



# The Kansas City Jazz Orchestra

LET'S PLAY SOON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For Tickets: 816.994-7222 or visit [www.kcjo.org](http://www.kcjo.org) and [www.kauffmancenter.org](http://www.kauffmancenter.org)



**Kansas City Jazz Orchestra  
Announces  
*In the Key of KC*  
Saturday, September 23, at 8 p.m.  
at Helzberg Hall in  
Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts  
Conversations in Jazz 2023-2024 Opening Season Concert**

## **And Album Release Party!**

### **Featuring Guest Artist Eboni Fondren**

**KANSAS CITY, MO (August 30, 2023)** — Kansas City Jazz Orchestra Executive Director Lea Petrie today announced the opening concert for the Conversations in Jazz 2023-2024 Season, ***In the Key of KC*, Saturday, Sept. 23 at 8 p.m.** at Helzberg Hall of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts (1601 Broadway, KCMO 64108). At 7 p.m., Artistic Director Clint Ashlock will lead a pre-concert Jazz Chat.

### ***In the Key of KC***

**Saturday, Sept. 23 at 8 p.m.**

We are excited to kick off the 21st season with a brand-new recording: *In The Key of KC*, and you're invited to come celebrate the release with us! The Kansas City Jazz Orchestra is proud to reflect the great tradition of music from our city, and energized to present something you can't hear anywhere else. Featuring new originals and swinging standards and the incredible talent of vocalist Eboni Fondren, KCJO is kicking off this year with a bang!

Kansas City Jazz Orchestra Artistic Director Clint Ashlock stated, "As we enter the 21<sup>st</sup> year of our love affair with Kansas City, we could think of no better way to celebrate than to kick things off with an album release party! *In The Key Of KC* is a project we are so thrilled to share... it'll be a swinging night at the Kauffman Center with the talented band and special guest Eboni Fondren. We will perform tracks from the record as well as a slew of big band favorites. It will be a truly fantastic Signature Series this season and we do hope you'll join us for every landmark show, starting on September 23<sup>rd</sup>!"

High - res photos, audio and video can be found at [KCJO Media](#).

### **Support**

Thank you to the following funders for underwriting our 2023-2024 season: The Missouri Arts Council, Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund, Geraldine, and R.A. Barrows Trust, UMB Bank, Trustee, The Richard J. Stern Foundation for the Arts, Commerce Bank, Trustee, and Eugene and Linda Hall

### **Ticket Information**

Singlet tickets are now on sale! For information about purchasing tickets, visit [www.kcjo.org](http://www.kcjo.org) or call 816-994-7222.

### **Connecting to our Community**

Kansas City Jazz Orchestra Announces *In the Key of KC* Sept. 23 at Kauffman Center

For the latest news and updates, be sure to follow us on all of our social media channels: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) pages, as well as our blog, [Clef Notes](#).

### **About Kansas City Jazz Orchestra**

**MISSION:** Through performances and education programs, The Kansas City Jazz Orchestra preserves the rich heritage of jazz, nurtures its growth, and encourages its appreciation as an art form for all ages.

**VISION:** The Kansas City Jazz Orchestra is an internationally acclaimed, premier performing arts icon providing jazz entertainment and education.

Founded in 2003, the Kansas City Jazz Orchestra is one of the nation's preeminent big bands, performing classic and original repertoire in a variety of settings. With the beautiful Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts as a home base, KCJO's concert season puts forth engaging themed shows ranging from Duke Ellington's early works to brand-new reimaginations of pop music, "celebrating the past, and embracing the future." In addition to the season, the orchestra plays a variety of concerts, dances, and festivals, engaging audiences from Kansas City, Missouri to Hannover, Germany, and beyond.

KCJO engages with the community through its educational programs which work to train the next generation of talented Kansas City musicians. Through masterclasses with visiting guest artists, in-school programs, and outreach events for all ages such as Listening Parties and Jazz Cafés KCJO is extremely active in facilitating the cultural preservation of Jazz music.

For more information, please visit [kcjo.org](http://kcjo.org).

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