthful talent and energy.” – *Washington Post*, May 2, 2001.

“Big Bands’ College Showcase.” – *Washington Post*, May 5, 1992.

“The once popular notion that big bands are a dying breed was roundly refuted by three college ensembles at the University of the District of Columbia last week...Given the setting, it came as no surprise that the UDC Jazz Ensemble won the loudest ovations of the night, but it earned them as well.” – *Washington Post*, May 5, 1992.

“You can’t overestimate what Calvin Jones brought to the table because he was a visionary – he was doing a lot of these [jazz education] things before it was fashionable to do them. And I love the thought of their Big Band Festival because of all the people they’re going to reach.” – *Washington Post*, April 22, 2005.

“Calvin Jones – versatile trombonist, pianist, bassist, composer and arranger -- was one who extended his talents to the classrooms of Washington, from elementary schools to college, sharing a keen insider’s knowledge of the music’s importance to American history.” – *Washington Post*, October 23, 2004.

“Trombonist Calvin Jones...joined the UDC faculty in 1976 and established its jazz studies program in 1984. Jones’s personality would become embedded in that program via the many compositions and arrangements he wrote for UDC’s jazz ensembles, as well as the quality of the musicians who passed through it.” – *Washington Post*, April 22, 2005.

“...under Jones’ direction the University’s Jazz Studies program has evolved into one of the leading programs in the country, Jones produced the top collegiate jazz ensembles in the region.” *Washington Informer*, 2004.

“The Jazz Studies Program’s...calendar of recitals and public performances by student and faculty jazz performers is one of the most ambitious of those presented by area universities’ music departments.” – *Washington Times*, August 16, 2001.

“...gradually but impressively, the capital city’s own university is on its way to becoming an internationally known sanctuary, archive and living work center for the study and appreciation of jazz.” – *Washington Post*, May 5, 1990.