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Capital Vox, Ottawa's jazz choir, celebrates its first birthday in an anniversary Spring Concert at First Unitarian Church

Capital Vox, Ottawa's Jazz Choir, is looking forward to its Happy 1st Birthday Capital Vox Spring Concert 2008 on Saturday April 26. Join us as we sing original arrangements of songs by jazz composers Miles Davis, Duke Ellington, George Gershwin, Jon Hendricks, Antonio Carlos Jobim, Thelonious Monk, Oscar Peterson, Wayne Shorter, and others. Capital Vox will present the world premiere of the original work, *Where Everything is Music*. We'll also unveil our 2008-2009 season. Our dynamic vocalists and gifted jazz ensemble promise a very memorable evening in the beautiful sanctuary of Ottawa's First Unitarian Church.

As Ottawa's only community jazz choir, the members of Capital Vox are all excellent vocalists in their own right, several of whom perform in the city. Capital Vox is comprised of 18 voices plus the able accompaniment of guitarist Tim Bedner, bassist Mark Alcorn, and drummer Marilee Townsend - who perform regularly as Alcorn Bedner Townsend. For this anniversary performance Capital Vox is excited to welcome special guests pianist Yves Laroche and saxophonist Jason Scott.

The choir's first year to date has included their debut concert, a cabaret presentation, and being the anchor choir in a massed choir event presenting sacred jazz. The choir was formed to explore the works of classic jazz composers, as well as standards old and new, in a large group vocal setting. It also seeks to recast traditional music in a new, jazzy light; as well as present music by Canadian jazz composers. The choir membership seeks continual growth in vocal, improvisational, and musicianship skills; culminating in quality music-making and concert performances.

Elise Letourneau, Capital Vox's founding music director, is an Ontario native recently returned from 20+ years in the U.S. She has enjoyed creating the evening's musical arrangements immensely. Her recordings have garnered airplay on both sides of the border. In addition to composing and arranging for a wide variety of settings, Elise enjoys a full and diverse voice and piano instruction practice and an active performance schedule, averaging 75-100 dates annually. Earlier this season, she directed Ottawa's first Sacred Jazz Choral Summit.

The Happy 1st Birthday Capital Vox Spring Concert 2008 will take place on Saturday April 26 at The First Unitarian Church of Ottawa, 30 Cleary Avenue. The concert begins at 7:30 PM, and doors open at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. Tickets are available at The Leading Note downtown at 370 Elgin Street, Alcorn Music Studios at 903 Carling Avenue, from choir members, or at the door.

A reception will follow the concert. Please visit www.capitalvox.ca for more information.

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