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For Immediate Release

***Dates, Artists and Times Set For 2005
Omaha Riverfront Jazz and Blues Festival***

“The Premier Jazz and Blues Festival in the Midwest”

OMAHA (5/05) – Festival officials announced the dates and times for the 2005 Omaha Riverfront Jazz and Blues Festival presented by US Bank. The festival will be held on July 8 and 9 on the Lewis & Clark Landing located on the boardwalk overlooking the Missouri River in downtown Omaha. Performances begin at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, July 8 and last until 11:30 p.m. The entertainment continues on Saturday, July 9 at 3:30 p.m. and lasts until 11:30 p.m.

The festival has become the highly anticipated event of the summer and this year promises to deliver another knockout. Festival promoter Tim Clark said, “the Omaha Riverfront Jazz & Blues Festival is a world class festival in the making and is capturing the excitement of the City’s growth. We’re putting Omaha on the map!” The festival is two days packed with live musical performances featuring some of the most celebrated jazz and blues musicians both locally and nationwide.

The jazz and blues artist sharing center stage for 2005 are Jazz Guitarist Kevin Eubanks, Smooth Jazz artist Brian Culbertson, Jazz Saxophonist Kirk Whalum, Blue Mercy Band, Jazz Violinist Ken Ford, Zedeco Gamblers, jazz artist Brian Jackson and The Gulizia Brothers.

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Tickets for the Omaha Riverfront Jazz and Blues Festival may be purchased at the **Ticket Omaha Office** located at the Orpheum Theater, online at www.ticketomaha.org, by phone at (402) 345-0606 or (402) 341-1811 (TTY). Tickets can also be purchased at **Leola's CD's & Tapes, all Homers locations and Import Village**. Daily tickets purchased in advance are \$15, \$20 at the gate and \$25 for both days. Advance tickets are subject to service charges at the various outlets.

Special hotel packages are available for those attending the Omaha Riverfront Jazz and Blues Festival. For more information, contact Audrey Hulseley at Convention Meeting Services – info@CMSOmaha.com or call 888.339.1142/402.393.1142.

The Omaha Riverfront Jazz and Blues Festival is produced by the Midland's Cultural and Historical Association; a non-profit organization. The Omaha Riverfront Jazz & Blues Festival is a staple in the cultural preservation of Jazz & Blues music. The festival emphasizes the importance and contributions of Jazz and Blues in America and continues to celebrate the rich heritage of Jazz and Blues in the Omaha community.

Complete festival information can be obtained through www.omahajazzandblues.com or by calling 402.884.1214. This event is managed by Clark Connection Group.

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