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**FRONT PAGE ::**

Wednesday, 20th May 2009

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**Jazz for Peace Team to perform in Rwanda**



Sports and Culture Minister Joseph Habineza.

**BY PENINNAH GATHONI**

**KIGALI** - Rwanda is set to host Rick DellaRatta – a world renowned jazz pianist and his group "Jazz for peace" at Petit Stadium and the Serena Hotel this weekend.

The team will perform live in two concerts as part of the country's "Amahoro" - Peace Week celebrations that are organised by the Ministry of Sports and Culture (MINISPOC).

According to a statement from the organisers, DellaRatta expressed his gratitude for being part of the peace celebration, slated for this weekend.

"This is the first time an international jazz band has ever headlined in Rwanda on the same bill with top local musician and I am honoured to be here," DellaRatta is quoted in the statement as saying.

DellaRatta is well known for spreading peace worldwide through his "Jazz for Peace World Tour," a message that corresponds with the message of Rwanda's Amahoro - Peace Week - zero tolerance for violence against women and children.

When contacted, the Minister of Sports and Culture, Joseph Habineza, noted that the concerts are aimed at spreading the message of peace which is the theme for this year's peace week.

"The concerts are aimed at supporting this week's cause, through them we want to preach the message of zero tolerance of violence against women and children," Habineza said.

Habineza urged Rwandans to commit and unite in promoting peace.

"Rwandans should commit to attending the concerts as a way of embracing and celebrating peace," Habineza concluded.

MINISPOC has organised the concerts with an aim of spreading the message of zero tolerance to violence against women and children.

The focus for the event is to promote peace not only in Rwanda, but the rest of Africa and worldwide as well.

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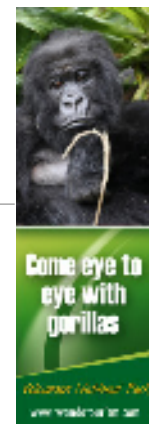
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