FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Navy Pier Jazzes Up Thursday Evenings with Big Sounds at Tiny Tavern

The Midwest’s top-attended leisure destination kicks off free six-week jazz ensemble concert series at new craft cocktail lounge, starting Thursday, February 23

CHICAGO (February 21, 2017) – Navy Pier is all about that jazz. The popular lakefront destination introduces a free jazz concert series, Big Sounds at Tiny Tavern. The Pier has teamed up with its new craft cocktail lounge, Tiny Tavern, and the Jazz Institute of Chicago to launch the six-week soirée, which offers a fun, sultry twist to Thursday evenings, while giving a nod to Chicago’s historic and influential jazz scene.

Every Thursday from February 23 to April 6, guests are welcome to swing and sway to the smooth tunes of three different ensembles from the Jazz Institute of Chicago. Performances begin at 5:30 p.m. and end at 7 p.m. During the jazz sets, Tiny Tavern will offer guests complimentary appetizers with the purchase of a bottle of sparkling wine or champagne.

Big Sounds at Tiny Tavern is set to feature three prominent local jazz ensembles throughout the series:

Cole DeGenova Quartet—As a pianist, vocalist and composer, Cole DeGenova has spent most of his life crafting his eclectic artistic voice, beginning his career at age 16 as a jazz pianist around his native Chicago. As a bandleader, he started his funky alternative soul group Cole DeGenova & The Peoples Republic at the prestigious Berklee College of Music, where he released his first album JUST PEOPLE AGAIN in 2009. A few years later, DeGenova released his second album ANOTHER COUNTRY. Now based in Chicago and Los Angeles, he is both, an in demand studio musician, as well as a touring performer around the globe. He has worked with Grammy Award winner Chance the Rapper, Lupe Fiasco, Brett Dennen, Gallant, and Latin Grammy Award winner Lucky Diaz, to name a few. His third album, THE RADIO HERO MIXTAPE, was released spring of 2015. His song, “Hollywood Girl,” was chosen as a finalist in the 2015 American Songwriting Awards.
Kenthaney Redmond Quartet—A flutist and composer raised on the Westside of Chicago, Redmond began his music education at the age of 10 playing the violin. He later changed to the flute and at the age of 12 and discovered jazz shortly after. He draws inspiration from a wide variety of flutist including Hubert Laws, Jean-Pierre Rampal, Greg Pattillo and Ian Anderson. Trained at Merit School of Music and The Chicago High School for the Art, Redmond has studied with Nicole Mitchell, Jarrard Harris, Steve Million and others. Redmond is currently finishing his undergraduate studies at Roosevelt University.

Josh Ross Quartet—A Chicago native, Joshua Ross has been playing drums since the age of 2. He attended the Chicago High Schools of the Arts from 2009-2013, where he established himself as one of the city’s best young musicians. He has played with many jazz greats, such as Herbie Hancock, Sean Jones, Gerald Clayton, Nicole Mitchell, Benny Green, among others.

Full performance schedule listed below:

- February 23 – Kenthaney Redmond Quartet
- March 2 – Cole DeGenova Quartet
- March 16 – Josh Ross Quartet
- March 23 – Josh Ross Quartet
- March 30 – Kenthaney Redmond Quartet
- April 6 – Cole DeGenova Quartet

As the Fifth Third Bank Centennial Celebration continues in 2017, Navy Pier looks forward to introducing more dynamic and innovative year-round programming for guests to experience and enjoy for free. For more information on this and other special offerings at the Pier, please visit www.navypier.com.

Navy Pier Mission Statement
Navy Pier is the People’s Pier, Chicago’s lakefront treasure, welcoming all and offering dynamic and eclectic experiences through partnerships and programs that inspire discovery and wonder.

About Navy Pier
Located on Lake Michigan, Navy Pier is the top-attended leisure destination in the Midwest, stretching more than six city blocks and welcoming more than 9 million guests annually. Originally opened in 1916 as a shipping and recreation facility, this Chicago landmark showcases more than 50 acres of parks, restaurants, attractions, retail shops, sightseeing and dining cruise boats, exposition facilities and more. In 2017, Navy Pier continues to celebrate its centennial with a series of special events and programming, year-round rides on the Centennial Wheel and ongoing pier-wide redevelopment efforts as part of the Centennial Vision. Navy Pier, as a nonprofit organization, maintains and manages the 50-acre pier that is being redeveloped as a contemporary, environmentally responsible urban space. More information is available at www.navypier.com.

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