Written by Janella Newsome
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(New Orleans) – Dillard University will host a seminar, The Jazz Culture of New Orleans, on Friday, October 10 and Saturday, October 11, 2008. An early-bird screening of the award-winning film, “Faubourg –Treme: The Untold Story of Black New Orleans” will begin on Friday, October 10 at 9:00 a.m. Otherwise, programs will begin each day at 10:45 a.m. and will be held in Stern Hall Auditorium on the Dillard campus. All seminar activities are free and open to the public. Also, a band of outstanding musicians has been assembled to play in a special jam session at 6:00 p.m. on October 10. Performing will be Mr. Edward Anderson, Mr. Herlin Riley, Mr. Jesse McBride, Mr. Jason Weaver, Ms. Sasha Masakowski and others.

Dr. Rhineholt Wagenleitner (University of Salzburg, Austria), Mr. Tom McDermott and Dr. Michael White (Xavier University) will give keynote presentations. Other speakers include: Dr. Marvalene Hughes (President of Dillard University), Dr. Robert O’Meally (Columbia University), Mr. Greg Davis, Ms. Joan Rhodes, Dr. Mona Lisa Saloy, Dr. Henry Lacey, and Mr. Edward Anderson.

The seminar is designed to promote an understanding of the central role and benefits of jazz in a world context, and also to contribute to the continuation of the music and related cultural forms. The seminar will address the following topics: “What is New Orleans?;” “The Jazz Culture of New Orleans;” “Jazz: The State of the Art;” “Jazz: The Classical Music of Globalization;” “The 2005 Disaster and the Future of Jazz in New Orleans;” and “Dr. Michael White: A Life in Jazz.”

For more information call 816-4701. This seminar is supported in partnership with the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and Foundation and the European Section of the Southern History Association.