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### **City of Orlando Welcomes First Annual Food and Wine Festival**

**Orlando, FL, September 9, 2008** -- Orlando's premier jazz radio station, Smooth Jazz 103.1 WLOQ, *Orlando Home & Leisure* magazine and the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association (FRLA) are combining efforts to present the city with its first annual Orlando Food and Wine Fest. On November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Orlando residents can hit the streets of downtown to experience live music along with some of the city's best culinary offerings from the region's most popular restaurants.

"Orlando is a city which found its roots in the heart of world-class entertainment and culinary expertise," said FRLA Central Florida Chapter president Mitch Doren. By bringing together Orlando's best restaurants, wineries and live music, 103.1 WLOQ, *Orlando Home & Leisure* and the FRLA are showcasing what our city is all about – and what we hope will become a longstanding tradition."

The first annual Orlando Food and Wine Fest will feature live entertainment from award-winning artists, including Craig Chaquico, former Jefferson Starship lead guitarist and chart-topping artists the Sax Pack, Everette Harp, Steve Oliver, and others. Restaurants offering culinary selections range from Emeril's Tchoup

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Tchoup, Primo's, The Boheme, and Kobe Steakhouse to Urban Flats, Funky Monkey and Sonny's Bar-B-Q. Attendees can enjoy wine tastings, live instructional cooking demonstrations, a chef's stage and even an outdoor sports bar.

"Smooth Jazz 103.1 WLOQ and *Orlando Home & Leisure* magazine are thrilled to help bring this long-overdue festival to Downtown Orlando. We know it will become a legendary event in Central Florida – one that residents will look

forward to year after year,” says Kim McFadden, Events Director, Gross Communications.

The event will stretch throughout Downtown Orlando along Lake Eola on Robinson Street.

Admission is \$10 in advance and \$15 at the gate. Sunday is free with paid Saturday admission and Children 12 and under are free. Hours on Saturday will be 12noon to 9pm and on Sunday will be 12noon to 6pm. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association Educational Foundation. Further information is available at [www.orlandofoodandwinefest.com](http://www.orlandofoodandwinefest.com).

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