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Great Music with a Great Mission

New Haven, Conn. — June 9, 2010 — Now in its 18th year, Connecticut's own Hot Steamed Jazz Festival returns to its time-honored venue of Essex on the scenic Connecticut River from June 25 through June 27, 2010, bringing the sounds of traditional jazz, Dixieland, New Orleans jazz, ragtime and more to its listeners. Much more than a great listen, the festival is an eagerly awaited annual event whose proceeds benefit children diagnosed with cancer, AIDS and other serious illnesses who attend The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp – founded by Paul Newman and also located in Connecticut. Together with its year-round programs and outreach to children in hospitals, the camp serves 15,000 youngsters each year.

"We are looking forward to bringing in hot new bands as well as some old favorites," said Hot Steamed Jazz Festival president Karen Senn. Featured groups include Bolcom and Morris, the Galvanized Jazz Band with Jane Campedelli, Bob Seeley, the Cangelosi Cards, Dan Levinson, the Buffalo Ridge Jazz Band, the Firecracker Jazz Band and much more.

"The Festival is proud that its proceeds go to support The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp," says Hot Steamed Jazz Festival board member Judy Postemsky of Clinton, Connecticut who is also a Camp supporter. "A week at the Camp gives children with cancer and other illnesses the chance to make friendships with other children going through the same challenges they are. It's empowering for them. It gives them a renewed sense of hope and accomplishment," she explains. The Festival has supported the Camp since 1994.

The Festival started in 1992 with the goal of bringing the best of Greater New England's traditional jazz, swing and blues to Connecticut for a full weekend. Today, it is recognized by musicians, jazz critics and aficionados for presenting high quality New Orleans-style, traditional jazz.

The Hot Steamed Jazz Festival is a three-day event that takes place from Friday evening at 7:00pm through Sunday evening at 5:00pm (four sessions) at the Essex Steam Train, an entertaining venue for young and old in its own right, located at 1 Railroad Avenue in Essex, Connecticut. This non-profit, all-volunteer event takes place rain or shine and offers ample seating under two tents as well as free parking. For tickets and information, visit www.hotsteamedjazz.com or call 800-348-0003.

About The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp

Founded in 1988 by Paul Newman, the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp is a non-profit, residential summer camp and year-round center serving children and their families coping with cancer and other serious illnesses and conditions. Each year, Camp programs provide services to more than 15,000 children. All of the Camp's services are provided free of charge. For more information, see www.holeinthewallgang.org.

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