



A CENTURY OF SERVICE

# News Release

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## Jazz Guitarists Mix It Up at Winchester New West Guitar Group Blends Genres for Unique Sound June 20

The New West Guitar Group brings its blend of jazz, blues, rock and folk music to the stage at 2 p.m. June 20 at Winchester Cultural Center, 3130 S. McLeod Drive. The concert is co-sponsored by Clark County, the Guitar Society of Las Vegas and the Las Vegas Jazz Society. General admission is \$12 and \$10 for seniors and students.

The New West Guitar Group is made up of Perry Smith, John Storie and Brady Cohan, who established an international reputation as students at the University of Southern California when they first appeared in Japan and Germany. Since then, they have continued to perform in major venues throughout Canada, Japan, Europe and the United States. This is the group's third appearance at Winchester Cultural Center.

New West does something unusual for a guitar group, mixing the sounds of acoustic and electric guitars. With those different sounds, New West creates a new chamber music that has drawn great praise. Jazz guitarist John Pisano called New West, "a breakthrough for jazz guitar. Utilizing all the colors of the instrument, they are unique, not unlike a string quartet, but with the addition of four outstanding individual jazz voices."

Los Angeles guitarist Larry Koonse, who recently performed at Winchester with the Bob Sheppard Quartet, said, "New West is comprised of three of the brightest stars among a new generation of guitarists."

The band has released three CDs and a DVD on Mel Bay Records. Smith was a finalist in the 2007 International Songwriting Competition and won the 2006 ASCAP Young Jazz Composers' Award. Storie was a semi-finalist in the 2005 Thelonious Monk International Jazz Guitar Competition, and Brady Cohan was chosen as guitarist for the Monterey All-Star Jazz Band.

Winchester Cultural Center is located at 3130 S. McLeod Drive. For more information, call the center at 455-7340.

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Clark County is a dynamic and innovative organization dedicated to providing top-quality service with integrity, respect and accountability. With jurisdiction over the world-famous Las Vegas Strip and covering an area the size of New Jersey, Clark is the nation's 15<sup>th</sup>-largest county and provides extensive regional services to more than 2 million citizens and 44 million visitors a year. Included are the nation's 7<sup>th</sup>-busiest airport, air quality compliance, social services and the state's largest public hospital, University Medical Center. The county also provides municipal services that are traditionally provided by cities to almost 900,000 residents in the unincorporated area. Those include fire protection, roads and other public works, parks and recreation, and planning and development. In 2009, Clark County celebrates a "century of service."

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*News release also available on the Internet at [www.accessclarkcounty.com](http://www.accessclarkcounty.com)*

**Clark County Board of Commissioners**

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