



# University of the District of Columbia

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*"...a new day,  
a new opportunity"*

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **David "Fathead" Newman to Headline University of the District of Columbia Foundation's Annual Gala**

Washington, D.C. - The University of the District of Columbia Foundation has announced that top jazz performer David "Fathead" Newman will headline the entertainment for the Foundation's Fourth Annual Gala, scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, 2005 at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. The gala is the Foundation's primary fund-raising event, with proceeds going to support the University of the District of Columbia.

Newman, a tenor saxophonist, was a twelve-year member of the late Ray Charles' Band. His most recent release, *"I Remember Brother Ray,"* pays tribute to this relationship. It was during his time in the Ray Charles Band that Newman came to know a local jazz icon, the late Calvin Jones, who, in addition to being an accomplished musician, also headed the University's Jazz Studies programs until his death last fall. To honor this professional relationship, Newman will pay tribute to the late trombonist during his performance.

Like Jones, Newman shared his considerable talents as a studio musician, working on numerous recording projects with Herbie Mann, Aretha Franklin, Hank Crawford, Aaron Neville, just to name a few. In 1959, he released his first independent work, "Ray Charles Introduces David Newman, "FATHEAD" on Atlantic records. His other works included a tribute to Duke Ellington, titled "Mr. Gentle, Mr. Cool". The late nineties brought David to the High Note label where he has recorded six successful CDs.

This is the fourth year that the University of the District of Columbia Foundation has hosted their fund-raising gala, which is not only as a celebration of the University, but as a way for the corporate and other private citizens of the District to show their support for the good work being done at the only public university in the nation's capital. The purpose of the Foundation is to solicit funds for student scholarships, and to advance and benefit the programs and mission of the University of the District of Columbia.

William J. Sim, the President of Pepco, is serving as the Foundation's Gala Chairman this year. Tickets are available for this evening that combines outstanding entertainment and food with a program that supports the citizens of the District of Columbia in a unique manner. Tickets are \$250 and may be purchased by calling (202) 342-1988.

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The University of the District of Columbia is the sole public source for accessible, inclusive, affordable, and comprehensive public higher education in the District of Columbia and provides additional life-long learning opportunities. The University delivers quality instruction and uses student-centered approaches to empower and benefit both individuals and its local communities. The University, an urban land grant institution, is a very diverse community, a gateway to the world, and a significant investment engine for the District of Columbia. The University is located at 4200 Connecticut Ave, NW Washington, and is conveniently located at the Van Ness/UDC stop on the Red Line of Metro. For more information on other University activities, contact Mike Andrews, Senior Director for Communications and University Spokesman at (202) 274-5685 or visit the University's web site at [www.udc.edu](http://www.udc.edu).