



On Saturday, June 4th, 2011, the center of the arts-and-wine community of Los Olivos will again be filled with people eager to enjoy the annual Jazz and Olive Festival. The Festival is presented by its primary sponsor, The Inn At Mattei's Tavern, and the Los Olivos Rotary Club, with all proceeds going to The Los Olivos Rotary Foundation for its many beneficial projects and scholarships. Like last year's event, which drew over 600 enthusiasts, the Festival will offer great food, wine, and, of course, live jazz, all for one all-inclusive entry fee of \$50.

Long known for its beautiful surroundings, art galleries, and restaurants, for the last seven years Los Olivos has also been the site of the annual Jazz and Olive Festival. This unique event lets participants enjoy the olive-based culinary art of thirty amateur and professional chefs, purchase olive products from local vendors, taste the wonderful wines poured by twenty-seven of the area's wineries, watch cooking demonstrations by professional chefs, and hear live jazz performed by the Los Angeles Jazz "A Team", along with the fabulous jazz singer Denise Donatelli. We are thrilled by the return of Stefan Karlsson on piano and Bob Sheppard on sax, who are joined this year by Jeff D'Angelo on the bass, and Dan Schnelle on drums. All of these musicians have performed with some of the biggest names in Jazz and popular music. Jazz critic Tom Scott wrote that "Denise Donatelli possesses that rare combination of sensuous tone, impeccable pitch and great jazz sensibility. She is truly an awesome jazz vocalist". We were delighted, but not surprised, when Denise won two GRAMMY nominations this year.

Those who arrive earlier in the day will be able to visit the Los Olivos art galleries and shops, or drive and bicycle through the Santa Ynez Valley's beautiful rolling hills, horse ranches, and vineyards. At 1:00 p.m. ticket-holders can enter the event area, receive their free souvenir wine glass and plate, and then move from canopy to canopy to sample the vintners' and chefs' offerings with music in the background. Or they may take their plates and glasses to the shady seating areas in front of the band to focus on their musical artistry.

This year there will be a limit of 650 people admitted to the event, and, since the event is likely to sell out again, those who are planning to attend are encouraged to purchase their tickets in advance, especially if they are coming from outside the area. They may call (805)895-0476 for check or credit card orders. Santa Ynez Valley residents may purchase tickets in Los Olivos at Corner House Coffee, and in Solvang at the Book Loft on Mission Drive.

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