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June 22, 2026

Dear Board Chair Nobuyuki Magura and Executive Committee Chair Yoshitaka Kinoshita,

Our warmest regards from the Board of Monterey Jazz. It is our hope that the Monterey Jazz Festival in Noto will take place this year and be as successful as ever. We appreciate the power of music that brings people together, and we hope the festival can do this for the Noto community.

This September, the Monterey Jazz Festival will highlight "Only in Monterey" events. We look forward to showcasing performances that will only happen in Monterey -for example: Herbie Hancock and Ron Carter coming together to perform "For Miles" as a duet, never too have been done before or again – "Only in Monterey". We will also be hosting a Monterey Surprise with different performers reprising music from 1958 – "Only in Monterey" and, of course, our Next Generation Jazz Orchestra and Women in Jazz ensemble will be playing in Monterey once again. Meshell Ndegeocello will also be debuting a commission piece "America 250" as her first appearance in Monterey. 2026 Artist in Residence will be Ambrose Akinmusire.

We look forward to continuing our greatly valued partnership.

Best of luck with your festival!

Sincerely,

Larry Williams
Board President
Monterey Jazz

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