



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Community Jazz Gala

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### Community Jazz Gala

**February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Victoria BC** - Once again the Wardroom-Officer's Mess at the Canadian Forces Base in Esquimalt will light up with live jazz to support the community work of the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association (FGCA). The Wardroom will transform into a semi-formal event offering wine tastings, gourmet appetizers, extravagant decor and a silent auction. The evening of dancing, tasting and bidding will support a local charity, and feature esteemed jazz artists such as Trio Espresso, the Esquimalt High Senior Combo and Anne Schaefer & Zachary Santella.

The Community Jazz Gala is the FGCA's inaugural fundraiser aiming to raise **\$15,000.00**. The funds raised by the Community Jazz Gala will directly strengthen our new youth programs, our 'safe space' campaign and the growing children, family and recreation programs the FGCA provides for more than 20,000 community members.

"Fundraising is the cornerstone of sustainability for charitable organizations, and the FGCA is very excited to be presenting our inaugural Community Jazz Gala. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our invaluable supporters and we are particularly excited to have youth and local jazz artists performing" Said Executive Director Joan Kotarski, "It will be a fabulous evening!"

This year the Community Jazz Gala joins the thriving jazz culture in Victoria to bring together community members from all over Greater Victoria with a 'neighbourhood inspired' silent auction. Bidders can expect to find packages including Napa Valley wine tours, a sailing excursion, private cooking classes, a romantic Comox Valley getaway and many more!

*Anne Schaefer & Zachary Santella*, acclaimed local Victoria jazz artists, will welcome guests with a grand piano duo combining classic jazz and sultry rhythm and melody. The *Esquimalt High Senior Combo*, the featured youth band, will open the gala with playful renditions of all time jazz favourites followed by jazz singer-songwriter Carol Sokoloff and Trio Espresso, local artists known for swinging, tasty jazz (both standards and originals) who have been featured in Jazzfest and have been dazzling Victoria's jazz scene for more than five years.

On Feb 10<sup>th</sup> the Community Jazz Gala is honoured to offer this eclectic group of local artists for your enjoyment in support of the FGCA.

The FGCA is honoured to announce that CTV is our Television Media Sponsor and we would like to thank all the local businesses that have supported the FGCA on this initiative. This will be a memorable evening for wine and jazz enthusiasts as well as local community and business members.


Be apart of a greater network of supporters dedicated to the growth of this caring association. "The support of this event will go towards making a lasting difference in the lives of 20,000 community members who rely on our services" Joan Kotarski, Executive Director.

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**About Fairfield Gonzales Community Association (FGCA):**

To fill widening gaps in the social services, the FGCA's provides affordable, local and quality services for residents. The FGCA is a charitable, non-profit organization that has been building and connecting communities since 1975 by promoting, supporting and providing programs that enhance the quality of life in the Fairfield-Gonzales area and Greater Victoria BC. Services range from innovative education, recreation and social programs for children, youth and families to operating a community centre and promoting civic engagement and environmental preservation.

Working in close partnership with the City of Victoria a \$150,000.00 renovation took place in 2011, and in mid September we proudly announced the completion of a long-term goal of safe youth space. This renovation enabled the FGCA to provide a safe space for local youth to socialize, learn leadership skills and build character. In December 2011 we completed a short-term capital campaign called the "YOUTH SPACE" campaign which reached out to local Fairfield/Gonzales residents and raised \$10,000.00! The Community Jazz Gala fundraiser is an extension of our ongoing sustainability plan and aspiration of supporting our local youth.



*"The whole community should  
know that small miracles take  
place at the*

*[Fairfield Community] Place"*

*-Long-time resident, past president  
and individual donor*

For further information/interview requests please visit:

Website: [www.fairfieldcommunity.ca](http://www.fairfieldcommunity.ca)

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<http://www.facebook.com/#!/FairfieldGonzalesCommunityAssociation>